

MINUTES
COMMITTEE #1
REVENUES, DISBURSEMENTS, WATER AND WASTEWATER
July 15, 2022

Committee #1 - Revenues, Disbursements, Water and Wastewater met on Friday, July 15, 2022 at 9:00 am in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 30 West Central Street, Chippewa Falls, WI.

Committee Members present: John Monarski and Paul Nadreau. Absent was Rob Kiefer.
Mayor/Other Council Members present: Mayor Hoffman, Chuck Hull, and Jason Hiess.
Others present: Finance Manager/Treasurer Lynne Bauer; City Engineer/Public Works Director/Utility Manager Rick Rubenzer; City Planner/Transit Manager Brad Hentschel; Fire Chief Lee Douglas; Police Chief Matt Kelm; Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Director John Jimenez; Street and Utility Maintenance Manager Rick Ruf; Utility Office Manager Connie Freagon; Lead Janitor Scot Michels; Recreation Supervisor Jack Haye; Police Department Administrative Assistant Lesley Small; and City Clerk Bridget Givens.

Call to Order: 9:00 am

1. Discuss fee structure for outside law enforcement use of city shooting range for 2022. Possible recommendations to the Council.

Chief Kelm presented draft agreements to the Committee relative to use of the City's firearms range by outside law enforcement agencies. The agreements have been reviewed by the City Attorney. The proposed fee structure is \$1,200 annually (\$100/month) for use of the range. In the event the range is used less than six days in the year, the cost would be reduced to \$600 annually (\$50/month). The term of the agreement is for one year to allow assessment at the conclusion of the year. Kelm advised this is for use of the grounds only. The agencies will be responsible for cleaning the range back to its original state at the end of each use. Further, snow removal will not be included as part of the agreement. The agencies can arrange and pay for snow removal if necessary.

Discussion ensued relative to liability concerns and the ability to utilize revenues for future improvements.

Motion by Nadreau/Monarski to recommend Council approve the Memorandum of Understanding for use of the City's shooting range by outside law enforcement agencies with a correction in the fee structure in the Village of Lake Hallie agreement. All present voting aye, motion carried.

2. Discuss fee structure and ordinance revisions related to proposed Passport Parking Program. Possible recommendations to the Council.

Kelm presented a spreadsheet depicting the current cost of parking ordinance violations and the proposed increase. Kelm opined that adopting the proposed fee increase should pay for the program. The City Attorney has reviewed the contract, and Kelm is hoping to have it in place by the end of the year. Mayor Hoffman and the Committee expressed concern with increasing the 2-hour parking zone citation from \$6 to \$10. This is a majority of the tickets written and the highest area of complaint. Kelm advised that if the fee doesn't increase, the program would not fund itself. Kelm was directed to raise the 2-hour parking citation to \$8 and review and increase other fees as necessary to offset the reduction. This item should be brought back to Committee for further discussion.

No action taken.

3. Discuss uses for Wisconsin DOA Law Enforcement Grant Funds. Possible recommendations to the Council.

A handout was presented for potential items that could be purchased through the Wisconsin DOA Law Enforcement Grant. This is a reimbursement grant wherein the City pays the expense and submits receipts which are reviewed to determine if they qualify as covered expenses.

The Committee discussed the requested items. Kelm indicated that he thought body armor would be a permissible expense. Details relative to the armor as well as a rifle-resistant shield were provided. The armor has been tested and received very positive reviews from the officers. Kelm would like to test the shields prior to any purchase.

Motion by Nadreau/Monarski to recommend Council approve the purchase of body armor in an amount not to exceed \$13,125 to be submitted for reimbursement consideration under the Wisconsin DOA Law Enforcement Grant. **All present voting aye, motion carried.**

Other options for use of the grant funding included patrol rifle suppressors, hiring bonuses, and overages in the Police Department Training Budget.

