

Minutes of the Judiciary and Law Enforcement Committee

Tuesday, November 24, 2020

Vice Chair Howard called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Supervisors Christine Howard, Mike Crowley, Tyler Foti, Darlene Johnson, Larry Nelson, and Steve Whittow. **Absent:** Chair Peter Wolff.

Also Present: Legislative Policy Advisor Alex Ignatowski, County Board Chair Paul Decker, Budget Manager Bill Duckwitz, District Attorney Sue Oppen, and Victim Witness Program Coordinator Jenn Dunn.

Approve Minutes of October 16, 2020

MOTION: Johnson moved, second by Foti to approve the minutes of October 16. Motion carried 6-0.

Future Meeting Date

- December 4, 2020

Legislative Update

Ignatowski gave an update on leadership elections in the State Legislature and said negotiations are taking place between the Governor and Legislative leadership regarding COVID Response.

Discuss and Consider Ordinance 175-O-054 Modify the 2020 District Attorney's Office Budget to Accept Grant and Donation Revenue to Purchase a Courthouse Facility Dog

Oppen and Dunn discussed this ordinance which authorizes the District Attorney's Office to accept a \$4,000 Children's Justice Act grant from the Wisconsin Department of Justice and a \$1,000 donation from the Waukesha Police Chief's Association.

The purpose of this funding is to supplement \$6,000 of existing, base budget VOCA grant-funded expenditure authority that is being re-prioritized to purchase and care for a courthouse facility dog. The \$6,000 of VOCA funding is currently budgeted for operating expenses and is estimated to be available because of lower training and travel spending, partly due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the courthouse facility dog purchase will be classified as a fixed asset (over \$5,000 and a useful life exceeding one year), and this ordinance authorizes the transfer of \$6,000 of VOCA grant-funded operating expenditure authority to fixed assets to help cover most of the cost the dog purchase. The \$7,000 fixed asset budget includes \$6,000 transferred from estimated unspent operating expense appropriations and \$1,000 of new expenditure authority funded with a donation from the Waukesha Police Chief's Association.

The total budget of \$11,000 is expected to be more than what's needed to purchase and care for the courthouse facility dog through the remainder of the year. The department plans to request a carryover of any unspent funds into 2021 to help cover the cost of caring for the dog. After initial start-up costs, department management estimates that ongoing costs (e.g., food, supplies, medical

care) could range from \$1,000 to \$2,200. The department does not intend or anticipate that this program will have any effect on tax levy, as there has already been interest from several other organizations to support this effort through donations, and ongoing costs may also be budgeted in the department's annual VOCA grant budget. The initial purchase and care of the dog is covered with grant and donation revenue.

This ordinance also establishes a two-year pilot program for the courthouse facility dog, whereby renewal after two years will be dependent upon the ability to raise non-levy funds for the ongoing maintenance of the dog and adherence to county policies.

MOTION: Nelson moved, second by Whittow to approve Ordinance 175-O-054. Motion carried 6-0.

MOTION: Crowley moved, second by Johnson to adjourn at 6:45 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael A. Crowley

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Secretary