



City of Grand Forks

Staff Report

Committee of the Whole – December 8, 2025

City Council – December 15, 2025

APPROVED & ACCEPTED
by City Council

12/15/2025

Maureen Storstad
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City Auditor

Agenda Item: Budget Amendment Police Department Overtime

Submitted by: Jason Freedman, Chief of Police, Grand Forks Police Department

Staff Recommended Action: Recommend approval of any necessary budget amendments for 2025 PD Overtime Expenses.

Committee Recommended Action: Motion by Osowski, second by Berg to move staff recommendation to City Council with a recommendation to approve. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Action:

Motion by Vein, second by Fridolfs to approve on consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

BACKGROUND:

In 2025 the Grand Forks Police Department experienced multiple issues that greatly increased our use of overtime compensation. These include:

- Enhanced patrol of the downtown area
- Criminal investigations requiring deployment of detectives
- High-risk calls requiring the activation of our special operations group
- Increased police presence during outdoor community events

In addition to the above the department also saw reduced deployable staffing that also increased our overtime usage. These include:

- Retirements and resignations
- FMLA
- Medical leave
- Work-related injuries resulting in officers being temporarily removed from their regular duties

To function safely and provide the service expected by our citizens, each patrol shift has a minimum staffing requirement of six officers and one supervisor. Maintaining these shift minimums under reduced staffing required significantly more overtime than typically utilized by our department.

Recognizing the budgetary impact, our department took several measures to minimize overtime. They included:

- Officers not assigned to patrol (detectives, outreach, school officers) flexed their schedules to fill patrol shifts.
- Corporals received additional supervisory training and are authorized to oversee a shift if a sergeant from another shift or a command staff member is available to help provide overall patrol supervision.
- Members of command staff supervised shifts and in some cases worked patrol areas.

ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS OF FACT:

The department has worked with City Finance and anticipates we will be approximately \$155,000 over budget in the Wages and Salary – Overtime line. The department requests a budget amendment be authorized to utilize funds from existing General Fund Cash for the Police Department Wages and Salary – Overtime line. As the final number is still somewhat uncertain, in the case we exceed the \$155,000 budget overage requested, we would also request the approval of any additional budget amendment needed for the Police Overtime budget. Any additional amendments needed will be communicated with City Council via the final quarterly budget amendment report provided to Council by the Finance Department.

SUPPORT MATERIALS:

N/A