

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-08

A Resolution Honoring Detective Sergeant James A. Backes

WHEREAS, James A. Backes has completed thirty years of service with the Cedarburg Police Department; beginning his employment as a patrol officer on January 1, 1976; and

WHEREAS, during his thirty years of service: five years as a patrol officer; three years as a patrol sergeant, including two years on motorcycle patrol; five years as a juvenile officer; and seventeen years as a detective sergeant, James "Jim" Backes has conscientiously and capably served the Cedarburg Police Department, the City of Cedarburg, and its citizens; and has demonstrated the highest principles of community service while exhibiting high moral and ethical standards; and

WHEREAS, Detective Sergeant Backes, while serving as a sworn officer, provided strong leadership and demonstrated sound judgment and decision-making in matters involving the Cedarburg Police Department, specifically as supervisor of the department's detective division. He also successfully established significant working relationships with other State and Federal law enforcement agencies; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure on the department, Detective Sergeant Backes served twenty-five years as a crisis negotiator for the Ozaukee County Special Response Team where his actions resulted in the peaceful resolution of dangerous and potentially tragic situations. He served twenty-five years as the department's liaison member with the Cedarburg Emergency Government Department; and also held memberships in the Wisconsin Juvenile Officers Association for fifteen years and the Ozaukee County Fire Investigators organization for six years. Detective Backes is a graduate of Northwestern University's School of Police Staff & Command. In 2005, he was instrumental in reinstating the department's Hunter Safety Program in coordination with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resource; in acquiring donations for the purchase of weapons for use during the course; while serving as a certified classroom instructor; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the many cases handled by Detective Backes over the years, in the last few years, he was instrumental in the investigation and resolution of several high profile cases that occurred in our City. These included a high dollar amount burglary that occurred in 2003 at a local business, Hi-Tech Homes; the burglarizing of fourteen homes during one evening in one of the City's subdivisions; and in 2005, the City's first armed bank robbery, which occurred at Ozaukee Bank; a case in which the suspect will soon go to trial because of the combined efforts of Detective Backes, the FBI, and the U.S. Attorney's Office.

WHEREAS, the Cedarburg Police Department and the City of Cedarburg have substantially benefited from the dedicated skills, services, and positive attitude of Detective Sergeant Backes. His integrity, courtesy, and professionalism have earned him the respect of the community, his co-workers, and peers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Common Council of the City of Cedarburg, members of the Cedarburg Police and Fire Commission, the men and women of the Cedarburg Police Department, and the citizens of the City of Cedarburg join in expressing their sincere appreciation to James A. "Jim" Backes for his many years of law enforcement service, and extend to him their best wishes for a happy and healthy retirement.

Passed and adopted this 10th day of April 2006.

Gregory P. Myers, Mayor

Attest:

Sandra M. Ingram, City Clerk