
Sponsor: Sheriff's Office

Meeting Date: 12/21/2021

Title: Agreements with the Cities of Arden Hills, Falcon Heights, Little Canada, North Oaks, Shoreview, Vadnais Heights, and the Township of White Bear for Law Enforcement Services and a Personnel Complement Increase

File Number: 2021-689

Background and Rationale:

The Ramsey County Sheriff's Office has historically entered into agreements with municipalities within Ramsey County for the provision of law enforcement and public safety services, including patrol, investigations, crime prevention, community outreach, and animal control.

Contracting law enforcement and public safety services with the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office provides many advantages. These advantages include cost savings by sharing personnel and resources. Overall operating costs are controlled by sharing personnel, supervision, administrative functions, facilities, vehicles, equipment, and training among the municipalities. Since 1958, this cooperative model has demonstrated how sharing services among municipalities can achieve effective, efficient, and economical law enforcement and public safety services.

Currently, the cities of Arden Hills, Falcon Heights, Little Canada, North Oaks, Shoreview, Vadnais Heights, and the Township of White Bear, also known as the "Contract Communities," have agreements with the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office for law enforcement and public safety services within the geographical boundaries of each municipality. The current agreements will expire on December 31, 2021 with no renewal options. The Contract Communities and the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office are recommending new agreements and are proud of our ability to work closely together to achieve the shared goal of community safety in the suburban communities of Ramsey County.

As part of the new agreements, the Contract Communities have approved a 1.0 full-time equivalent (FTE) Deputy Sheriff - Commander position starting January 1, 2022. This position will enhance the divisional leadership team and focus on technology and communications.

Recommendation:

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

1. Approve the Law Enforcement Services Agreements with the cities of Arden Hills, Falcon Heights, Little Canada, North Oaks, Shoreview, Vadnais Heights, and the Township of White Bear for law enforcement and public safety services, in accordance with the Agreements.
2. Approve an increase in the personnel complement of the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office Contract Communities by 1.0 Full-Time Equivalent Deputy Sheriff - Commander.
3. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the Agreements.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner MatasCastillo, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt.

Motion passed.

Aye: - 7: Carter, Frethem, MatasCastillo, McDonough, McGuire, Ortega, and Reinhardt

By: Mee Cheng

Mee Cheng, Chief Clerk - County Board

**AGREEMENT FOR
LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES**

This is an Agreement between the County of Ramsey (hereinafter referred to as the "COUNTY"), and the City of Vadnais Heights (hereinafter referred to as the "MUNICIPALITY"), to provide law enforcement services to the MUNICIPALITY for the period commencing January 1, 2022.

WHEREAS, the COUNTY has a statutory obligation to provide police protection within Ramsey County; and

WHEREAS, the COUNTY has previously contracted to provide law enforcement services to the cities of Arden Hills, Falcon Heights, Little Canada, North Oaks, Shoreview, Vadnais Heights, and to White Bear Township (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "MUNICIPALITIES"), and

WHEREAS, the MUNICIPALITY has determined that it is in the best interests of the MUNICIPALITY to continue to contract with the COUNTY for law enforcement services, thereby allowing for the allocation of overhead and other administrative costs over a larger population; and

WHEREAS, the parties to this Agreement intend to contract for law enforcement functions within the political boundaries of the MUNICIPALITY through the Ramsey County Sheriff; and

WHEREAS, the COUNTY is agreeable to rendering such services on the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth; and

WHEREAS, such contracts are authorized and provided for by the provisions of Minnesota Statutes Sections 471.59 and 436.05, and Laws 1959, Chapter 372.

