



Tom Barrett
Mayor, City of Milwaukee

November 11, 2016

Honorable Members of the Common Council
Room 205 City Hall

Honorable Members of the Common Council:

My introductory message to the Common Council regarding the 2017 Budget emphasized the need to maintain a multi-year perspective in order to support financial stability. I appreciate the fact that the Common Council evaluated service levels and new initiatives with the future impacts in mind. The Council's adopted Budget preserved reserve levels and took a responsible approach to revenues. In short, we have collaborated on a 2017 Budget that supports financial sustainability.

I am pleased that the 2017 Budget you adopted includes my priorities, including police strength, preservation of core infrastructure, the initiation of a plan to remove lead water service lines, and the Strong Neighborhoods Program. Alderwoman Milele Coggs and the members of the Finance & Personnel Committee conducted a thorough review of my budget, and spoke with conviction regarding how City services support our community.

The Council added thoughtful initiatives to the 2017 Budget, including programs to improve police/community collaboration and enhance public health protection. I do have concerns regarding the conversion of cash finance to debt for certain capital projects in order to enable the funding of a Disparity Study.

I have submitted four vetoes that I have explained in detail below. If the Council sustains these vetoes and adopts my proposed substitute actions, there will be a Budget reduction of \$-505,000 and a tax levy reduction of \$-5,000, compared to the Council's adopted Budget.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tom Barrett
Mayor

Veto of Certain Lines and Items included in Common Council Amendment 1A

Amendment 1A transfers the position of Emergency Communications and Policy Director from the Department of Administration to the Fire and Police Commission. I disagree with the transfer of this position and I am vetoing the lines and amounts associated with amendment 1A.

The Emergency Communications and Policy Director is responsible for the advancement of the enterprise wide emergency communications through the development and implementation of strategic plans that define and establish an optimal organizational structure and facilitate the consolidation of critical emergency and citywide communications systems. It oversees the operation of citywide emergency and communications activities through the development, administration and implementation of policies, rules, standards of operation, budget plans, information technology, strategic planning and goal setting. Typically these types of policy and citywide oversight duties are provided by the Department of Administration (DOA).

The complex strategies that will be developed under this position require departments to dedicate time and make investments in change management, which can be difficult to accept at its inception. Particularly, the shift in the strategic management of the City's Emergency Communications resources will have the largest impact on the budget and staffing of Police Information Technology section.

I acknowledge the Common Council's concern that there are currently differences of opinion in the direction of communication policy between the Emergency Communications and Policy Director and staff in the Police Department. I also understand the intent of moving the position is to provide the Director with more authority to implement changes that affect Police and Fire Departments. However, I think this concern can be addressed in a different manner while retaining the Director's independence from any department. I will be presenting legislation that will enhance the authority of the Emergency Communications and Policy Director and formalize a currently informal group that meets regularly. The newly formed committee would be responsible for the development of a strategic and operating plan that would be reviewed by the City Information Management Committee. The City information Management Committee would then direct the Chiefs to implement the plan and provide regular updates regarding the implementation.

It is the responsibility of the Emergency Communications and Policy Director to serve as the City's liaison and primary contact for external agencies and intergovernmental committees in addressing inquiries and discussions related to the City's emergency communications systems, polices, and procedures. The position works closely with the Intergovernmental Relations Division (IRD) in DOA to coordinate external relations. They have recently been in sensitive discussions regarding County and City dispatch and with both of these responsibilities provided in DOA can coordinate a more effective City position.

There is also a misunderstanding related to the responsibilities of this position. Some suggested that this transfer is needed to improve dispatching time, dispatch prioritization and the hiring of Emergency Communications Operators. These issues are personnel related and fall under the purview of the Fire and Police Commission and the Police Department. The Emergency Communications and Policy Director focuses on the development and implementation of

strategic plans that define and establish an optimal organizational structure and facilitate the consolidation of critical emergency and citywide communications systems and not the day to day activities of dispatch.

My veto and proposed substitute action, if approved by the Council, will result in a Budget effect of \$0, and a reduced levy of \$0.

Based on the above reasons, I ask that you sustain my veto and proposed substitute action.

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION, FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSION
AMENDMENT 1A

A. DISAPPROVAL ACTION

The Mayor disapproves of the following budget line(s) in the 2017 budget: (which were affected by Common Council Amendment #1A which transferred the Emergency Communications and Policy Director from the Department of Administration to the Fire and Police Commission):

| <u>BMD-2</u> <u>Page and</u> <u>Line No.</u> | <u>Item Description</u> | <u>2017 Positions</u> <u>or Units</u> | <u>2017 Amount</u> |
|---|--|--|--------------------|
| SECTION I.A.1. BUDGETS FOR GENERAL CITY PURPOSES | | | |
| DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION- BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION | | | |
| SALARIES & WAGES OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR | | | |
| 110.3-15 | Emergency Communications & Policy Dir. | -- | -- |
| 110.5-5 | O&M FTE'S | 18.40 | -- |
| 110.5-18 | ESTIMATED EMPLOYEE FRINGE BENEFITS | -- | \$617,446 |
| FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSION | | | |
| 190.1-23 | Emergency Communications & Policy Dir. | 1 | \$80,442 |
| 190.2-17 | O&M FTE's | 14.90 | -- |
| 190.3-4 | ESTIMATED EMPLOYEE FRINGE BENEFITS | -- | \$458,404 |

In lieu of the above disapproved item I recommend adoption of the following substitute action:

B. SUBSTITUTE ACTION

BMD-2
Page and
Line No.

Item Description

2017 Positions
or Units

2017 Amount

SECTION I.A.1. BUDGETS FOR GENERAL
CITY PURPOSES

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION-
BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION

SALARIES & WAGES
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

| | | | |
|----------------------------|--|-------|-----------|
| 110.3-15 | Emergency Communications & Policy Dir. | 1 | \$80,442 |
| 110.5-5 | O&M FTE'S | 19.40 | -- |
| 110.5-18 | ESTIMATED EMPLOYEE FRINGE BENEFITS | -- | \$653,645 |
| FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSION | | | |
| 190.2-17 | O&M FTE'S | 13.90 | -- |
| 190.3-4 | ESTIMATED EMPLOYEE FRINGE BENEFITS | -- | \$422,205 |

C. COMBINED EFFECT OF ACTIONS A & B ABOVE:

| | | |
|------------------|---|---------|
| 1. Budget Effect | = | \$0 |
| 2. Levy Effect | = | \$0 |
| 3. Rate Effect | = | \$0.000 |