

AGENDA ITEM #: 23-87
COUNCIL MTG OF: August 15, 2023
FROM: David Caron, Town Administrator
OFFERED BY: George R. Feole, Chief of Police
PREPARED BY: Sarah Gibbs
SUBJECT: 2023 Justice Assistance Grant



STAFF REPORT
Public Hearing 9-5-23

PURPOSE: Authorize the Town Administrator to execute an agreement (Interlocal Agreement) between the Town and Rockingham County that allows the County to apply for funds on behalf of the Town pursuant to the 2023 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS:

The Town Council is encouraged to continue supporting Derry's participation in this program which provides additional resources to secure necessary equipment to enhance the effectiveness and safety of the members of the Derry Police Department.

BACKGROUND: The US Department of Justice has announced the 2023 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Awards. The Town of Derry is eligible for an award of \$13,761. Rockingham County has been chosen by the DOJ to be the fiscal agent and applicant for the grant. Rockingham County will receive a 7% administration fee for this service, equal to \$963. The Town of Derry will receive a net total of \$12,798.

DISCUSSION: The deadline for filing the application is August 24th, 2023. The DOJ requires that prior to the expenditure of any funds associated with the JAG Award, the application must be provided to the governing body for review at least 30 days prior to application submission. The application will be provided to the Council on August 15th, 2023. Since the 30-day requirement cannot be satisfied, funds may not be expended or committed until the 30-day requirement has been met. Opportunity must be provided for public review and comment on the application. The application will be posted on our web site for public review and comment. Rockingham County has agreed to be the fiscal agent and applicant agency for the grant. Consequently, the Town must enter into an Interlocal Agreement with Rockingham County.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact to the community. There is no matching requirement associated with this grant. The balance of funds needed for the purchase of the equipment exist in an existing revenue fund.

RECOMMENDED ACTION BY COUNCIL:

1. Schedule a public hearing for September 5th, 2023 and subsequently authorize the Town Administrator, David Caron, to accept the 2023 JAG grant funds.
2. Authorize the Town Administrator, David Caron, to execute the agreement between the Town and Rockingham County required as a condition of the application and to execute any and all documents or electronic filings associated with the 2023 JAG process.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Please see Resolution #2023-058

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RESOLUTION

Number 2023-058

To Accept a Bureau of Justice Assistance Grant and Authorize an Intermunicipal Agreement with Rockingham County

WHEREAS, Section 5.1 of the Town Charter designates the Town Council as the governing and legislative body of the Town; and

WHEREAS, Section 9.15 of the Town Charter authorizes the Town Council to accept grant funding; and

WHEREAS, funding is available through the Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance for law enforcement equipment; and

WHEREAS, Rockingham County has been chosen by the Department of Justice to be the fiscal agent for this grant, thus requiring an agreement between the Town and the County; and

WHEREAS, the award of \$12,798 would allow the Police Department to augment current resources to acquire law enforcement equipment and systems;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED IN COUNCIL that the Town Administrator is hereby authorized to apply for, accept and expend such funds derived from the Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance grant and to enter into agreements with the DOJ and Rockingham County as may be necessary to finalize receipt of this grant funding.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

Adopted: September 5, 2023

Attest:

X _____

Charles Foote, Council Chair

Date: _____

X _____

Cristina Guilford, Town Clerk

Date: _____