NOW, THEREFORE, IN CONSIDERATION OF the mutual undertakings set forth herein, the COUNTY and the MUNICIPALITY agree as follows:

A. SCOPE OF SERVICES

1. The COUNTY agrees, through the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office, to provide law enforcement services to the MUNICIPALITY which will include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - a. Patrol services with random patrolling of residential areas, businesses, parks, and other public property areas;
 - b. Enforcement of Minnesota State Statutes and the ordinances of the MUNICIPALITY;
 - c. Traffic enforcement including the regular use of radar or laser as a speed deterrent;
 - d. Crime prevention programs such as Neighborhood Watch, as well as other business and residential crime prevention programs;
 - e. Criminal investigative and crime scene processing services;
 - f. Follow up on reported crimes with persons who reported the crime including routine notification by telephone or mail as to the status of the investigation;
 - g. Responses to medical, fire, and other emergencies;
 - h. Coordination of volunteer programs such as the Community Affairs Officer and Reserve Programs;

- i. Driver's license inspections, background checks and license enforcement services as called for under applicable state law and ordinances of the MUNICIPALITY;
 - j. Special event traffic patrol and patrol services for community festivals or other special events; and
 - k. Attendance at Public Safety or City Council meetings as requested by the MUNICIPALITY; and
 - l. Animal control services.
2. The manner and standards of performance, the discipline of officers, and other matters incident to the provision of services under this Agreement, and the control of personnel so employed, shall be subject solely to the control of the COUNTY. In the event of a dispute between the parties as to the extent of the duties and functions to be rendered hereunder, or the level or manner of performance of such service, the determination thereof made by the Sheriff of the COUNTY shall be final and conclusive as between the parties hereto, subject however, to the provisions of Section A.3. herein.
3. In the event the MUNICIPALITY, through its elected body or authorized agent, notifies the COUNTY that the MUNICIPALITY is dissatisfied with the assignment of personnel for the performance of services under this Agreement and requests a change in personnel, the COUNTY shall make every effort to effect a change in the assignment of personnel, provided that such a change does not jeopardize the ability of the COUNTY to provide services to other areas of Ramsey County in a timely and efficient manner.
4. Services shall be provided 24 hours per day and shall be performed by the number of deputies and other personnel budgeted for in the COUNTY'S Approved Budget for these services to the MUNICIPALITIES.
5. To facilitate the COUNTY'S performance pursuant to this Agreement, the MUNICIPALITY agrees that the COUNTY shall have full cooperation and assistance from the MUNICIPALITY, its officers, agents and employees. The MUNICIPALITY shall designate a liaison to the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office. The liaison shall attend meetings of the Sheriff's Contract Communities Committee and shall represent its respective MUNICIPALITY at the meetings. The purpose of these meetings is to develop short-term and long range plans and to coordinate and analyze police service, to develop budget parameters for distributing costs among the MUNICIPALITIES, and other related public service issues. The Sheriff's Contract Communities Committee shall also review any disputes which arise between the MUNICIPALITIES and/or Sheriff's Office and recommend a resolution.
6. The COUNTY shall furnish and supply all necessary labor, supervision, equipment, communication facilities and dispatching, and supplies necessary to provide services pursuant to this Agreement.
7. All deputy sheriffs, clerks, and all other COUNTY personnel performing duties pursuant to this Agreement shall at all times be considered employees of the COUNTY for all purposes.
8. The name of each of the MUNICIPALITIES that contract with the Sheriff's Office for law enforcement services shall be affixed to all squad cars and other major pieces of equipment used primarily within these MUNICIPALITIES.

