

City Council – Action Request Form

Date: August 10, 2020

To: Mayor, Mayor Pro Tempore, and Members of the City Council

From: Tasha Logan Ford, Assistant City Manager
 Catrina Thompson, Chief of Police

Council Action Requested:

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a "Interlocal Agreement between the City of Winston-Salem, the County of Forsyth and the Town of Kernersville for the Formation of a Drug Task Force" and Authorizing a Lease of Property for working space for the Drug Task Force

Strategic Focus Area: Safe and Secure Community

Strategic Objective: No

Strategic Plan Action Item: No

Key Work Item: No



Summary of Information:

1. Formation of Drug Task Force. As part of ongoing efforts by local law enforcement to combat the manufacture, sale, possession and use of controlled substances and to mitigate the loss of life and societal damage caused by such substances, the Winston-Salem Police Department, Forsyth County Sheriff's Office and Kernersville Police Department wish to merge their existing Vice and Narcotics Enforcement Units to establish a joint enforcement agency to be known as the "Forsyth County Drug Task Force." Other law enforcement agencies in the area would have the ability to provide representation on the task force by amendments to the Interlocal Agreement and by entering into applicable Mutual Aid Agreements while maintaining their individual vice and narcotics units for their locality.

The Task Force will consist of multiple independent enforcement squads consisting of at least one (1) major case team specifically dedicated to the investigation of drug trafficking organizations and at least two (2) enforcement teams dedicated to low and mid-level drug investigations. The Task Force will be governed by an Executive Board which will be primarily

Committee Action:

Committee	Public Safety 8/10/2020	Action	Approval
For	Unanimous	Against	

Remarks:

responsible for matters of policy and a Command Committee which will be primarily responsible for personnel decisions and assignments.

The Task Force will have jurisdiction throughout the County of Forsyth by means of Mutual Assistance Agreements between the agencies as required by N.C.G.S. § 160A-288 and §90-95.2.

The initial term of the Interlocal Agreement will be five (5) years from adoption by all governing bodies, with the ability for renewal for an additional five-year period upon written notice of intent from all parties.

2. Lease Agreement for Work Space. The Police Department's Special Investigation Division has been housed at the same location since 2004. Due to space limitation and Forsyth County's construction of a new courthouse next door, and the Police Department's participation in the Forsyth County Drug Task Force, it is necessary to seek a replacement facility to serve the needs of this group. A satisfactory facility has been located. The building contains approximately 6,000 sq. ft. of office space and additional square footage of warehouse space. The proposed lease would be for 10 years with two, five-year extension options. The base rent would be \$6.50 per sq. ft., or \$135,525 per year, with annual increases of two percent. The City, as tenant, would be responsible for utilities, maintenance, taxes, and insurance. The Landlord will make a number of renovations requested by the City at an estimated cost to the Landlord of \$82,000.

An important part of the City's participation in the Triad Narcotics Team is that Forsyth County will pay 40% of the total lease costs and the City of Winston-Salem will pay 60% of the total lease costs for the first five (5) years of the lease (which is the term of the Interlocal Agreement). If the parties mutually agree to extend the Interlocal Agreement, this cost sharing will continue for any extension term. This cost sharing formula is based on individual staffing size.

The attached resolution authorizes the execution of the attached Interlocal Agreement and a lease as described above with the form and content to be approved by the City Attorney's Office.