THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

Staff Report

Council Meeting Date: November 15, 2022

Subject: Office of Community Oriented Police Services, U.S. Dept. of Justice Law Enforcement and Mental Health and Wellness Act Grant

Staff Resource(s): Elise Lewis, Financial Business Manager, Asheville Police Department

Action Requested: Adoption of a budget amendment in the Special Revenue Fund in the amount of $175,000 for grant funding from the Office of Community Oriented Police Services (COPS), U.S. Dept. of Justice (DOJ) Law Enforcement and Mental Health and Wellness Act (LEMHWA).

Background:

- On April 12, 2022, Asheville City Council approved Resolution 22-65 authorizing the Asheville Police Department (APD) to apply for and accept an award of grant funding from the Office of Community Oriented Police Services (COPS), U.S. Dept. of Justice (DOJ) Law Enforcement and Mental Health and Wellness Act (LEMHWA) of up to $175,000 to fund a Wellness Coordinator Position within the department.
- On October 13, 2022, APD was notified of the grant award of the full $175,000.
- The grant project period runs from 9/1/2022 through 8/31/2024.
- Approval of the budget amendment allows APD to execute the grant agreement.
- This position will be advertised and filled using the hiring process established and currently employed by the City of Asheville Human Resources department.

Council Goal(s):

- A Connected and Engaged Community

Committee(s):

- None

Pro(s):

- Physically and mentally fit officers are able to: Demonstrate better de-escalation skills, have lower rates of worker's compensation claims, build community relations more effectively, have lower suicide rates, have better decision-making skills, and exhibit more positive behaviors.
- A successful employee total wellness program for police employees must include a continuum of physical wellness strategies beginning at the hiring process and continuing through retirement.

Con(s):

- Maintaining the position after the grant funding is exhausted will require City funding.

Fiscal Impact:

- This action requires no City resources in the current fiscal year.
- The grant will fund a position and associated operating costs through next fiscal year (FY24). Continuing this program beyond the end of the grant period would require City resources and will be considered through the budget process.

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to adopt a budget amendment in the City's Special Revenue Fund in the amount of $175,000.

Attachment(s)

- Budget Amendment

ORDINANCE NO. _____

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

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

That Section 2 of the City of Asheville Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget Ordinance be amended to provide an appropriation of $175,000 from the Office of Community Oriented Police Services (COPS), U.S. Dept. of Justice (DOJ) Law Enforcement and Mental Health and Wellness Act (LEMHWA) to fund a Wellness Coordinator Position within the Asheville Police Department as follows:

SPECIAL REVENUE FUND

Revenues:

Federal Grants	$175,000

Appropriations:

Salaries	$121,800
Benefits	$ 30,146
Travel & Training	$ 12,000
Supplies	$ 8,600
Other Operating Expenses	$ 2,454
Total Appropriations	$175,000

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

Read, approved and adopted this the 15th day of November, 2022.

_____ _____

City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

_____

City Attorney