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City of Milwaukee Common Council

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President Hines Commends Milwaukee Police Chief Flynn on His Second Swearing In

Today we gathered to celebrate the tenure of Chief Ed Flynn and offer our appreciation as he was sworn in for his second contract term as head of Milwaukee's Police Department.

Most of us know the problems with MPD data and information prior to Chief Flynn's arrival in 2008. We heard accounts of officers using bulletin board pins on maps to track incidents, and we know too well about the computer challenges the department faced. To his credit, Chief Flynn not only made sure the issues were remedied, but he has transformed the department, making it data driven and more efficient, using personnel and resources in ways not seen before – all in an effort to reduce crime and violence.

Under Chief Flynn crime and violence have been reduced in our city, although as we've seen with the rash of homicides to start the New Year, the battle is ongoing, and is never truly over. To his credit the Chief has empowered his command staff and the men and women of the Milwaukee Police Department to use their training, their tools, and their intelligence to fight crime and help bolster public safety in our city. In my opinion, his belief and trust in their skills and abilities has helped boost morale and has made our officers more confident in their service.

I commend Chief Flynn on his priority of communicating with residents, as well, of holding roll calls in neighborhoods where the police aren't always seen as "there to help." The Chief has made communication and interaction primary priorities, and I believe that is a positive step in building better police – community relations and in showing young people across our city that the police department is as much about outreach as it is there to "protect and serve."

I'm happy to be in a city protected by a police department under the tested leadership of Chief Ed Flynn and I congratulate him on this important day and challenge him to keep up the good work.