

To: President and Members of the Munster Town Council

From: Patricia Abbott
Controller

Date: November 3, 2025

Re: Opioid Fund Use Request

The Town receives a portion of the national opioid settlement; distributions began in 2022 and will continue through 2038. Over the life of the distributions, Munster is scheduled to receive \$355,836.69. There is currently \$210,015.43 in cash and investments between the restricted and unrestricted funds. Before any of the funds can be spent, Council must authorize their use. This is in addition to the appropriation process.

At the April 3, 2023, meeting, Council authorized spending \$6,000.00 annually for the DARE Program from the Opioid settlement funds. To-date, this has been the only expenditure from these monies. Earlier this year, the Police Department hired a Social Worker. Opioid funds can be used for the wages of this employee. Staff is requesting spending \$25,000.00/year towards this cost. In addition, there are various training opportunities that would be beneficial for the Social Worker and Staff is requesting another \$1,000.00/year for this purpose.

Use of the opioid settlement for these purposes will reduce the amount expended by the General Fund.

Recommendation:

By motion and roll call vote, approve the use of \$25,000.00 annually towards the wages and benefits of the Social Worker and the use of up to \$1,000.00 annually for training from the Opioid Settlement Funds.