THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

Staff Report

Council Meeting Date: December 14, 2021

Subject: 2021 Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) Grant

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

Action Requested: Adoption of a resolution to apply for and accept the 2021 Bulletproof Vest (BVP) Grant from the U.S. Dept. of Justice; and adopt a budget amendment in the City's Special Revenue Fund in the amount of $61,740.

Background:

- The City of Asheville receives an annual opportunity to apply for a U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) Grant.
- The DOJ has preliminarily determined that the Asheville Police Department (APD) is eligible to receive a 2021 award of $30,870 which requires a dollar for dollar match by the City.
- The funding will allow the purchase of 84 bulletproof vests over the 2 year life of the grant.
- Vests protect law enforcement officers and reduce line-of-duty deaths and disabling injuries.
- Congress has appropriated taxpayer funding to be used specifically for body armor to protect officers and distributes these funds by way of this grant to help offset the costs of providing them to officers.
- In the last three decades body armor saved the lives of more than 3,000 police officers.
- The Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) has conducted studies on the effectiveness of body armor in saving lives. Results show that by not wearing ballistic armor, police officers have 14 times the risk of dying of an injury.

Council Goal(s):

- A Connected and Engaged Community

Committee(s):

- Public Safety Committee - November 17, 2021 - 2-1 vote to approve

Pro(s):

- Increases officer safety by providing crucial safety equipment.
- Reduction in cost to the City of Asheville for the purchase of bulletproof vests

Con(s):

- None

Fiscal Impact:

- The City of Asheville's match is $30,870 and is already included in the adopted APD Fiscal Year 2021-22 budget.
- It should be noted that the overall fiscal impact to the City of Asheville is reduced because the Police Department would have to purchase these vests at full replacement costs if the grant is not accepted.

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to adopt a resolution approving the application and acceptance of the grant from the U.S. Dept. of Justice; and a budget ordinance amendment in the City's Special Revenue Fund in the amount of $61,740.

Attachment(s)

- Resolution
- Budget Amendment

RESOLUTION NO. 21-____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS FROM THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FOR THE 2021 BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP GRANT

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville has authority pursuant to N.C.G.S. 160A-17.1 to apply for and receive grants from the Federal Government and to enter into contracts for the administration of said grants; and

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville receives an annual opportunity to apply for a United States Department of Justice (DOJ), Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant (BVP); and

WHEREAS, the DOJ has preliminarily determined that the Asheville Police Department (APD) is eligible to receive a grant of $30,870 which requires a dollar for dollar match by the City; and

WHEREAS, the APD will use the funds to purchase 84 bulletproof vests over the 2 year life of the grant;

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

The City Manager is hereby authorized to apply for, accept and enter into an agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice for a Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant in the amount of $30,870.

Read, approved and adopted this the 14th day of December, 2021.

_____ _____

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 the City of Asheville Fiscal Year 2021-22 Budget Ordinance be amended to provide an appropriation of $61,740 to accept a grant from the Department of Justice for the 2021 Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) Grant as follows:

SPECIAL REVENUE FUND

Revenues:

Federal Grants	$30,870
Operating Transfer from General Fund	$30,870
Total Revenues	$61,740

Appropriations:

Safety Equipment	$61,740
Total Appropriations	$61,740

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

Read, approved and adopted this the 14th day of December, 2021.

_____ _____

City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

_____

City Attorney