



CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS
Committee of the Whole

Meeting Date: March 10, 2025

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Agenda Item: Washington Police Department Request for leasing of two (2) vehicles

Discussion: Recently the Washington Police Department has added one Officer to the Investigations Unit. This was done due to the amount of work that has been placed on Investigations due to follow up cases, background checks and the high number of child pornography cases we are involved in. This additional person needs an assigned unit due to the various hours he works and the call outs that require his immediate response.

The second requests revolve around the need to increase our “pool cars” (those that officers bid on to drive) because we often need a vehicle for special or unanticipated events. Those events include, but are not limited to, special tasks, (traffic details such as designated spots for speeding), officers training, vehicles being repaired / serviced, etc.

Officers bid vehicles for several reasons. This is their office for a large number of hours each shift and in their assigned cars they have the tools necessary to work...such as a case with reports, long guns (specific to each officer), first aid kits, water rescue kits, traffic control devices, etc. With the current schedule we have 2 cars that will be used 3 shifts a day and with the new patrol officer that will increase to 3 cars.

Leasing the police vehicles has proven to be very valuable, to not only the WPD, but also Washington City. Assigned officers that drive the same car has proven to be efficient and effective and has decreased aggravation a great deal. Officers assigned a specific car take far greater care of the car because they know that the one they will be driving, as compared to just going out and getting into one. This additional unit is very much needed.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: The estimated financial impact for the lease would be \$ 1,300 to \$ 1,500 a month per vehicle.