4. Adjournment

Motion by Nadreau/Monarski to adjourn at 9:36 am. **All present voting aye, motion carried.**

**Minutes submitted by,
Lynne Bauer, Finance Manager/Treasurer**

CHIPPEWA FALLS POLICE

Integrity • Compassion • Commitment

Memorandum of Understanding for use of City of Chippewa Falls firearms range for outside Law Enforcement Agencies

Calendar year 2022

The Chippewa Falls Police Department agrees to make available its shooting range located at 2302 Nelson Rd, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729 in 2022 from January 1 to December 31 for use by members of the Lake Hallie Police Department as mutually agreed by the parties and as outlined in this document.

The Lake Hallie Police Department agrees to fully indemnify, defend and hold harmless the City of Chippewa Falls, its appointed or elected officials, committee members, employees, agents and each of them for any and all suits, actions, legal or administrative proceedings, claims, demands, damages, liabilities, interests, attorneys' fees, costs and expenses of whatsoever kind or nature, in any manner directly or indirectly caused, occasioned or contributed to in whole or in part by reason of any willful act, error or omission, fault or negligence by the Lake Hallie Police Department, its officers, employees, agents, and invitees, in fulfilling the terms of this Agreement or use of said premises.

The Lake Hallie Police Department shall give the Chippewa Falls Police Department prompt and reasonable notice of any such claims or actions and shall be responsible for investigating, compromising, and defending the same.

The Lake Hallie Police Department will be provided reasonable accommodations for use of the range for scheduling and equipment use purposes. However, all parties understand that shooting range is the property of the City of Chippewa Falls and use of the shooting range is ultimately at the sole discretion of the Chippewa Falls Police Department with regard to scheduling and use of equipment. It is also understood that the range will be cleaned back to its original state after the end of each use

unless otherwise agreed to. Any damage to property or equipment at the shooting range as a result of use of the range will be repaired or replaced in a timely manner to our satisfaction. Finally, removal of snow from the shooting range is not included in the reasonable accommodations for use of the shooting range as described in this agreement. The City of Chippewa Falls removes snow from the shooting range periodically. However, other reasonable accommodations for snow removal arranged and paid for by the Lake Hallie Police Department may be permissible.

The Lake Hallie Police Department agrees to pay the City of Chippewa Falls \$600 annually (\$50/month) for use of the firearms range in 2022. In the event the firearms range is used less than six days in 2022, the cost would be increased to \$1200 annually (\$100/month). Use of the firearms range for multiagency training organized by the Chippewa Falls Police Department does not count as a use of the range for this purpose.

The undersigned have authority to enter into this Agreement, have read and fully understand this Agreement and acknowledge receiving a copy of said Agreement.

CHIPPEWA FALLS POLICE DEPT:

Print: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

CHIPPEWA FALLS
POLICE DEPARTMENT

LAKE HALLIE POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Print: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

LAKE HALLIE

POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIPPEWA FALLS POLICE

Integrity • Compassion • Commitment

Memorandum of Understanding for use of City of Chippewa Falls shooting range for outside Law Enforcement Agencies

Calendar year 2022

The Chippewa Falls Police Department agrees to make available its shooting range located at 2200 Nelson Rd, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729 in 2022 from January 1 to December 31 for use by members of the Chippewa County Sheriff's Office as mutually agreed by the parties and as outlined in this document.

The Chippewa County Sheriff's Office agrees to fully indemnify, defend and hold harmless the City of Chippewa Falls, its appointed or elected officials, committee members, employees, agents and each of them for any and all suits, actions, legal or administrative proceedings, claims, demands, damages, liabilities, interests, attorneys' fees, costs and expenses of whatsoever kind or nature, in any manner directly or indirectly caused, occasioned or contributed to in whole or in part by reason of any willful act, error or omission, fault or negligence by the Chippewa County Sheriff's Office, its officers, employees, agents, and invitees, in fulfilling the terms of this Agreement or use of said premises.

The Chippewa County Sheriff's Office shall give the Chippewa Falls Police Department prompt and reasonable notice of any such claims or actions and shall be responsible for investigating, compromising, and defending the same.

