

## LRB-FISCAL REVIEW SECTION ANALYSIS

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**ITEM 6, FILE # 040140**

**JUNE 3, 2004**

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File # 040140 is a resolution authorizing the Milwaukee Police Department to accept a donation of a paid subscription service by the Able Security Systems, Inc. to the "Citizen Observer.com" web network.

### **Background**

1. This resolution authorizes the Milwaukee Police Department (MPD) to accept a donation of a paid subscription service of up to \$33,000 from Able Security Systems, Inc. to the "Citizen Observer.com" web network.
2. CitizenObserver.com, an Internet-based business devoted to crime prevention, is located in Minnesota. The Citizen Observer is committed to bringing law enforcement agencies, citizens and businesses together in a united crime prevention partnership. This web site addresses the need and ability to share accurate information. Citizen Observer has developed a means of connecting citizens with local law enforcement that assist in addressing and preventing crime within local communities and neighborhoods.
3. The following examples are from various police departments who are members of citizenobserver.com and who have participated in community information networking:
  - Fairmont, MN - Fugitives from the law were apprehended using citizenobserver.com as a post for local citizens to be apprised.
  - St. James, MN - Crime prevented and businesses alerted to a bad check scheme.
  - Bayside, WI - A child enticement suspect was apprehended through a posting on the website.
  - Elk River, MN - Elk River police used the citizenobserver.com to discuss cross-jurisdictional collaboration.
4. At this site, law enforcement can post information and rewards about their fugitives, missing persons or unsolved crimes. Communities can also become actively involved, working with law enforcement to help create safer communities. After a police department has enrolled, members of the local community may register with the department through citizenobserver.com to receive updates and notices related to crime prevention and other public safety issues.
5. This is a new contribution.

### **Discussion**

1. This contribution will pay the expenses of a subscription to citizenobserver.com.
2. A subscription to this service will allow MPD to distribute to, and receive information from, this Internet service concerning all components of public safety and crime prevention.

**Fiscal Impact**

1. The total amount of this resolution is (up to) \$33,000, entirely from the donation of Able Security Systems, Inc. No city funds are required or requested.
2. A one-year subscription to citizenobserver.com is \$10,900. This resolution will authorize donations to include a three-year period. Able Security Systems, Inc. has indicated its willingness to continue this funding if the program participation by MPD is successful.

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