

To: President and Members of the Munster Town Council

From: Wendy Mis, Clerk-Treasurer

Date: May 16, 2022

Re: Ordinance 1868 – Amending the Police Department Special Revenue Fund 293

There is a Federal Asset Forfeiture Fund which is used when the Munster Police Department participates in a multi-jurisdictional event that results in a federal agency dividing assets among participating law enforcement agencies. Federal regulations require those dollars be kept in a separate fund; nothing can be co-mingled with it.

Last year, Council adopted Ordinance 1840 creating the State Asset Forfeiture Fund with the understanding of Staff that it would work the same as the Federal fund but for those events headed by the State.

The Munster Police Department also has “local” arrests that are handled completely by Munster personnel. These events are handled through the Lake County Courts which determines when the funds seized or forfeited can be either returned to the person arrested or to the Munster Police Department. These dollars are currently going into the General Fund because there is no authority to put them into a different fund.

Last year Council also adopted Ordinance 1841 to create the Police Department Special Revenue Fund to track fingerprint, tow release and other “records Service fees.” The Police Department would like the money seized or forfeited to go into this fund.

Ordinance 1868 has been drafted to amend Ordinance 1841 for this purpose.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

By motion and voice vote, hear proposed Ordinance 1868 on first reading, and set a date for second reading.