

## AGENDA REPORT

TO: Mayor & City Commission  
FROM: Ken Hibel, City Manager  
DATE: September 1, 2010  
RE: Employee Service Recognition – Officer Al White



For the Agenda of September 7, 2010

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Background. Officer Al White has served as a police officer for the Clare Police Department (CPD) for twenty years (effective August 30, 2010). During those two decades, he has served our community with great distinction and is likely best-known for his extraordinary involvement with our area youth, having served as the School Liaison Officer for Clare Public Schools and as the DARE Officer (*see copy of att'd outline of his service to our local student population*) for a great portion of his time with the CPD. The City Commission is asked to formally and publicly recognize Officer Al for his outstanding service.

Issues & Questions Specified. Should the City Commission recognize the exceptional public service of Officer Al White?

Alternatives.

1. Recognize the service of Officer Al.
2. Do not recognize the service of Officer Al.
3. Defer/delay/postpone decision regarding the date/time to a future scheduled Commission meeting.

Financial Impact. The cost to the City is approximately \$85 (cost of a memento and a framed certificate).

Recommendations. I recommend that the City Commission formally recognize Officer Al White by adoption of the proposed Resolution 2010-087 (*copy att'd*).

Attachments.

1. Outline.
2. Resolution 2010-087.

Chief,

Regarding the request for my service to Clare Public Schools:

I was the first D.A.R.E. officer in Clare County, graduating from the D.A.R.E. training academy in 1993. I gave my first class to 6<sup>th</sup> graders that fall. I taught D.A.R.E. for the next 14 years. Approximately 1,600 children have been through this program in Clare Schools. My first class of D.A.R.E. students are now turning 29 years old. It was also at this time that I began working with students on truancy and child abuse issues.

I became a full time school liaison officer for Clare Public Schools in 1998 and continued in this capacity until the Clare Board of Education eliminated the position in the spring of 2010. During this time, aside from my normal liaison duties, I worked a great many child abuse and neglect cases. So much so, that I began to see patterns of behavior in kids that had suffered or were suffering from abuse.

My experience with these kids led to my authoring of two books on child abuse. I wrote "*In Sheep's Clothing*" about the behavioral characteristics of predatory people and "*Promise Not to Tell*" about the behavioral and emotional characteristics of abused children. I also travel around the state giving child abuse programs for the Michigan Prosecutor's Association and the Michigan State University College of Justice. Sgt. Josh Lator of the Michigan State Police and I also give seminars on our own. All of these trainings are for prosecutors, police officers, DHS and mental health workers and medical personal. I also provide these programs for teachers and educational support staff so they will recognize the signs of abused children.

In September I will be giving my new program, "*A Bright Red Scream*," (A study in teen self-injury) at a Michigan Prosecuting Attorney's conference. In November, I will be giving "*Promise Not to Tell*" to every community policing officer for the Michigan State Police.

I am working on two additional programs that stemmed from my work as a school liaison officer. They are, "Anatomy of a Sex Crime," (A step by step study of the investigation and successful prosecution of difficult cold cases," and "But He Never Hit Me," (A study into teen abusive and controlling relationships.)

As for children whose lives I have touched, that's a little tough. Prevention is very difficult to measure. I guess I know that I have affected the lives of children with they all feel comfortable talking to me. Kids come up to me all the time and talk to me. I know that for them, I am the cop they can always turn to if they need help. About a week ago had a former student, now a grown woman, come up to me in the bakery. She had just graduated from a nursing program and said that she wanted to thank me for having a "Profound influence in her life." She went on to recall some conversations I had with her when she was a freshman and how it affected her life. She was in tears telling me about this. I could not remember the conversations. Sometimes we touch lives without knowing it.

Alan White

**RESOLUTION 2010-087**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CLARE CITY COMMISSION RECOGNIZING THE EXCEPTIONAL PUBLIC SERVICE OF CLARE POLICE OFFICER AL WHITE.**

**WHEREAS**, Clare Police Officer Al White has served the residents of the Greater Clare Community with absolute distinction, unparalleled dedication, extraordinary compassion, and fearless courage; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Commission deems that it is appropriate and fitting to formally recognize said distinct, dedicated, extraordinary, and courageous public service.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, on behalf of the residents of the City of Clare and the citizens of the entire Greater Clare Area Community, the Mayor of the City of Clare and the Clare City Commission hereby formally recognizes the phenomenal public service of Officer Al White while serving as a member of the City of Clare Police Department during the period August 30, 1990 to September 7, 2010.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the City Commission offers its special thanks and praise to Officer Al for his tireless devotion and unrelenting dedication to the youth of the Clare Area Community, having served as the DARE Officer for the Clare Public Schools in excess of fourteen years and as the Clare Public School Police Liaison Officer for twelve years, having positively touched the lives of literally thousands of community youth during the past twenty years.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Mayor and City Commission offers Officer White its sincere wishes for good health, long life, and for continued success in all endeavors and concurrently challenges him to continue to serve the public with the same reputation for his unswerving standards for excellence that he has so ably established.

**ALL RESOLUTIONS AND PARTS OF RESOLUTIONS INSOFAR AS THEY CONFLICT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS RESOLUTION BE AND THE SAME ARE HEREBY RESCINDED.**

The Resolution was introduced by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ and supported by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_. The Resolution declared adopted by the following roll call vote:

**YEAS:**

**NAYS:**

**ABSENT:**

Resolution approved for adoption on this 7<sup>th</sup> day of September 2010.

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Diane Schmidt, City Clerk