



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO REVIEW FUNDING, REIMBURSEMENT, AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR POLICE OVERTIME DETAILS IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

WHEREAS, Each year during the City Council’s budget deliberations, significant discussion occurs regarding police overtime spending and the financial impact of overtime costs on the City’s operating budget; and

WHEREAS, The Boston Police Department provides overtime coverage for a variety of public safety needs, including emergency response, public safety staffing, special events, construction details, and other operational requirements; and

WHEREAS, Many police details throughout the City are associated with private construction projects, utility work, sporting events, concerts, and other activities where outside entities such as utility companies, developers, or event venues are responsible for reimbursing the City for police services; and

WHEREAS, Questions are frequently raised by members of the Boston City Council and the public regarding how police overtime is funded, how reimbursement for paid details is administered, and how much of the overtime costs associated with police details are ultimately borne by the City of Boston versus reimbursed by private entities; and

WHEREAS, A clearer understanding of the funding structure for police overtime details, including reimbursement mechanisms and cost recovery, would help provide transparency and allow the Boston City Council to make more informed decisions during the City’s annual budget process; and

WHEREAS, Ensuring transparency regarding overtime funding, reimbursement practices, and the financial relationship between the City and outside entities paying for police details is an important component of responsible fiscal oversight;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to review the funding structure, reimbursement process, and financial accounting for police overtime details in the City of Boston. The hearing shall examine how police overtime associated with construction details, utility work, special events, and other activities is funded, how outside entities reimburse the City for these services, and what portion of overtime costs are ultimately paid by the City of Boston.

Representatives from the Boston Police Department, the Boston Police Detail Board, the Office of Budget Management, the City Auditor, and other relevant officials shall be invited to testify and provide data regarding overtime expenditures, reimbursement practices, and cost recovery.