The Chippewa County Sheriff's Office will be provided reasonable accommodations for use of the range for scheduling and equipment use purposes. However, all parties understand that shooting range is the property of the City of Chippewa Falls and use of the shooting range is ultimately at the

sole discretion of the Chippewa Falls Police Department with regard to scheduling and use of equipment. It is also understood that the range will be cleaned back to its original state after the end of each use unless otherwise agreed to. Any damage to property or equipment at the shooting range as a result of use of the range will be repaired or replaced in a timely manner to our satisfaction. Finally, removal of snow from the shooting range is not included in the reasonable accommodations for use of the shooting range as described in this agreement. The City of Chippewa Falls removes snow from the shooting range periodically. However, other reasonable accommodations for snow removal arranged and paid for by the Chippewa County Sheriff's Office may be permissible.

The Chippewa County Sheriff's Office agrees to pay the City of Chippewa Falls \$1200 annually (\$100/month) for use of the shooting range in 2022. In the event the shooting range is used less than six days in 2022, the cost would be reduced to \$600 annually (\$50/month). Use of the shooting range for multiagency training organized by the Chippewa Falls Police Department does not count as a use of the range for this purpose.

The undersigned have authority to enter into this Agreement, have read and fully understand this Agreement and acknowledge receiving a copy of said Agreement.

CHIPPEWA FALLS POLICE DEPT:

Print: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

CHIPPEWA FALLS
POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIPPEWA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE:

Print: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

CHIPPEWA COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

2021

Ordinance Description	Current Cost	Price Increase	New Cost	2021 YTD Tickets	YTD Fine Totals	Updated *NEW* YTD Fine Totals	Price Increase Total
2 Hour Zone	\$ 6.00	\$ 4.00	\$ 10.00	1197	\$ 7,182	\$ 11,970	\$ 4,788
24 Hour Zone	\$ 15.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 25.00	119	\$ 1,785	\$ 2,975	\$ 1,190
2am-6am	\$ 15.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 25.00	803	\$ 12,045	\$ 20,075	\$ 8,030
30 Minute Zone	\$ 4.00	\$ -	\$ 4.00	3	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ -
4 Hour Zone	\$ 8.00	\$ 7.00	\$ 15.00	236	\$ 1,888	\$ 3,540	\$ 1,652
8 Hour Zone	\$ 10.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 15.00	6	\$ 60	\$ 90	\$ 30
Handicapped Parking	\$ 50.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 75.00	18	\$ 900	\$ 1,350	\$ 450
Improper Parking	\$ 15.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 25.00	13	\$ 195	\$ 325	\$ 130
Keys in Unattended Vehicle	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 50.00	9	\$ 450	\$ 450	\$ -
Loading Zone	\$ 15.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 25.00	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Posted Private	\$ 20.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 25.00	4	\$ 80	\$ 100	\$ 20
Prohibited Parking	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 30.00	44	\$ 660	\$ 1,320	\$ 660
Totals	\$ 223.00	\$ 101.00		2452	\$ 25,257	\$ 42,207	\$ 16,950

Passport Parking Program Costs/Funding

\$16,886 Ongoing Costs

- Passport Per ticket cost
 - \$5.50 per ticket (\$3.00 automatically collected by Passport from violator)
 - 2452 tickets issued in 2021
 - \$13,486 total cost/yr
 - \$7,356/yr automatically collected by Passport from violator
 - \$6,130/yr remaining to be paid by violator
- Passport Per letter cost
 - \$1.58 per letter for delinquent citation notices
 - \$632.00 total - Approximately 400 letters per year
- Passport Payment Processing
 - \$1,692.01 @ 2.9% of fine amount + \$.20
 - \$122.60 @ \$0.05/transaction
- Passport Citation Rolls
 - \$400/yr
- Verizon Data Plan
 - \$554/yr

\$16,950 Increase in revenue due to proposed fine increases (using 2021 numbers)

One-time Costs

- \$600 for Bluetooth Printer for Parking Enforcement Worker
- \$1 for Android Phone

Note:

\$450.00 Currently budgeted for ordering parking tickets annually

\$500.00 Currently budgets for parking program annually

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING §25.04(5) REGARDING
PARKING TICKET FORFEITURES AND CREATING
§25.04(6) REGARDING DISPOSITION OF OVERPAYMENTS

THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHIPPEWA FALLS, WISCONSIN, DO ORDAIN AS
FOLLOWS:

- 1. That § 25.04(5) of the Chippewa Falls Municipal Code which presently provides as follows:

25.04 PENALTY PROVISIONS.

...

