



City of Waukesha
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Committee: Human Resources Committee	Date: 10/18/2023
Common Council Item Number: ID#23-7875	Date: 11/7/2023
Submitted By: Steve Howard, Fire Chief SH	City Administrator Approval: Gina Kozlik, Interim City Administrator GK
Finance Department Review: Joseph Ciurro, Finance Manager JC	City Attorney's Office Review: Brian Running, City Attorney BR
Subject: Review and act on a request to approve an ARPA-funded "Case Manager/Social Worker" position	

Details:
The inclusion of a Case Manager/Social Worker within the fire department is an essential investment in enhancing the overall effectiveness and well-being of both the department itself and the communities it serves. Firefighters frequently encounter members in the community who are suffering from mental health crisis, abuse (domestic, child, elderly), substance abuse, suicidal ideation, recent death of a family member, and individuals who are no longer capable to care for themselves in their homes. A dedicated Case Manager/Social Worker can provide critical support in helping firefighters assist the community members in need, cope with the mental health issues they are experiencing. Additionally, they can play a pivotal role in facilitating community outreach and education, ensuring that vulnerable populations receive the necessary assistance and resources they need to prevent non-emergent, emergent, and/or crisis mental health situations and improve their quality of life. A Case Manager/Social Worker position would assist the fire department in demonstrating a commitment to the welfare of the community it serves.

Options & Alternatives:
This is a completely ARPA-funded position. When the ARPA funding ends, we would turn the project over to the Common Council for determination of alternative funding or sunseting the position.

Financial Remarks:
This is a completely ARPA-funded position.

Executive Recommendation:
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