

Reply to Common Council File No. 011251

From DOA-Budget and Management Division

January 10, 2002

Ref: 02009(02)

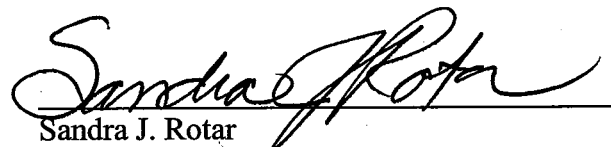
Common Council File 011251 is a resolution appropriating monies from the Common Council Contingent Fund to the Fire Department's Operating Expenditures Account for the purpose of funding the Fire Fighting Clothing Commissary. The department has requested a \$140,000 appropriation from the 2001 Contingent Fund.

This Contingent Fund request is due to the implementation of the Fire Fighting Clothing Commissary – a system that is required by the Wisconsin Department of Commerce and one that the city and Local #215 developed together. The system requires the city to replace the safety equipment of approximately 350 firefighters per year, ensuring that all members of Local #215 will receive new safety equipment over the next three years (2001-2003). The implementation plan and estimated costs of this system were communicated to Alderman Gordon in an April 20, 2001 letter from our office (see attached).

The fiscal impact of the commissary system totaled \$372,253 in 2001, and is estimated to be \$388,850 per year in 2002 and 2003 (based on current contract prices).

Due to the fact that the commissary system was developed and the fiscal impact of the program was not yet known, these costs were not included in the Fire Department's 2001 budget. Rather, the Fire Department has tried to absorb the first year costs within their existing 2001 operating budget. Due to the magnitude of these costs, the Fire Department's budget has not been able to fully absorb these expenses and a contingent fund appropriation is needed to pay outstanding 2001 bills. (The Fire Department's 2002 budget was adjusted to include these costs.)

**RECOMMENDATION: APPROVE COMMON COUNCIL FILE 011251
TRANSFERRING \$140,000 FROM THE COMMON COUNCIL CONTINGENT
FUND TO THE FIRE DEPARTMENT'S OPERATING EXPENDITURES
ACCOUNT.**


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Budget & Management Team Leader

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