CITY OF LA CROSSE

400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, Wisconsin 54601
(608) 789-CITY
www.cityoflacrosse.org

LEGISLATION STAFF REPORT FOR COUNCIL

File ID
24-1287

Caption
Creating the Position of City Administrator

Staff/Department Responsible for Legislation
Mitch Reynolds, Mayor; Rebecca Franzen, Director of Human Resources

Requestor of Legislation
Mayor Mitch Reynolds

Location, if applicable
N/A

Summary/Purpose
The purpose of this legislation is to add the position of City Administrator to the City of La Crosse.

Background
The City of La Crosse is complex and would benefit from additional expertise in community development, public safety, public works, emergency preparedness, planning, personnel, finance, customer service, intergovernmental relations, and an administrative structure that encourages and supports overall team organization.
The need for professional municipal administration is not a matter of a failure of local government, but rather adapting to changing conditions by increasing the capacity of a municipality to provide effective and efficient services. Having an administrator provides direct accountability to the council for the proper operation of municipal services. Elected officials and others know who is responsible for effectuating policies adopted by the Common Council. The administrator is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the City and it is their responsibility to bring coordination to the provision of municipal services. The administrator will be evaluated on their ability to provide more efficient and effective government to the City and accomplish this by carrying out the priorities of the voters and common council. While the City Administrator fills a professional role in daily operations, the Mayor will still function as the Chief Executive Officer of the City as provided for in the state statute.

Fiscal Impact
The estimated fiscal impact of adding a City Administrator is anticipated to be $186,645.89 to $194,422.80 for salary + benefits.

Staff Recommendation
Adopt