- (5) The following schedule appertains to tickets issued for the following ordinance violations:

(a) 30-minute parking	\$ 4.00
(b) 2-hour parking	\$ 6.00
(c) 4-hour parking	\$ 8.00
(d) 8-hour parking	\$ 10.00
(e) 24-hour parking	\$ 15.00
(f) 2:00 a.m. – 6:00 a.m.	\$ 15.00
(g) Prohibited parking	\$ 15.00
(h) Loading zone parking	\$ 15.00
(i) Semi-drop parking.....	\$ 30.00
(j) Improper parking.....	\$ 15.00
(k) Handicap parking.....	\$ 50.00
(l) Posted private parking.....	\$ 20.00
(m) Keys left in ignition	\$ 50.00
(n) Unattended vehicle left running	\$ 50.00

be amended to provide as follows:

25.04 PENALTY PROVISIONS.

...

(5) The following schedule appertains to tickets issued for the following ordinance violations:

(a) 30-minute parking	\$ 4.00
(b) 2-hour parking	\$ 10.00
(c) 4-hour parking	\$ 15.00
(d) 8-hour parking	\$ 20.00
(e) 24-hour parking	\$ 25.00
(f) 2:00 a.m. – 6:00 a.m.	\$ 25.00
(g) Prohibited parking	\$ 25.00
(h) Loading zone parking	\$ 25.00
(i) Semi-drop parking.....	\$ 30.00
(j) Improper parking.....	\$ 25.00
(k) Handicap parking.....	\$ 75.00
(l) Posted private parking.....	\$ 25.00
(m) Keys left in ignition	\$ 50.00
(n) Unattended vehicle left running	\$ 50.00

2. That §25.04(6) of the Chippewa Falls Municipal Code be created to provide as follows:

25.04 PENALTY PROVISIONS.

...

(6) Any overpayments of the ticket amounts set forth in subsection (5) shall become the property of the City of Chippewa Falls and be transferred to the City general fund.

DATED this _____ day of _____, 2022.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT: _____
Chuck Hull

FIRST READING: _____

SECOND READING: _____

APPROVED: _____
Gregory S. Hoffman, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Bridget Givens, City Clerk

PUBLISHED: _____

CHIPPEWA FALLS POLICE

Integrity • Compassion • Commitment

TO: Finance Manager/Treasurer Lynne Bauer
FROM: Chief Kelm
DATE: Updated 7/8/2022
REF: PD items for consideration for 2022 City Bonding/Borrowing

Updated 7/8/2022

Rifle Plate Armor

**Body Armor - Cost \$13,125
(New) Shield – Cost \$8,700**

Currently our officers have no portable protection from rifle ammunition. Our soft body armor and shields will not stop rifle fire. Advances in body armor now allow for a light and thin armor plate that can be inserted over the officers existing soft body armor and under their uniform that will help protect them from rifle fire in the most critical area of their torso.

The plate we are looking at are ½” thin and weigh 1.47 lbs. This armor protects from some 5.56mm and 7.62 mm rifle ammunition and also provides additional protection from handgun rounds. This is exceptionally thin and lightweight. The plates come in male and female versions.

Two of our officers have been wearing a test plate for weeks now and the reviews have been very positive. I propose issuing a plate to each officer who wishes to wear one. As these will be owned by the city, officers would return them to be re-issued if they leave the department. The plates are recommended for replacement after 5 years.

If approved this amount would allow us to order and have in place rifle body armor for every officer this year. I would add the cost of a rifle plate to our initial issue operational account for new officers who are hired in the future.

(New) This item is a shield rated to protect from common rifle rounds. Our current ballistic shields will not stop rifle rounds which are being seen more often in shootings including the most recent school shooting in TX. The shield uses material similar to the body armor above. As a result it only weighs 17lbs meaning patrol officers can deploy it effectively, even in longer duration critical incidents.

