

DEPARTMENT OF CITY CLERK

CITY HALL

May 25, 1988

The Committee on Finance reconvenes this day at 5:00 o'clock P.M. in Committee Room "A", City Hall.

PRESENT: Chairwoman Brassil and Councilmen Dillon, Glavin, O'Connor and Farmer.

Also present are Director of Administration Simmons, Mayor's Chief of Staff Pallozzi, Deputy Chief of Staff Brooks, Finance Director Baron, Budget Officers Dunham and Prignano and City Internal Auditor Woerner. (Rose M. Mendonca, Clerk)

RELATIVE TO BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 1988-1989

Present are Commissioner of Public Safety Pisaturo, Administrative Assistant Edward Poyer, Chief of Fire Dept., Moise, Colonel of the Police Department Mancuso, Director of Communications Donahue, Lieutenant Tamburini, Major Walter Clark.

Commissioner Pisaturo reads the following communication dated May 25, 1988 to the members present:

"Councilwoman Carolyn F. Brassil, Chair  
City Council Finance Committee  
City Hall  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Dear Councilwoman Brassil:

- (1) This letter is in support and an explanation of the Administration's request to the Finance Committee that the Classification Ordinance and the Compensation Ordinance Amendments for Fiscal Year 1987-1988 passed and referred to the full Council on May 18, 1988 be further amended by establishing a new position in the Office of the Commissioner of Public Safety entitled "Executive Director of the Narcotics Strike Force" at an annual salary of \$54,885.68; and also to amend the said Ordinances for Fiscal Year 1988-1989 to continue and reflect the same position at a salary of \$57,575.00.
- (2) The said salary will be reimbursed to the City on a monthly basis from the Police Department's Special Drug Forfeiture Account, except for the fringe benefits, which will be borne by the City.
- (3)
  - a) Colonel Mancuso's Office, physically, will be in the Attorney General's Office, and generally he will work under the supervision and direction of the Attorney General with statewide authority. He will continue to use the car he now uses, which is a drug forfeiture car.
  - b) However, Colonel Mancuso, as Executive Director of the Narcotics Strike Force, will be required to submit to the Commissioner of Public Safety quarterly status reports of the activity, progress, results achieved, and programs underway or planned of the said Narcotics Force, especially as these relate to the City of Providence.

May 25, 1988

-2-

- c) In addition, Colonel Mancuso will meet at least monthly with the Providence Police Chief and the Police Department's Director of S.I.B. to coordinate and more effectively mobilize their available intelligence, plans, and resources in the war on drugs in our community.
- (4) Special Forfeiture Accounts of Providence Police Dept.
- a) The current status of the Drug Forfeiture Account set up according to State and Federal Law is as follows:
- 1) Cash on hand for forfeitures already awarded in 1987 and 1988 = \$120,874
  - 2) Pending credits for seized drug property, approximately = \$410,000  
i.e. federal prosecutions  
approximately \$300,000 at 90% = \$270,000;  
and State prosecutions  
approximately 200,000 at 70% = \$140,000)
- b) Incoming Police Chief Clark and I are currently developing proposals and plans for the effective use of the Police Department's drug forfeiture funds for the next fiscal year. Before any plans or proposals are implemented, the City Council will receive a full briefing, and we will welcome any input by Council Members or this Committee.
- c) While it is inconceivable that with the accelerated pace of the war on drugs on the Federal, State and City level, and especially with Colonel Mancuso's forceful and coordinated efforts, should the City's drug forfeiture funds be exhausted, it is stipulated that this new position will cease to be funded.

The foregoing is respectfully submitted with the hope that it provides a satisfactory summary of the principal elements of this important partnership with the Attorney General's office in the war on drugs in our community. Recent important conferences on drugs both in Rhode Island and on a national level, which have had a heavy impact in the war on drugs (e.g. Mayor Paolino's Drug Symposium I and II and last month's conference in Washington, D.C. by the U.S. Conference of Mayors) have pointed up and brought into focus the necessity of forging a well-coordinated and directed war on drugs by the agencies involved, regardless of governmental level.

