Reply to Common Council File No. 020434

From DOA-Budget and Management Division

July 3, 2002

Ref: 02017

Common Council File 020434 contains a communication from the Comptroller transmitting the 2001 report of miscellaneous accounts receivable activity by department.

The 2001 activity report is submitted pursuant to Charter Ordinance 304-3.3. It summarizes activity during 2001 for 2000 and prior year billings still outstanding and 2001 current year billing activity. The report categorizes 4,907 departmental invoices totaling \$29,831,899.68 issued during 2001.

As of December 31, 2001, \$7,930,726.85 remained outstanding, including \$3,483,220.47 for 2000 and prior years. The majority of the prior year balance (\$1.7 million) are billings by the Police Department to the County for ambulance conveyance of people in distress to Milwaukee County Mental Health Complex or another medical facility. The County has refused to pay these billings based on a differing interpretation of State Statute. The City Attorney is currently in negotiation with the County Corporation Counsel regarding this matter.

An additional \$809,000 is due to Fire Department billings of other parties for accident settlements or pending litigation. The remaining large amount (\$640,000) are DPW-Administration Division aged outstanding invoices. These largely consist of (1) billings to other governmental entities or (2) billings to individuals or private entities which have been referred to the Kohn Law Firm for collection. If Kohn is unsuccessful in its collection efforts, judgements will be filed against the debtors.

RECOMMENDATION: PLACE ON FILE COMMON COUNCIL FILE 020434, A COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMPTROLLER TRANSMITTING THE 2001 REPORT OF MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE ACTIVITY BY DEPARTMENT.

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