



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR INFORMATION CALL

October 31, 2013

Bill Arnold
(414) 286-3285

Common Council to meet Friday to adopt 2014 city budget

The Common Council will meet tomorrow morning (**Friday, November 1**) to deliberate Mayor Tom Barrett's proposed \$1.44 billion 2014 city budget. **The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. in the third floor Common Council Chamber at City Hall, 200 E. Wells St.**

Key issues the Council will consider during Friday's meeting will include: the Strong Neighborhoods Investment Plan, which would allot \$11.7 million to oversee the demolition or rehabilitation, marketing and sale of city-owned foreclosures in the city; a proposal to fund 100 new police officers -- in addition to the proposed retention of 50 grant-funded officers hired in 2011 at a cost of \$4.5 million; and a funding proposal to rebuild the Forest Home and Mill Road libraries and to renovate the Tippecanoe Library.

Amendments made by the Common Council, and approved by the Finance and Personnel Committee, increased the budget by \$722,198 - but would *decrease* the levy by 262,802 (the mill rate would drop to \$10.60). Those amendments include the addition of a deputy city attorney to provide legal advice on housing and neighborhood issues and the elimination of \$175,000 in parking revenue that would be given to the BMO Harris Bradley Center under the Mayor's proposed budget. Alderman Michael J. Murphy, Alderman Joe Dudzik and Alderman Bob Donovan have also proposed the addition of another 20 police officers at the cost of \$296,328 (this amendment was submitted under the 24-hour rule).

-More-

Budget adoption meeting/ADD ONE

The Council's Finance and Personnel Committee began its series of departmental budget hearings on October 8, wrapping up with a special meeting on October 25 to consider 2014 budget amendments. A joint public hearing (with the Council, Mayor and all elected city officials) was held at City Hall on October 9.

The meeting will be carried live on the City Channel, on AT&T U-Verse (Channel 99) and will be streamed live on the internet at city.milwaukee.gov/citychannel.

-30-