

	Council Agenda Item
Meeting Date:	04/15/2025
Agenda Item:	SRO Contract
Staff Contact (name, email, phone):	Dan Meyer <a href="mailto:dmeyer@whitewater-wi.gov">dmeyer@whitewater-wi.gov</a> 262-473-1371

#### BACKGROUND

(Enter the who, what when, where, why)

On April 9, 2025 Chief Meyer received a memo from Superintendent Pate-Hefty stating that the School District would be ending the existing SRO (School Resource Officer) agreement, unless changes to the SRO contract red-lined by Pate-Hefty were made immediately.

The position of the Police Department is as follows:

We see tremendous value in the SRO position and want to ensure that no policy disagreement or personality conflict negatively impact the services provided by our SRO.

We do not believe it's in the best interest of the Police Department or the School District to make changes to the agreement until a new Superintendent is in place. Our preference is to auto-renew the current agreement. However, in lieu of auto-renewal, we recommend that a 120-day extension agreement (or similar timeframe) be entered so that any updates can be addressed with the involvement of the new Superintendent. This would help ensure clarity and agreement between Police Department and School District staff, as well as the governing bodies.

PD command staff have met with the Superintendent multiple times to work through challenges and policy implications of the current agreement. On the most recent occasion, January 29, 2025, the Police Chief provided the Superintendent with SRO contracts from five other local municipalities for review and comparison, with the understanding that those would be reviewed and that any further requested changes would be communicated. No communication regarding proposed alterations to the SRO contract were received from the Superintendent until the April 9, 2025 memo.

We believe a measured approach should be taken moving forward that includes input from the District Attorney, City Attorney, and School Board/Legal Counsel in addition to staff. This will ensure we create a well-crafted agreement for years to come.

#### PREVIOUS ACTIONS – COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

(Dates, committees, action taken)

N/A

#### FINANCIAL IMPACT

(If none, state N/A)

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Recommended Motion: **Move to direct staff to work with City Attorney to create a 120-day SRO agreement extension.**

ATTACHMENT(S) INCLUDED

(If none, state N/A)

1. Memo from Superintendent Pate-Hefty
2. Redline version of SRO Contract from Superintendent Pate-Hefty