

City of Milford



CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE AGENDA Monday, March 8, 2021

In accordance with the State of Emergency Declaration issued by Governor John Carney that became effective on March 13, 2020, and as extended, all public meetings of the City of Milford shall be conducted electronically through Zoom until further notice to prevent unnecessary public gatherings.

This meeting is available for viewing by the public by accessing the following link:
<https://zoom.us/j/99564471456>

Members of the public may also dial in by phone using the following number:
Call 1 301 715 8592 Webinar ID: 995 6447 1456

Public Comments are encouraged on the items as noted on the agenda and must be submitted via email to cityclerk@milford-de.gov no later than the start of the meeting. Attendees may also alert the City Clerk that they wish to speak at the appropriate time by submitting their name, address, and agenda item on which they would like to comment via the Zoom Chat function or using the Raise Your Hand function during the meeting. All public comments received will be read into the record at the meeting.

5:00 P.M. POLICE COMMITTEE MEETING

Call to Order – Chairman Mike Boyle
Behavioral Unit Update
Police Facility Design Updates/Becker Morgan Group
Take Home Vehicles
Adjournment

All items on the Meeting Agenda are subject to a potential vote.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE CITY CLERK IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT
NO LATER THAN ONE WEEK PRIOR TO MEETING; NO PAPER DOCUMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED OR DISTRIBUTED
AFTER PACKET HAS BEEN POSTED ON THE CITY OF MILFORD WEBSITE.**

New Patrol Vehicle Costs- Road Ready

2021 2wd tahoe	\$ 37,992.00
LED Spotlight left side	\$ 360.00

Required Equipment attached to vehicle

Axon Camera System with Cradlepoint Router	\$ 2,596.00
Federal Signal Light Bar/Siren.Speaker with Bracket and controller	\$ 2,881.25
8 external lower level warning lights for grille side and rear of vehicle	\$ 778.72
Tail light flashers	\$ 39.38
Partition between driver and passenger	\$ 679.20
Polycarb prisoner seat with partion between prisoner and rear cargo area	\$ 1,359.15
Side window protectors for prisoner transport	\$ 215.20
Single weapon Rifle locking rack	\$ 543.20
Electronics Console	\$ 1,399.00
Power panel for computer, radar, printer	\$ 28.86
Computer Table	\$ 245.07
Radio* Estimate only. Can not provide an exact figure per motorola	\$ 4,987.00
Installation of above via DIVCOM Contract	\$ 900.00
Graphics and Installation	\$ 850.00

Inside the vehicle equipment Not hard mounted

Computer - Dell lattitude series	\$ 1,118.00
DC Power for Computer	\$ 70.00
Printer- Brother PJ 723	\$ 449.00
Power cord and com cable for printer	\$ 30.00
Patrol rifle with sights and light	\$ 1,400.00
Fire Extinguisher- ABC 5LBS	\$ 70.00
Door unlock Kit with case	\$ 105.00
Active Shooter kit (includes level 3 armour)	\$ 700.00

Forcible Entry kit (Rescue)	\$ 700.00
First Aid Kit	\$ 112.61
Water Rescue Rope	\$ 54.99
Storage Box	\$ 80.00
electronic Flares	\$ 301.99
regular Flares	\$ 112.99
Leg Irons	\$ 78.99
extra Cuff's (one)	\$ 29.99
Crowd control OC Spray	\$ 58.99
evidence collection Kit	\$ 90.00
Traffic Radar- Stalker dual	\$ 2,128.00
5 traffic cones (full size)	\$ 187.99
Total for fully equipped patrol vehicle	\$ 63,732.57
Recurring Monthly Access fee for modem	\$40.25

Take Home Car Program

Milford Police Department

Chief Kenneth Brown

Challenge:

There is such a shortage of qualified candidates that police departments are competing against each other for certified officers. They are doing this by way of sign-on bonuses, increased salaries, and take home vehicles. They are willing to do this because the costs to hire and train an officer are high.

