THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

STAFF REPORT

Council Meeting Date: May 9, 2023

Subject: Homeland Security Grant and Budget Amendment

Staff Resource(s): Scott Burnette, Beth Bechel

Action Requested: Adoption of a resolution to accept a grant from the North Carolina Emergency Management Homeland Security Grant Program for antenna replacement; and the associated budget amendment in the amount of $20,000.

Background:

- Asheville Fire Department applied for and was awarded a Homeland Security Grant in the amount of $20,000
- These funds will be used to replace an existing antenna on a communications vehicle.
- In order to restore and enhance the functionality of the Asheville Fire Department Field Communications trailer, the existing satellite antenna, and associated controller need to be replaced.
- The existing units, which were original to the trailer in 2012, have reached their end of life and are impeding the purpose of having satellite communications on the trailer.
- The replacement satellite antenna will restore our ability to establish and maintain internet connectivity no matter the environmental or man-made conditions.

Council Goal(s):

- Improve/Expand Core services
- Neighborhood Resilience

Committee(s):

- N/A

Pro(s):

- An increased ability to communicate with responders from other jurisdictions that can not operate on the City's Public Safety Radio System or who are outside the system coverage area.
- Increases responder safety and accountability of the City's resources when providing mutual aid to other jurisdictions.
- The redundant infrastructure will provide an additional margin of safety during emergency operations ensuring continued and reliable communications.

Con(s):

- None identified

Fiscal Impact:

- Matching funds are not required for this grant.

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to authorize the City Manager to receive grant money from the State of North Carolina Homeland Security Grant Program; and adopt a budget amendment in the amount of $20,000 in the City's Special Revenue Fund budget for the grant.

Attachment(s):

- Resolution
- Budget Amendment

RESOLUTION NO. 23- _____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPLY FOR AND RECEIVE A GRANT FROM THE FISCAL YEAR 2017 HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.

WHEREAS, the City has authority pursuant to N.C.G.S. §160A-17.1 to apply for and receive grants from the State and Federal government, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Homeland Security, has issued guidelines for the 2022 Homeland Security Grant Program, and

WHEREAS, the Asheville Fire Department wishes to receive a non-matching grant in the amount of $20,000 for the purchase of wireless telecommunications equipment to upgrade the existing equipment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE THAT:

The City Manager is hereby authorized to receive a non-matching grant in the amount of $20,000 to purchase wireless telecommunications equipment upgrades and enhancements.

Read, approved and adopted this 9th day of May, 2023.

_____ _____

City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

_____

City Attorney

ORDINANCE NO. _____

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

That Section 2 of City of Asheville Annual Operating Budget Ordinance be amended to provide an appropriation of $20,000 to accept the Homeland Security Grant to fund telecommunications equipment upgrades and enhancements as follows:

SPECIAL REVENUE FUND

Revenues:

Restricted Federal Grants	$20,000

Appropriations:

Machine & Equipment	$20,000

That this ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon the date of final passage.

Read, approved and adopted this 9th day of May, 2023.

_____ _____

City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

_____

City Attorney