610-997-7649 eevans@bethlehem-pa.gov www.bethlehem-pa.gov

To: Michael G. Colon, President of Council

From: Eric R. Evans, Business Administrator

RE: Transfers to cover overages in Fire Salaries, Fire and EMS Overtime

Date: December 8, 2022

This is to request transfers to cover three operating accounts with overages.

The first is to cover overage in the Fire - Salaries account. The Fire Department budget was reduced by 4 positions in 2021. At that time, the decision was made to reduce through attrition verses other means. There was no reduction in personnel in 2021, so 2022 began with more staffing than budgeted. Reduction has occurred throughout 2022, and the Department is now at the budgeted level. This transfer will cover the overages for the segment of the year that the Department was staffed above the budgeted level.

The second is to cover the overage in Fire - Overtime. In January, the Omicron variant of COVID-19 caused quarantine mandates. Since mid-year, the Department has experienced an increase in sick days (both daily and long-term) that are higher than historical averages.

This third is to cover the overage in EMS - Overtime. In January, the Omicron variant of COVID-19 caused quarantine mandates. In addition, this Bureau employs part-time medics to supplement their staffing requirements. Throughout the year the Bureau has experienced labor shortages of part-time medics, and needed to use more overtime of full-time staff to ensure continuity of operations.

In order to cover these overages, the request is to transfer funds from payroll accounts that are realizing savings due to vacancies. The national labor shortage continues to impact the City's ability to fill positions with qualified personnel in all departments.

<u>To</u>

Net Change

0701-40001 0701-40003 0702-40003	Fire - Salaries Fire - Overtime EMS - Overtime	\$ <u>\$</u>	69,000 95,000 51,000 215,000
<u>From</u>			
0101-40001 0101-40004 0102-40001 0103-40001 0103-40001 0301-40001 0302-40001 0303-40001 0305-40001 0309-40001 0502-40001 0503-40001	Community Dev - Salaries Planning & Zoning - Salaries Housing Inspect - Salaries Engineering - Salaries Streets - Salaries Electrical - Salaries Grounds - Salaries	\$ \$ \$ \$	8,000 5,000 2,500 15,000 10,000 25,000 10,000 5,000 20,000 27,000 28,000 12,000 5,000
0601-40001 0702-40001 0702-40004	Police - Salaries EMS - Salaries EMS - Temporary Help	\$ \$ \$ \$?	20,000 4,000 2,000 215,000

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