Patrol Rifle Suppressors

Cost: \$14,150 for 12 suppressors

Unsuppressed rifles have a 155dB level. Since the decibel (dB) scale is logarithmic, an increase in 10dB mean the sound is 10 times louder. According to OSHA, noise levels above 140dB can cause immediate, irreversible hearing damage. Hearing protection worn during training reduces 22dB of noise, just under the danger range. A suppressed rifle can reduce noise by 30dB.

Patrol Rifle Suppressors can reduce hearing loss in officers in two areas. First, during training officers are exposed to rifle fire 2-3 times annually for two hours each session. For instructors, this is increased to 8 hours or more. Repetitive noise exposure is cumulative even under 140dB. Second, as hearing protection cannot be work during an actual call, if an officer fires a patrol rifle, especially in doors the impact to that officer and all officers in close proximity can result in the being instantly disoriented, impairing their decision-making ability in a deadly situation, in addition to immediate hearing loss for the officer (and any suspect/victim/witness in the area).

The cost of Patrol Rifle Suppressors weighed against potential liability and/or disability costs makes this a good investment for the city. Noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL) is one of the most common occupational diseases and the second most self-reported occupational illness or injury. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, occupational hearing loss is the most commonly recorded occupational illness in manufacturing, and accounts for one in nine recordable illnesses. The military is moving towards implementing suppressors. Other police departments are also moving this direction.

A suppressors life span is 40,000-80,000 rounds, effectively making this a one-time purchase.

Patrol Bicycle - Approved

Cost: \$4,750 for a PD Patrol eBike size small

The PD purchased electric assisted bike in 2020. An electric assisted bicycle allows officers to ride longer and respond faster to emergency calls without arriving to the scene exhausted. The city is returning to pre-pandemic levels of attendance for festivals and special events. These can be highly congested with pedestrian and vehicular traffic. Bicycles make officer much more approachable than traditional squad cars helping police/community relationships, especially with children. Our many parks are more effectively patrolled through the use of a bicycle. Finally, these bicycles run silently making them ideal in covert operations.

The current eBike we have is size medium which fits some officers. They do make a size small bike which is for ideal height 5 foot to 5'6" which fits smaller sized officers, particularly some female officers. As of February 2022, retail price was \$4,750 and Spring Street Sports indicated they would be willing to look at a discount for us.

Police Department Flooring

Cost Option #1: \$20,500 to purchase materials for later installation. Flooring styles are commonly discontinued from year to year.

Cost Option #2: \$52,500 full project

The carpet flooring in the police department is in poor condition and needs replacement due to 24/7 use of the floor by 29 employees and visitors over the last decade.

K9 Squad Replacement – Not Approved

Cost: \$30,000 estimate

The K9 Squad is a 2019 Chev Tahoe with 38,000 miles. The vehicle was purchased at the state bid price of \$36,000. A 2023 Chev Tahoe would cost \$24,567 with the trade in of our current squad. I would project a changeover cost of \$5000 to move the equipment into a new vehicle. Essentially replacing a four-year-old vehicle with a new vehicle for a reduced cost.

Note: Cost could be offset by insurance moneys from the totaled PD squad and trade in of current vehicle.

Investigator Squad Replacement - Approved

\$25,000

Our sedan investigator squad is a 2009 blue Chev Impala. Although it has relatively low miles, it is 14 years old and needs replacement. I would like to replace it with another vehicle that can blend in, i.e. not a large black SUV. For example, a Ford Edge or Ford Escape at the state bid price is under \$30,000. Buildout cost is estimated at \$3,000.

Note: Cost could be offset by insurance moneys from the totaled PD squad and trade in of current vehicle.



ASPIS X

LEVEL III



Exceptionally lightweight at only 17lbs, the ASPIS X Shield provides superior maneuverability for handgun and long gun deployment. Available in Level III protection, the ASPIS X delivers high performance protection and optimal functionality.



