

DOMENIC M. RICHARDI High Sheriff

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December 9, 2022

To: The Honorable Chair Lino Avellani and All Carroll County Delegation Members

Ref: Proposed 2023 Carroll County Commissioners Budget

Dear Sirs and Madams:

As you have now received a copy of the Carroll County Commissioners proposed budget for 2023, I do wish to provide you with some information prior to making any decisions or approvals on this budget concerning the Sheriff's Budget.

I completed what I believed the Sheriff's budget needed to be for the 2023 year. On October 27, 2023, I presented it to the Commissioners and was asked if any further cuts could be made to reduce the budget. I stated that I did not see any areas that I would be able to do that. The Commissioners even stated that they feel as though I have always brought a fair and lean budget. I supported that by pointing out that the my budget in 2022 is beginning to show how tight it is as several line items were over expended due to reasons beyond my control.

They agreed and took my proposal as it was presented with some changes that I presented to the lines .046 and .073.

I was informed in late November that there had been some cuts to the Deputy salary line .007 of \$52,480.00 due to long running vacancies in the Deputy positions. I was not contacted by the Commissioners to inquire about the Deputy positions and in fact have recently hired three new Deputies between the months of September and November. The CFO knew this information during a department head meeting in November, prior to her recommendations of the above salary reduction in the Deputy line.

At the time of the Commissioners voting on their proposed budget, I only had one Deputy vacancy and that only occurred as of October 2022.

I am asking you, the delegation, to consider not defunding the position and to restore the line .007 Sheriff-Deputies to the proposed Sheriff request. This will enable me to hire the last vacancy and provide needed coverage to all of Carroll County and to provide relief to the existing employed Deputies that have been working longer hours than normal to fill the vacant hours. This is reflected in the budget line of .005 Overtime being over spent.

I can give further explanation during the budget process of the need not to make any budget cuts in the salary lines at this time of need for public safety. I greatly appreciate your time and consideration with this matter and look forward to discussing this further.

Respectfully

Domenic M. Richardi

Sheriff