

Moore-Love, Karla

From: Washington, Mustafa
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2016 2:32 PM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony; Wiggins, Rachael
Subject: FW: CONCERNS: Council item 740 re: police "secondary employment"

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-----Original Message-----

From: Portland Copwatch [<mailto:copwatch@portlandcopwatch.org>]
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 2:40 PM
To: Commissioner Fritz <amanda@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Saltzman <dan@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Fish <nick@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Novick <novick@portlandoregon.gov>; Hales, Mayor <mayorcharliehales@portlandoregon.gov>
Cc: News Media <newsmedia@portlandcopwatch.org>
Subject: CONCERNS: Council item 740 re: police "secondary employment"

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Mayor Hales and members of City Council:

We are not able to attend Wednesday's City Council meeting but want to ask you to drop item #740 which would authorize the police chief to approve off-duty officer hiring.* The paperwork states that "the police secondary employment agreement will have the net result of increasing the availability of regular patrol officers by minimizing the need for patrol units to respond to calls generated by private business events." The logic behind this statement is flawed on many levels-- not only does it presume that officers would be called to these events (which is not necessarily true), but it ignores the arguments put forward by the Portland Police Association about how "thin" the rank-and-file are spread. If they are too exhausted to perform their regular duties now, why approve a vast amount of off-duty work that will lead to their being less able to do their day jobs?

It's curious that the "site survey" paperwork has a place for a signature from a police commander and the Portland Police Association secretary-treasurer. It leads to questions about whether this \$100,000 of extra duty is some kind of side agreement with the PPA related to the behind-closed-doors negotiations around the as-yet-unexpired contract.

Furthermore, about 10 years ago under Chief Sizer the PPB put in place rules about such off-duty hiring which says the contract has to serve some kind of public interest-- in other words, just being hired by a store as extra security was no longer to be tolerated. The proposed document does not address this issue, and if City Council is going to delegate responsibility to the Police Chief, such rules should be engrossed in City policy. (This is particularly important as our current chief and his acting replacement are both under investigation for misconduct.)

We also have raised the question frequently when private money is used to hire public safety officers: If Portland Copwatch had enough money, could we hire the police to do security at one of our functions while they are dressed in clown suits?

We hope you will at least put the item on the regular agenda for discussion but better yet not move it forward without addressing the concerns we've outlined.

Thank you

dan handelman and other members of
portland copwatch

*740

Authorize the Chief of Police to execute revenue generating police secondary employment agreements with hiring businesses for amounts not to exceed \$100,000

<http://www.portlandoregon.gov/auditor/article/581657>