

Board of Aldermen Committee Minutes

Date: 9/14/14	Chair: Siliski	Convened: 5:30	Adjourned: 5:53
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Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Charter & Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Community Development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Finance <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Intermunicipal	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Public Works <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation <input type="checkbox"/> Special Liquor <input type="checkbox"/> Tax Abatement
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Committee Members Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Dave Allaire <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris Siliski <input type="checkbox"/> Gary Donahue <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sharon Davis <input type="checkbox"/> Tom DePoy <input type="checkbox"/> Jon Kiernan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Melinda Humphrey <input type="checkbox"/> William Notte <input type="checkbox"/> John Cassarino <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ed Larson <input type="checkbox"/> David Wallstrom
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Others Present	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dave Allaire <input type="checkbox"/> Chris Siliski <input type="checkbox"/> Charles Romeo <input type="checkbox"/> Sharon Davis <input type="checkbox"/> Tom DePoy <input type="checkbox"/> David Wallstrom	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gary Donahue <input type="checkbox"/> William Notte <input type="checkbox"/> John Cassarino <input type="checkbox"/> Ed Larson <input type="checkbox"/> Jon Kiernan <input type="checkbox"/> Mayor Louras	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Treasurer Wilton <input type="checkbox"/> City Attorney Romeo <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Police Chief Jim Baker <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brent Curtis
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Motions/Discussion - Request of Transfer – Police Cruisers, Equip. RePlc Fund

Given the brevity of the meeting, the Rutland Herald was able to capture the gist of the conversation and information quite well. Please see attached for a summary of the meeting.

Regarding a summary of key figures (approximated):

+ \$9,000,	Current equipment replace fund (erf) for police
+ \$57,000	Transfer into erf-police per 15' budget
-\$29,000	Existing lease (year 1)
-\$30,000	This year's lease (year 2)
\$7,000	Erf police end of year 2 (current fy '15) with no transfer
+14,000	Requested transfer
\$21,000	End of fy '15 erf-police if transferred approved
+\$57,000	Potential transfer into erf-police per fy 16' budget
\$78,000	ERF-police if transfer and same level of funding approved
-\$85,000	Anticipated fy '16 cost of leasing fleet (years 1-3 combined)
(\$7,000)	Anticipated deficit with transfer approved
vs.	
(\$21,000)	Anticipated deficit if transfer not approved

Motion to BoA (unanimous committee approval 4:0): transfer \$14,145 from FY 2014 G/F unassigned FB to equipment replacement fund (police portion).

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By BRENT CURTIS
STAFF WRITER

Part of a \$48,482 surplus generated by the Rutland City Police Department will be set aside to soften expenses in a lease program for new cruisers.

The police department was budgeted to make about \$181,000 in various revenue last year but ended up generating \$229,481 because of additional money paid to the city by contractors who hired city police to direct traffic around construction sites.

"We held onto a few old cars we were going to sell and used them as a way to improve safety at the job sites and generate more money," Police Chief James Baker told members of the city's Finance Committee on Thursday.

By assigning the vehicles to construction sites at night, Baker said the city was able to generate \$15 an hour in addition to the fee for the officer accompanying it.

The presence of the cruisers also improved safety at the work scenes where officers could use the vehicles' light bars and radios. In the past, officers working at night construction scenes often brought their own vehicles to the site, Baker said.

The chief asked the committee's members Thursday to set aside the \$14,145 in extra funds generated by the cruisers to help pay for a new lease program that he said would eventually make the acquisition of new police cruisers far more affordable.

Starting last year, the city paid about \$28,000 a year to lease three new cruisers. Next year, the city will lease three additional vehicles and pay a total of almost \$60,000.

In the following year, the expense to the city will peak at about \$85,000 — far more than the \$57,000 transferred annually into the department's equipment-replacement fund to pay for new cruisers.

Eventually, Baker and city Treasurer Wendy Wilton said, the lease program will

Cruisers

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become self-sufficient to the point of not needing the \$57,000 annual appropriation because the city will sell its cruisers at the end of their leases to pay for new cruisers.

"I'm anticipating that in year five or six we'll be generating revenue enough that we won't need the \$57,000 transfer any more

and the city can put that to other uses," the chief said.

But the eventual savings will come only after up-front costs.

To help prepare for the \$85,000 worth of third year expenses, Baker asked the aldermen Thursday to set \$14,145 of the extra revenue his department has generated at work sites this year to the equipment replacement fund.

The remaining \$34,337 in additional revenue generated last fiscal year by the police

department will remain in the city's \$1 million unassigned fund balance, Wilton said.

After only brief discussion, the committee members present voted to recommend the transfer, which will be decided by the full Board of Aldermen.

"I think it's wise to look a few years ahead and say, 'Let's put that money aside,'" Alderman Ed Larson said.

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