B. ASSUMPTION OF LIABILITIES/INSURANCE

1. Except as otherwise provided, the MUNICIPALITY shall not be called upon to assume any liability for the direct payment of any salaries, wages, or other compensation to any COUNTY personnel performing services pursuant to this Agreement for said MUNICIPALITY, and the COUNTY hereby assumes said liabilities.
2. Except as herein otherwise specified, the MUNICIPALITY shall not be liable for compensation or indemnity to any COUNTY employee for injury or sickness arising out of the performance of services pursuant to this Agreement, and the COUNTY hereby agrees to hold harmless the MUNICIPALITY against any such claim.
3. The MUNICIPALITY, its officers, and employees, shall not be deemed to assume any liability for the intentional or negligent acts of the COUNTY or the COUNTY'S employees performing services pursuant to this Agreement, and the COUNTY shall hold the MUNICIPALITY, its officers, and employees harmless from and shall defend and indemnify the MUNICIPALITY, its officers, and employees against any claim for damages arising out of the COUNTY'S performance of services pursuant to this Agreement.
4. The COUNTY, its officers, and employees shall not be deemed to assume any liability for intentional or negligent acts of the MUNICIPALITY or of any other officers, agent or employee thereof, and the MUNICIPALITY shall hold the COUNTY and its officers and employees harmless from, and shall defend and indemnify the COUNTY and its officers and employees against any claim for damages arising out of the MUNICIPALITY'S performance of its obligations pursuant to this Agreement.
5. The COUNTY agrees to maintain, during the term of this Agreement, automobile, general liability, workers' compensation, and professional liability insurance in amounts deemed appropriate by the COUNTY. The COUNTY shall name the MUNICIPALITY as an additional insured on these policies except for the workers' compensation policy. The MUNICIPALITY agrees to pay, as a part of the actual cost as provided in Section 6 below, a pro rata share of the COUNTY'S insurance costs. These costs shall include the costs for any assessments and credits for any dividends by participating in any insurance pools or trusts. The COUNTY may elect to self-insure all or any portion of these risks. If the COUNTY cannot obtain insurance and/or elects to self-insure, the MUNICIPALITY shall pay a pro rata share of the costs of self-insurance, based on each MUNICIPALITY'S share of the approved annual budget. Insurance costs as they relate to insurance coverage shall include premiums and deductibles. Costs of self-insurance shall include reserves, claims and damage payments, and administration costs required to maintain self-insurance.
6. The MUNICIPALITY acknowledges that the COUNTY may, in an effort to provide the best insurance coverage at the most economical cost, become a member of the Minnesota Counties Insurance Trust or some similar organization; and the MUNICIPALITY further acknowledges that membership in such an organization may be for a fixed minimum term and may expose the COUNTY to some type of contingent cost liability, such as debts, obligations and liabilities, in the event that the COUNTY withdraws its membership. The MUNICIPALITY agrees to reimburse the COUNTY for the MUNICIPALITY'S pro rata share of any such contingent cost liability arising during the term of this Agreement for Law Enforcement Services and assessed against the COUNTY. Upon notification to the COUNTY of any such contingent cost liability, the

COUNTY will notify the MUNICIPALITY in a timely manner.

C. TERM OF AGREEMENT/TERMINATION

1. The term of this Agreement shall commence on January 1, 2022, and shall continue through December 31, 2024 ("Term").
2. If either party intends not to renew this Agreement at the end of its Term, the party must notify the other party and other MUNICIPALITIES in writing at least nine (9) calendar months prior to the end of the contract Term. If either party has not approved a successor agreement at the end of the Term, the COUNTY will continue to provide law enforcement services in accordance with this Agreement.
3. Either party may terminate this Agreement at the end of a calendar year and prior to the end of the Term of the Agreement by notifying the other party to this Agreement and the other MUNICIPALITIES in writing of their intent to terminate the Agreement at least nine (9) calendar months prior to the end of the calendar year.
4. Notice to the COUNTY shall be given to the County Manager and Ramsey County Sheriff, and Notice to the MUNICIPALITY shall be given to the MUNICIPALITY'S City Manager. Notice to the other MUNICIPALITIES will be given in accordance with the notice provisions of the contracts between the COUNTY and the other MUNICIPALITIES.

D. COST AND PAYMENT

1. The MUNICIPALITY agrees to pay the COUNTY the actual cost of providing all services covered by this Agreement. Actual cost shall mean the MUNICIPALITY'S pro rata share of the COUNTY'S total cost of providing patrol and police protection services as described in this Agreement to the MUNICIPALITIES with which the COUNTY has agreements for the current contract year, including, but not limited to the following: salaries of employees engaged in performing said services, including vacation and sick leave; mileage; uniforms; public employees retirement contributions; workers' compensation, automobile, general liability and police professional liability insurance costs or the cost of self-insurance; general overhead, including indirect expenses and supplies, radio unit expense, and health and welfare expense. The term "costs" as used herein shall not include items of expense attributable to services or facilities normally provided or available to all cities within the COUNTY as part of the COUNTY'S obligation to enforce state law. Computation of actual costs hereunder shall be made by the Ramsey County Finance Department based on information provided by the Sheriff.
2. During the term of this Agreement, the COUNTY shall annually submit a Budget Estimate for the following year of services to the MUNICIPALITY no later than August 1 of the current year. Said Budget Estimate will be for the limited purpose of better enabling the MUNICIPALITY to estimate its annual budget and tax levy. It is understood by the parties to this Agreement that said Budget Estimate shall in no way prevent the COUNTY from charging its actual costs.
3. If the MUNICIPALITY does not allocate the necessary funding for its proportionate share of the COUNTY'S Approved Budget to the MUNICIPALITIES for a given year, the MUNICIPALITY and the COUNTY must meet by January 31 of the budget year in question to review and reach agreement on modifications to service levels provided by the COUNTY that are consistent with the MUNICIPALITY'S budget and

that recognize the impact of these service level changes to other MUNICIPALITIES that contract with the COUNTY for these services.

