

Dear Geneva City Manager and City Council,

Over the course of 6 weeks, the inaugural Police Budget Advisory Board has met 4 times and its members have dedicated many hours beyond those meetings to understanding and analyzing the financial business of the Geneva Police Department. We are grateful to the Police Chief for his candor and thorough explanations to our inquiries, and to the City Comptroller for his organizational and administrative efforts.

Our recommendations for the 2022 budget are not exhaustive given our short time frame to learn, deliberate, and propose. We unanimously decided to recommend the following:

1. Designate police budget funds (approx. \$50,000) for a policing study. Create a special committee to design the RFP for this study, led by the PBAB.
2. Await the results of this study before filling any vacated positions in 2022. Reduce appropriate police budget lines (e.g., Training, but perhaps others) by the amount that would be required to recruit and train any additional officers beyond those already in the academy (e.g., to replace anticipated retirements).
3. Hold the Publications/Advertising line (4016) at \$200. We do not see the need for a 150% increase on this line item.
4. Authorize the purchase of 1 vehicle, not 2 as requested. New vehicles were last purchased in 2019, but the newest additions were added to the fleet this year. Cost reduction from delaying a vehicle purchase can help defray the cost of a policing study.
5. Request review and renegotiation of the scheduling aspects of the union contracts. Much of the budget is related to these contracts and scheduling.
6. Reduce overtime expense by permitting it for emergencies only.

We are eager to continue our discussions and provide further recommendations for the 2023 budget season.

Sincerely,

City of Geneva Police Budget Advisory Board