

Reply to Common Council File No. 030546
From DOA-Budget and Management Division

September 5, 2003

Ref: 03024(12)

Common Council File 030546 is a communication from the Ethics Board that recommends amending the 2003 Positions Ordinance to require members of the Purchasing Appeals Board to file an annual Statement of Economic Interests.

The Positions Ordinance currently requires individuals filling specific positions to file an annual Statement of Economic Interests. The Statement of Economic Interests is a form that helps the Ethics Board preserve high ethical standards for the City of Milwaukee. Annual statements are required and reviewed to help ensure that conflicts of interest do not occur.

The Positions Ordinance, in Section 7, requires the members of specific Boards, Committees and Commissions to file a Statement of Economic Interests. One of the Boards currently included in this requirement is the Central Board of Purchases. As part of the 2003 budget, the Central Board of Purchases was renamed the Purchasing Appeals Board and the purchasing process was restructured to increase operational efficiency.

Previously, members of the Central Board of Purchases were required to file a Statement of Economic Interests. There is no reason not to include members of the Purchasing Appeals Board, which serves a function similar to the Central Board of Purchases, from the Section 7 requirement. The recommended amendment to the Positions Ordinance would continue the practice of having Board members that review purchasing issues file a Statement of Economic Interests. This would contribute to the City's efforts to ensure impartiality and integrity in the purchasing process.

RECOMMENDATION: Place Communication on file and accept recommendation of the Board of Ethics.



Eric C. Pearson
Budget and Management Team Leader

ECP:

FINANCE: 030546sr.doc