



CITY OF LE SUEUR  
REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Aaron Thieke, Chief of Police  
Joe Roby, City Administrator

SUBJECT: R2023-003: Recognition and Appreciation for Police Reserve Officers and  
Dissolution of the Le Sueur Police Reserve Program

DATE: For the City Council Meeting of January 23, 2023

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**PURPOSE**

Review and consider adoption of Resolution R2023-003, recognizing and sharing appreciation for City of Le Sueur Police Reserve Officers, and formally disbanding the City's Police Reserve Program.

**SUMMARY**

The Police Department of the City of Le Sueur has, for nearly 60 years, operated a Police Reserve Program, which has served the community through civil defense support, provision of security, augmentation of public safety, and other key functions since 1963. Many Reserve Officers have served the community over this time, and deserve the recognition of the City for their years of service.

As public safety nationwide has suffered from recruitment and retention challenges, so too has the Le Sueur Reserve Officer department. Training demands have increased, officer recruitment has stagnated, and public safety needs of the community have grown in complexity. These factors are driving a more intense, and logical, focus on the importance of licensed law enforcement officers in our community. Civil defense and event security have changed drastically in the past two decades, and thus our public safety practices must adapt similarly.

Thus, it is the recommendation of the Chief of Police and City Administrator that the Police Reserve Program of the City of Le Sueur be formally disbanded in response to this changing, challenging environment.

It is also the recommendation of Chief Thieke and Administrator Roby that Reserve Officers, former and current, be rightfully recognized and acknowledged for their tireless service to the safety of our community. For decades the City has relied upon these individuals to stand up in service to their city, families, friends, and neighbors, to help make our community the safest possible place to live, work, and play. These efforts must not be forgotten, and Le Sueur owes a debt of gratitude to these officers.

The attached resolution has been drafted for Council consideration.

**ACTION REQUESTED**

Staff recommend City Council adopt Resolution R2023-003, recognizing Le Sueur Police Reserve Officers and formally disbanding the Police Reserve Program.

CITY OF LE SUEUR, MINNESOTA  
CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION **R2023-003**

RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION AND APPRECIATION FOR THE LE SUEUR  
POLICE RESERVES OFFICERS AND DISSOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LE SUEUR  
POLICE RESERVE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the City of Le Sueur Police Department has, for many years, maintained a Police Reserve program; and

WHEREAS, the Police Reserve program has provided safety and security services to the city of Le Sueur and surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, Reserve Officer recruitment efforts have been unable to keep up with officer attrition; and

WHEREAS, training requirements for Reserve Officers have expanded to a degree deemed unsustainable for the current Police Reserve program; and

WHEREAS, the public safety needs of the city of Le Sueur have grown in scale and complexity, necessitating a focus on the recruitment, retention, and training of licensed law enforcement officers; and

WHEREAS, the City of Le Sueur believes it to be in the best interest of the citizens and community of Le Sueur that the Le Sueur Police Department cease to operate its Police Reserve program; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Le Sueur wishes to recognize and acknowledge the service of the Police Department's Reserve Officers;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Le Sueur, Minnesota hereby affirms the following:

1. That all former Reserve Officers of the Le Sueur Police Department be acknowledged and recognized for their years of dedicated service to the community of Le Sueur and surrounding communities;
2. That the current Reserve Officers listed below be acknowledged and recognized for their years of dedication to, and service toward, advancing public safety within the City of Le Sueur:
  - a. Darvin Wicks – 48 years of service
  - b. Keith Lammers – 28 years of service
  - c. Wesley Karels – 25 years of service
  - d. William Ingersoll – 22 years of service
  - e. William Ulrich – 22 years of service
  - f. Chasity Jones – 18 years of service
  - g. Michael McLain – 17 years of service
  - h. Jake Nelson - 6 years of service
  - i. Ashley Gerds – 4 years of service

- j. Mitchell Sasse – 3 years of service
  - k. Cody Weise – 2 years of service
  - l. Isaiah Lee – 2 years of service
3. That the Police Reserve program of the Le Sueur Police Department be formally disbanded effective upon the passage of this resolution, with all Reserve Officer positions terminated and assets inventoried and considered for surplus.

PASSED by the City Council of the City of Le Sueur on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of January 2023.

ATTEST

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Shawn Kirby, Mayor

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Stacy Lawrence, City Clerk

VOTE: \_\_\_HUNTINGTON \_\_\_KIRBY \_\_\_SCHLUETER  
\_\_\_SULLIVAN \_\_\_SWANBERG \_\_\_TOUHEY \_\_\_WILLIAMS