



# MEMO

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**To:** Mayor Teske – Personnel Committee  
**From:** Daron J Haugh – City Administrator  
**Subject:** Cops Grant for 2<sup>nd</sup> Police Officer Position  
**Date:** 2024-10-08

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I am writing to request your approval for the addition of a second new police officer position within the City of Mauston Police Department, contingent upon our successful application and award of a Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Hiring Program grant. As previously discussed, the impending transition of Zoning and Code Enforcement from contracted services to in-house management will significantly increase the workload of our police staff. Adding an additional officer, as outlined in my previous request, will be vital for effectively managing these new responsibilities while maintaining our high service standards. Recognizing the potential budget implications of this expansion, I want to take advantage of the grant funding opportunities available to support staffing growth. The COPS Hiring Program provides invaluable resources for law enforcement agencies to hire additional officers, with the grant funding gradually decreasing over time to help municipalities transition these positions to their permanent budgets.

However, to pursue this funding, we first need approval from the governing body to add this grant-funded position. I am confident in our ability to secure a COPS grant, given our clear justification for increased staffing and the proactive steps we are taking to address our future workload. If awarded, this grant will fully fund the new officer position for the initial grant period, allowing us to better absorb the costs when the position transitions to our budget. I believe this is a prudent and financially responsible approach to staffing growth, taking advantage of available grant funding while proactively addressing our future needs. I respectfully request your approval to add this second police officer position, contingent upon our successful application and award of a COPS Hiring Program grant. I, and or Chief Zilisch, will be happy to provide any additional information or answer questions you may have about this request and our grant application plans.