FEATURES

- Lightweight (20" x 30" standard class) weighs only 17 lbs
- Best agile performing shield for handgun deployment
- 3" x 9" Reinforced Viewport
- Weapon Mount System (WMS)
- Two shooting platforms for accurate handgun and long-gun deployment
- 3 important components offered on the interior of the shield
- Solid handle system
- Thick high density foam pad
- Unique Hook and Loop forearm strap attachment system

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

- Federal Standard NIJ-0108.01
- Ballistic Material - Hybrid composite
- Weight of the shield not to exceed 18 lbs
- View Port Reinforced on all edges for added protection
- Must come w/ 3 components: Handle, Foam Pad, and Forearm strap system
- Reinforced Bolt System for added protection
- Recessed Viewport to provide additional protection against Abrasive contact

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

////// BALLISTIC PERFORMANCE ////

- Special Threats Rounds Tested**
- 7.62 x 39-mm, 123-grain PS Ball
 - 7.62 x 51mm 149gr M80
 - 5.56 x 45-mm, 55-grain M193 Ball

OPTIONS

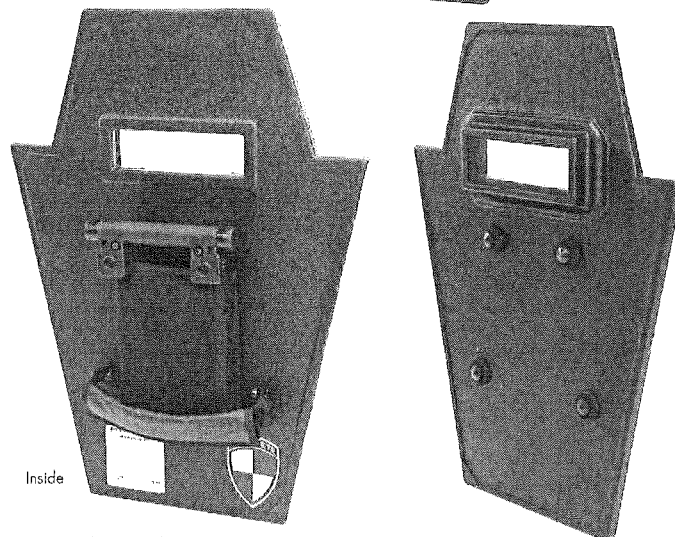
- With or Without Viewport
- LED Light with Strobe Mode
- 1200 Lumens
- Transport Bag

WEIGHTS

- With Light with Viewport: 17.9 lbs
- With Light without Viewport: 13 lbs
- Without Light with Viewport: 17 lbs
- Without Light without Viewport: 12 lbs



Outside



Inside

All models, data and specifications shown are subject to modification by manufacturer without notice.

Chippewa Falls Police Department Suppressor Proposal

Information

What is a decibel?

Decibel measurement of sound is logarithmic, which means that each unit is 10 times that of the preceding one. For example, a noise source measuring 80 dB is 10 times as loud as a source measuring 70 dB and 100 times as loud as a source reading 60 dB.

Hearing Ranges and Dangerous Levels

Standard conversational speech is approximately 60-65 dB. The threshold of pain is considered to be 140dB. According to OSHA, noise levels above 140 dB can cause immediate, irreversible hearing damage. From numerous data sheets, the following is a conservative decibel level reading for firearms listed;

- Unsuppressed AR-15 with a 16" barrel - 155dB-165dB*
- Suppressed AR-15 with a 16" barrel - 135dB*

*The CFPD carries AR-15 with 11.5" barrels. dB ratings with unsuppressed rifles with shorter barrel lengths are both louder and sharper in pitch because the energy from the gunpowder transferred to the bullet is less the shorter the barrel. Any remaining energy is released from the end of the barrel as a pressure release. Shorter barrels create higher decibel levels, but no strict data available. Therefore, we don't know exactly how much higher as the research we have found relates to the more standard and legally allowable 16" barrel.

Most efficient suppressors can reduce report of a weapon by more than 30 decibels which is actually a 1,000% reduction in sound.

Rifle rounds carry much more energy than handgun rounds. Anyone who has shot a handgun, vs a shotgun or hunting rifle can feel the difference.

Exceptionally loud noise is not just detrimental to hearing, it can also cause disorientation and confusion. We know this because that effect is precisely are why loud distraction devises, commonly known as "flash-bangs", are used by SWAT and the military against adversaries.

