

AGENDA

**SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN
(Called by Mayor Guinta)**

August 8, 2006

**7:00 PM
Alderman Chambers
City Hall (3rd Floor)**

1. Mayor Guinta calls the meeting to order.

2. Mayor Guinta calls for the Pledge of Allegiance.

A moment of silent prayer is observed.

3. The Clerk calls the roll.

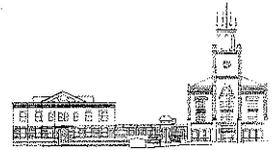
4. Mayor Guinta advises that the purpose of the special meeting is to address law enforcement issues.

5. Mayor Guinta advises that this being a special meeting of the Board, no further business can be presented and a motion to adjourn would be in order.



CITY OF MANCHESTER

Board of Aldermen

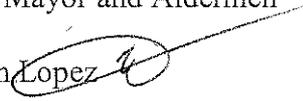


August 1, 2006

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen.

MEMORANDUM

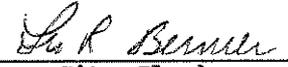
To: Board of Mayor and Aldermen

From: Alderman Lopez 

Date: July 31, 2006

Re: Increasing/Utilization of Retired Reserve Police Officers

On motion of Alderman Lopez, duly seconded by Alderman DeVries, it was voted to approve the conceptual plan increasing Reserve Police Officers to 20 and refer to the Special Meeting of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen to be held on August 8, 2006


City Clerk

For a number of months, I have studied the issue of more police officers. As you know, we have recently hire more police officers but that's not the whole story. Regular officers are tied up with certain jobs that take them off the street. Some of these jobs could be done by reserve officers. After studying what needs to be done, it is my opinion that having a larger reserve force could help in many areas that would keep the regular officer on the street. During this process, I have worked with both the Police Chief and Police Union to move forward with this plan.

I, therefore, respectfully request that the enclosed document be approved under new business on August 1st in order for the Chief of Police to start implementing this 20-man reserve force that will assist him to have regular officers to be on the streets by providing reserve officers when needed to supplement the force in areas such as booking, crime scene, or extra detail or using reserve officers for serving subpoenas as agreed by the union. One other area maybe reserve officers could be used would be as PCO's (Parking Control Officers) with such money coming out of the enterprise fund.

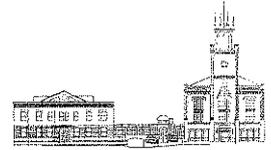
Again, I am requesting approval without it being referred to any committee in order so that the Police Chief shall be allowed to implement this plan in light of what is currently happening with crime here in the City of Manchester.

pc: John Jaskolka, Chief of Police
Virginia Lamberton, Human Resources Director
Officer Todd Boucher, Patrolman's Union President



CITY OF MANCHESTER

Board of Aldermen



July 31, 2006

The Honorable Board of Mayor
and Aldermen
One City Hall Plaza
Manchester, NH 03101

Re: Increasing/Utilization of Retired Reserve Police Officers

Dear Colleagues:

First, let me say that I believe, as many members of the Board do, *that what we need is more police officers now*. The question is how we get there. The cost of police officers is a lot but I think that there is no need to wait when we can do it with little money and have police officers on short notice by increasing our reserve force.

- **Retire reserve officers are already familiar with the standard operating procedures** of the Manchester Police Department. These officers would be able to assimilate quickly into the ranks of the Police Department during an emergency situation.
- **In the event of a disaster the Police Department would have a reserve force to call on** for assistance. During an emergency it is unlikely that the New Hampshire State Police or the Hillsborough County Sheriffs Department would have extra manpower to send to us for assistance. They would likely be strapped for manpower during a disaster as well.
- **Using reserve officers for special circumstances and details** when full-time officers cannot or do not want to fill those assignments **would benefit the Police Department and the City by placing more uniformed officers on the street.** These reserve officers already have all the necessary training skills as regular full-time officers. During emergency situations they could be used strategically to replace full-time officers who would now be available to respond to calls for service. Reserve officers could be used to assist in booking during busy times instead of pulling an officer off the street.

The Honorable Board of Mayor
and Aldermen

July 31, 2006

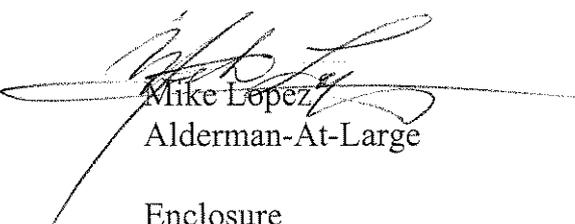
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- **A larger reserve force could help save the Police Department and the City money.** Increasing the size of the reserve force would encourage senior officers to retire. This would allow the Department to hire new officers at a much lower pay rate. Younger officers generally use less sick time and are less likely to get injured on the job. A larger reserve force would also cut down on overtime costs. Instead of ordering a full-time officer to stand by a crime scene or waiting with a prisoner at the hospital, the department could call upon a reserve officer.
- **The reserve officers could be self-funded.** The current billing rate for details encompasses monies for retirement. The reserve officers do not pay into retirement. These monies and a lower detail rate paid to the reserve officers could be put into a fund. This fund could be used to cover the expenses of required training and equipment. It could also be used to pay the reserve officer when they are assigned to assist regular officers (but not more than 8 hours per month).

These are just some of the ways the Police Department and the City could benefit from a larger reserve force. Currently, we have four reserve officers which is less than two percent (2%) of the police force. Let's increase this to a more realistic number of officers.

I recommend that the Board authorize the Chief of Police to hire up to 16 more retired reserve police officers and ask all members of the Board to support this recommendation. As you can see from the enclosed example, in time there can be a self-sufficient fund for a police reserve force. Please note that I have informed both the Chief and union of this plan.

Sincerely,



Mike Lopez
Alderman-At-Large

Enclosure

RESERVE OFFICERS PLAN

Present System 2006 --

Example:

- present system is six (6) officers positions
- two (2) have resigned
- leaving only four (4) officers left
- police operating budget for 2006 contained money for officers to work @ 8 hours/month (these officers were paid hourly rate of \$18.66
- total hours was 406.50 which = \$8,665.95 directly for the MPD budget
- reserve officers are provided with a firearm and pick up a radio when working a detail

EXTRA DETAIL COST PAID BY VENDOR

At present, MPD has four (4) officers that should continue and be grandfathered in at the detail rate they have been receiving which is \$35.26.

- \$5.48 for fund x 4 hours minimum = \$21.92 x 4 officers = \$87.68 x 30 minimum events = \$2,630.40 in special fund.

Recommendations:

Special fund source for the future or additional needs.

Example:

- price charged for detail officers is \$40.74 an hour
- \$32.00/hour for 16 new reserve officers
- balance \$8.74 placed into special fund

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- over time special fund should reach approximately \$20,000 for the Police Chief to use at his discretion

The most important thing is to build up the fund in the event more officers would be needed at any given time in order to assist the Chief in providing safety to our citizens. In time, this would provide to be a great resource for not only the Police Department but the City as well.

Please note that the MPD vacancy monies could also be used for reserve officers to work 8 hours/month, since the MPD is budgeted at no additional cost to the taxpayers. The Chief would have 20 reserve officers when needed in case of emergency.