To Hire and Train an Officer

- \$50,000.00 Salary
- \$26,000.00 Benefits package
- \$3,950.00 Hiring costs
- \$4,040.00 Academy costs
- \$3,736.00 Uniforms & Equipment
- \$87,726.00 Total

Take Home Vehicle Program

For the last decade officers have been serious about wanting take home cars as an additional benefit. This has become a serious recruitment and retention issue and we have lost officers to other departments because of this. There have been other times where an officer who I was looking to hire turned us down because we didn't offer take home cars.

Prior to today, the cost of implementing such a program has been too high to actively consider. However, we have a golden opportunity to offset a large portion of these costs in savings on the new building.

Building Savings

Copy of email from Brenden Frederick of Becker Morgan Group:

Hey Chief,

Sorry friday got away from me. Reviewed the impacts (reduced cost) for less parking and smaller locker room area. Have the following projected savings:

- 1. Reduce parking (est 12,000 sf)...savings \$60,000**
- 2. Reduced building size (est 1,800 sf) used Troop 7 layout...savings \$450,000**

Total estimated savings (\$510,000)

Will also have long term savings for reduced energy cost for smaller square footage

Hope this helps.

B

Study

The most comprehensive study regarding take home vehicles was done by the City of Tacoma, Washington. They used the outside consulting firm of Mercury Associates. The lead analyst was a professor from the University of North Carolina. The consultant's report compared a fleet of 30 assigned vehicles to a pool of 34 vehicles. The study covered an 8 year accounting period. In this study they found the following:

- Operating costs per mile were 30% lower for assigned vehicles.
- assigned vehicles went without replacement twice as long as pooled
- Assigned vehicles had much lower accident and repair costs (\$8,400 compared to \$1,375)
- On average using a pooled vehicle

took 28-40 minutes per day to checkout, load, and unload (equates to 13 non productive days per year).

- Officers render a significant amount of service while “off-duty”.

Hampton Virginia

Police Department

Did a study that supported their take home fleet program. It showed that both maintenance costs and operating costs were lower for take home cars versus pool cars. Maintenance costs were \$0.16 per mile versus \$0.19 per mile on pool cars, a 16% savings. They also found a 15% savings in operating costs, \$0.17 per mile versus \$0.20 per mile for pool cars. This study also found fewer accidents occurred with assigned cars.

An article in Law and Order magazine acknowledges that initial startup costs can be a concern, but net savings occur due to lower maintenance costs and extended vehicle life. It also notes that the cost of the increase in fleet size begins to be offset by lower maintenance cost by the second year. In the fourth year, vehicle replacement costs drop significantly because the take home cars accumulate fewer miles.

The Daytona Beach Police Department operates a fleet of 340 vehicles. The fleet manager faced with cost cuts believes one of his biggest successes has been implementing a Take Home fleet program. Maintenance and repair costs have gone down on the program vehicles. Officers take better care of the vehicles than pool cars because no one else can be blamed for poor care. They also don't run the vehicles as hard, which is better for fuel mileage. He states "The user will keep the vehicle cleaner, inspect it on a regular basis, answer up to damage, and generally take more pride."

Other advantages to Take home cars

- More police units on the street. Citizens will see a more visible police presence and so will potential offenders, offering a deterrent effect.
- Creates a rapid response to emergency callouts.
- Officers take ownership and treat vehicles as their own.
- Surveys note officer morale is considerably higher with assigned cars.

Total costs per vehicle are:

<u>New Patrol Vehicle Costs- Road Ready</u>				
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Federal Signal Light Bar/Siren. Speaker with Bracket				
and controller				\$ 2,881.25
8 external lower level warning lights for				

15 cars needed

- $15 \times \$63,732.57 = \$955,988.55$
- $15 \times \$40 = \520 recurring per year modem cost

Over Three Years

2021, 2022, and 2023

5 cars per year

\$318,662.85 per year