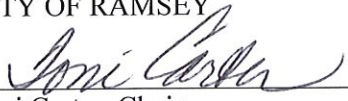
4. Unless the COUNTY and MUNICIPALITY have reached agreement pursuant to the prior paragraph for a change in the MUNICIPALITY'S contribution, the COUNTY shall bill the MUNICIPALITY on a monthly basis in advance in an amount equal to one-twelfth (1/12) of the Budget Estimate for services to the MUNICIPALITY. The MUNICIPALITY shall pay the COUNTY within 45 days of receipt of the monthly statement. At the close of the contract year, the COUNTY will reconcile the current year Budget Estimate and current year actual costs, shall provide a copy of the current year actual cost to the MUNICIPALITY, and shall either give a credit to the MUNICIPALITY or bill the MUNICIPALITY for additional costs in excess of the Budget Estimate.

E. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Notice to the COUNTY shall be given to the County Manager and Ramsey County Sheriff, and Notice to the MUNICIPALITY shall be given to the MUNICIPALITY'S City Manager. Notice to the other MUNICIPALITIES will be given in accordance with the notice provisions of the contracts between the COUNTY and the other MUNICIPALITIES.
2. It is understood that prosecutions for violations of ordinances or state statutes, together with disposition of all fines collected pursuant thereto, shall be in accordance with state statutes, state rules, and judicial orders.
3. The Ramsey County Sheriff's Office shall submit to the MUNICIPALITY quarterly activity reports detailing the activities of the Sheriff's Office under this agreement within the MUNICIPALITY. Said reports shall contain, at a minimum, the number of calls answered and the number of citations issued. However, no information will be provided which would violate the State Data Practices Act.
4. The MUNICIPALITY may contract with the COUNTY for additional law enforcement services above and beyond those provided in this Agreement.
5. Any alterations, variations, modifications, or waivers of provisions of this Agreement shall only be valid when they have been reduced to writing, signed by authorized representatives of the COUNTY and the MUNICIPALITY and attached to the original of this Agreement.

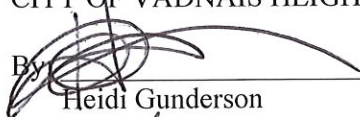
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the MUNICIPALITY, by resolution duly adopted by its Council has caused this Agreement to be signed by Mayor Heidi Gunderson and City Administrator Kevin Watson, and the seal of the MUNICIPALITY to be affixed hereto on the 21st of December, 2021 and the COUNTY, by resolution of its Board of County Commissioners, has caused this Agreement to be signed by the Chair and Chief Clerk of said Board on the 21st day of December 2021.


COUNTY OF RAMSEY

By: 
Toni Carter, Chair
Ramsey County Board of Commissioners

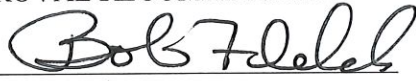
By: 
Mee Cheng, Chief Clerk
Ramsey County Board of Commissioners

CITY OF VADNAIS HEIGHTS

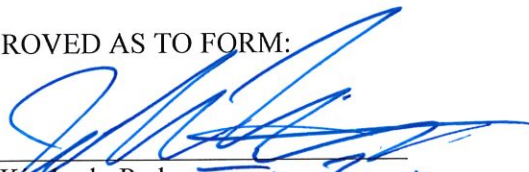

By: 
Heidi Gunderson
Mayor

By: 
Kevin Watson
City Administrator

APPROVAL RECOMMENDED:

By: 
Bob Fletcher
Ramsey County Sheriff

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: 
Kimberly Parker 
Assistant Ramsey County Attorney