

**To:** President and Members of the Munster Town Council

**From:** Wendy Mis, IAMC, CMC, CMO, CPIFM

**Copy to:** Patricia L. Abbott, IAMC, MMC, CMO, CPIFM, Controller  
Dustin C. Anderson, Town Manager

**Date:** November 1, 2021

**Subject:** Ordinance 1848: Amendment #4 to 2021 Salary Ordinance

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The Munster Town Council has supported the efforts of the Munster Police Department and their relationship with the Northwest Indiana Regional SWAT (NWRS), an organization that services eleven municipalities in Lake County. It has been requested that a take-home vehicle be provided for an officer in a leadership role with NWRS to enable a faster and safer response to NWRS requests and allow for the storage of team equipment.

Some Munster Police Officers serve with the NWRS. One officer serves as an Assistant Commander in Charge of Operations. His duties include planning operations, making command decisions during both planned and emergency callouts, and leading operators in forward operations during such callouts. He is subject to 24-hour callouts and carries thousands of dollars in specialized gear like suppressed weapons, flash bangs, breaching equipment, shields and body armor, and explosives in his vehicle at all times. He is the third highest-ranking member of NWRS on scene, and his ability to quickly respond and organize arriving operators on a scene is paramount to successful missions. It has been shared that the immediate response and job as Assistant Commander in Charge of Operations is imperative.

The attached salary ordinance amendment recognizes this is a unique situation with a high level of responsibility beyond the scope of normal duties in service to the NWRS. It is recommended that the officer with the rank of Assistant Commander in Charge of Operations with the NWRS have a take-home vehicle to be used consistent with the administrative use policy. As an administrative use vehicle, it is not eligible for the take-home vehicle allowance.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION -** Either

By motion and roll-call vote, suspend the rules, waive the readings, and adopt Ordinance 1848 on first reading as presented. OR

By motion and roll-call vote, adopt Ordinance 1848 on first reading and schedule second reading on November 15, 2021.