Resolution to Authorize Payment of Rewards for Tips Leading to Identification and Arrests of Graffiti Vandals.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that Council:

Approve a Resolution authorizing the City of Hermosa Beach through the Police Department, to pay rewards to citizens who are able to identify, lead police to an arrest of a graffiti vandal and/or for the conviction of a graffiti vandal.

Background

Graffiti vandalism is a blight on our local community. The need to decrease this blight has been recognized by the City Council and through the establishment of Municipal Code Ordinance # 06-1273 the Council has an established procedure for the removal of graffiti. It has been proven that one of the best deterrents to graffiti is the quick removal when discovered. In addition, the Council has set fourth in section 9.36.110 that the City may pay rewards for information that may lead to arrests and convictions of vandals and to establish this award system by resolution.

The Chief of Police recommends the council adopt a resolution for rewards based on the following criteria:

\$50.00 - For information that leads to the **IDENTIFICATION** of a vandal by moniker (the nickname or marking used by the vandal)

\$100.00 – For the information that leads to an ARREST of the vandal.

\$100.00 – For the information that leads to the **CONVICTION** of the vandal.

(The total award possible, when the citizen provides information that leads to the identification, arrest and conviction would total \$250.00)

In the event of a large scale, multiple location vandalisms or etchings (Felony Vandalism) the Council authorizes the City to pay up \$500.00.

The citizen may remain anonymous if they so choose. Council may elect to present this Reward at a regularly scheduled meeting or may authorize staff to present the reward when deemed appropriate.

Fiscal Impact

The Police Department estimates, based on a review of reported vandalism cases, that this program may cost approximately \$2000.00 per year

Respectfully submitted,

Chief of Police

Concur,

City Manager

Fiscal Impact,

UniCepteard

Viki Copeland Finance Director

RESOLUTION NO.

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HERMOSA BEACH, CALIFORNIA, ESTABLISHING A REWARD SYSTEM AS OUTLINED IN MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE 06-1273 FOR THE IDENTIFICATION, ARREST AND CONVICTION OF GRAFFITI VANDALS PER SECTION 9.36.110 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE FOR THE CITY OF HERMOSA BEACH.

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that graffiti vandalism is a blight in our community and has passed ordinances in an effort to discourage, reduce and remove graffiti from our community; and,

WHEREAS, the Municipal Ordinance 06-1273 outlines in section 9.26.110 that the City Council be authorized to establish a reward system allowing payments to citizens for information leading to the arrest and conviction of graffiti vandals and that such resolution outline the system by which the rewards be paid: and,

WHEREAS, the Police Department has recommended the following system of rewards being;

\$50.00 – For information that leads to the **IDENTIFICATION** of a vandal by moniker (the nickname or marking used by the vandal)

\$100.00 – For the information that leads to an ARREST of the vandal.

\$100.00 – For the information that leads to the **CONVICTION** of the vandal.

(The total award possible, when the citizen provides information that leads to the identification, arrest and conviction would total \$250.00)

In the event of a large scale, multiple location vandalisms or etchings (Felony Vandalism) the Council authorizes the City to pay up \$500.00.

The citizen may remain anonymous if they so choose. Council may elect to present this Reward at a regularly scheduled meeting or may authorize staff to present the reward when deemed appropriate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HERMOSA BEACH HEARBY authorizes the Police Chief to implement the above reward system to further enhance the Police Department's ability to locate and arrest those individuals responsible for vandalizing our community and reward those that assist the Police in these efforts.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 14th day of August, 2007.

PRESIDENT of the City Council and MAYOR of the City of Hermosa Beach, California	
ATTEST:	APPROVED AS TO FORM:
CITY CLERK	CITY ATTORNEY