Suppressed rifles are becoming the industry standard for a working rifle. The new M5 rifle for the US military is suppressed. Agencies such as Altoona PD, ECPD, Dunn Co are either looking towards suppressed rifles or have them already. Also, larger departments in WI, such as Green Bay PD, also have suppressed rifles.

Need

Training

Currently the police department hosts between 2-3 live fire rifle range trainings per year. Most trainings consist of each officer being trained expending 50 rounds or more each range. Over the course of a training day the total number of rounds fired by all officers being trained can be

in excess of 1,200 rounds. Each training consists of one to two firearms instructors, exposing those instructors to 1,200 rounds per training, and approximately 3,500 rounds per year. SWAT Operators shoot an approximately additional 1,500 rifle rounds a year.

During training, the police department provides officers with external (ear muffs) and internal (ear plugs) options for hearing protection, and mandates that one option is utilized while attending range. Below is the noise level reduction for the hearing protection offered;

Howard Leight Impact Sport Pro External Hearing Protection – 22dB reduction

Foam insert Hearing Protection – 15dB-30dB reduction (dependent on many factors)

Performance of Duties

Officers are required to respond to a myriad of different call types. Through these calls there are a number of situations where an officer may be expected to discharge a rifle. These situations include deadly force encounters as well as dispatching injured animals. While performing job duties it is unrealistic to expect officers to respond to calls with in/over ear hearing protection, as it detracts from the ability to perform all other aspects of the task.

By utilizing a suppressed rifle in these types of situations we offer mitigation to significant, permanent hearing loss to one or potentially several officers who would be impacted in an incident while a rifle was fired. This is particularly true indoors. Anyone who has heard a loud noise in a small room vs an open field can attest to the marked difference.

By reducing noise levels in a deadly force encounter, officers gain greater ability to communicate and continually gather information. This can result in more effective efforts and decision making.

Community Impact

Community members and bystanders can also be affected by the same hearing damage that officers are at risk of. A bystander or uninvolved party that is present at the time of a deadly force encounter will be subjected to the same auditory experience as the officers involved in the incident, resulting in permanent hearing loss.

Similarly, community members can be affected by the noise generated through police trainings and the dispatching of animals. While these are necessary and higher-frequency events associated with the tasks of an officer, we recognize that unsuppressed gunfire can have a “noise pollution” result. While this may not cause direct harm to community members, it may result in some disturbance. By utilizing suppressors as a means to reduce the decibel ratings of each round fired, we can have less negative impact on the general public.

Justification

Efforts taken to protect the hearing of officers can extend the term of service for an officer. An officer who becomes medically retired from loss of hearing due to a duty related incident, or cumulative duty related exposure takes significant investment to replace. This is a wise investment.

Additionally, the employer may be subject to increased costs for any incurred disability or damages that an employee may receive.

Finally, an officer who experiences loss of hearing while performing tasks associated with their employment can experience a decreased quality of life, even if the damage does not reach the level of medical separation from the career. By utilizing suppressors, we can help minimize this damage. This is a desirable outcome, as it is simply having care for the well-being of our employees.

Cost

Unit Pricing

Surefire Rc2 SOCOM 5.56 Suppressor = \$989.00/unit

Surefire 3-Prong Flash Hider = \$134.00/unit

12 Duty Rifles to be Outfitted = Suppressor Total: \$11,868.00

Flash Hider Total: \$1,608.00

Total: \$13,476.00

- 5 patrol (K9 Squad rifle suppressor was purchased from K9 fund*)
- 2 SWAT
- 2 School Resource Offices
- 3 Investigator

*One suppressor and muzzle device already purchased from K9 budget and is in service.

Equipment Service Life

Life spans on suppressors vary, but oftentimes last from 40,000-80,000 or more rounds. The equipment selections made for this proposal reflect the result of research to determine significant quality and length of service. While there is an initial starting cost, maintenance costs of the equipment is minimal over the service life.

With an average of 6,500 rifle rounds expended annually over 11 rifles the anticipated service life makes this essentially a one-time cost with no need for replacement due to wear. The only replacement cost would be damage or loss.

Conclusion

The cost benefit analysis for the purchase of rifle suppressors is a very favorable one for the city. It is an investment in the safety of our officers and our community with very minimal on-going costs.