Incidentally, the concept of loaning law enforcement officials from the Providence Police Department to other law enforcement agencies in the State is neither new or unique. For example, for the past five years, two or three detectives have been assigned to work exclusively with the FBI; two officers have been assigned or loaned to the Attorney General (one currently); and also to the State Police - in fact some years ago, Lt. Tamburini was on loan to the State Police exclusively for about 1 1/2 years.

In conclusion, it is respectfully submitted that this proposed partnership will prove very beneficial to the City in its war on drugs for the following reasons:

- 1) Since about 90% of the illegal drug activity in the State is centered in the City, we will be the primary beneficiary, both financially and otherwise, of the stepped up, well-coordinated, well-directed attack on drugs that will result.
- 2) The Providence Police Department, through Chief Clark, Commander Tamburini, and myself will be in excellent position to have significant input into

May 25, 1988

-3-

the operation and strategies of this Narcotics Strike Force because our Colonel Mancuso will be its boss.

- 3) Colonel Mancuso's pre-eminent expertise in Narcotics and law enforcement will not be lost to the City.
- 4) Because the Attorney General lacks the funds - drug forfeiture or otherwise - this proposed, crucial partnership will not happen otherwise.
- 5) This proposal is a good example of how our City and State can effectively work together on important projects that are mutually beneficial.

I shall attempt to answer other questions that this Committee may have.

Respectfully submitted

CHARLES A. PISATURO  
Commissioner of Public Safety"

The members of the Committee review the following:

Department of Public Safety  
Police Department  
Fire Department  
Communications Department

They are excused following detailed explanation of their budget.

Merlin DeConti, Director of Inspection & Standards, is present and the members review his budget.

Mr. DeConti is excused.

Thomas V. Moses, Director of Department of Planning & Development and Joseph Casoli are present.

The members of the Committee review and question the budget of that department at length.

Messrs. Moses and Casoli are excused.

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On motion of Councilman O'Connor, seconded by Councilman Glavin, it is voted to reconsider the following Ordinances:

AN ORDINANCE in amendment of Chapter 1987-30, as approved October 20, 1987, entitled: "An Ordinance in amendment of chapter 1987-19, approved June 25, 1987, entitled: 'An Ordinance establishing the classes of positions, the maximum number of employees and the number of employees in certain classes in the city departments and repealing ordinance chapter 1986-31, approved June 26, 1986,' as amended," relative to various city departments.

AN ORDINANCE in amendment of Chapter 1987-31, approved October 20, 1987, entitled "An ordinance in amendment of chapter 1987-20, approved June 25, 1987, entitled; 'An ordinance establishing a compensation plan for the City of Providence and repealing Chapter 1986-32, approved June 26, 1986,' as amended," relative to various city departments.

May 25, 1988

-4-

Councilman Farmer moves the position of Executive Director of the Narcotics Strike Force" be added to the Ordinances, with an annual compensation of \$54,885.68.

He also moves that the position of Radio Engineer be increased by \$300.00 annually to be in parity with a Fire Captain.

This motion, being seconded by Councilman O'Connor, is put to vote and passed.

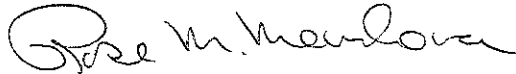
On motion of Councilman O'Connor, seconded by Councilman Farmer, the foregoing Ordinances are transmitted to the City Council with recommendation of Adoption.


Chairwoman Brassil states that the Committee will review the budgets of the School Department; Human Services; Tom Mailhot and the money appropriated to the library on Wednesday, June 1, 1988 at 5:00 o'clock P.M.

The Committee is in recess at 7:15 o'clock P.M. to reconvene on the date specified.

The Clerk is requested to notify all members of the City Council of hearing dates.

For verbatim proceedings, tape is in City Clerk's Department.

  
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copied: 

compared: 