

Memo

To: Mayor Prussing and City Council Members
From: Lieutenant Richard Surlis
Date: July 14, 2014
Re: Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)

Introduction: The purpose of this resolution is to authorize the Mayor to execute a grant agreement with the United States Department of Justice to receive \$14,832 through the 2014 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program. No matching funds are required.

Recommended Action: Administration recommends approval of this Resolution.

Prior Council Action: In the past, Urbana has been included in an Eligible Joint Allocation with the City of Champaign, Champaign County Sheriff's Department and the Village of Rantoul. The City of Champaign had always been the lead agency and would apply for the grant on behalf of all of the departments. However this year the Department of Justice has identified Urbana for their own direct award. Therefore the City of Urbana must apply for the JAG separately this year.

- In 2005, Council authorized the Chief Administrative Officer to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Champaign and Champaign County for a grant agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice. Urbana utilized the grant funds for 2005 and 2006 to purchase the AFIX fingerprint system.
- In 2006, Council authorized the Mayor to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Champaign and Champaign County for a grant agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice.
- In 2007, Council authorized the Mayor to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Champaign and Champaign County for a grant agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice. Urbana utilized the grant funds to purchase personal protective (riot) gear and fund Mobile Field Force training.
- In 2010, Council authorized the Mayor to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Champaign and Champaign County for a grant agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice. Urbana utilized the grant funds to purchase the firearms simulator.

- In 2011, Council authorized the Mayor to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Champaign, Village of Rantoul and Champaign County for a grant agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice. Urbana utilized the grant funds to partially fund new in-car camera systems for squad cars.
- In 2012, Council authorized the Mayor to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Champaign, Village of Rantoul and Champaign County for a grant agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice. Urbana utilized the grant funds to purchase the Lexipol policy system.
- In 2013, Council authorized the Mayor to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Champaign, Village of Rantoul and Champaign County for a grant agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice. Urbana utilized the grant funds to purchase a speed trailer and ammunition.

Background: The Champaign Police Department has successfully applied for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program on behalf of the City of Champaign, City of Urbana, Champaign County and Village of Rantoul since 2005. The goal of the Program continues to be forming partnerships with federal, state and local agencies to empower communities to address crime by enhancing law enforcement initiatives, enhancing technology use within the criminal and juvenile justice systems, and supporting state and local efforts through technical assistance and training. In 2014, the Department of Justice Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant has removed Urbana from the eligible group allocation with the City of Champaign and Champaign County, and Urbana must apply for the JAG grant separately. The Urbana Police have made several attempts to determine the reason that Urbana has been segregated from the other agencies, however to date; no one (including the Champaign Police) has been able to provide an explanation.

Proposed use of 2014 Grant Funds: The Urbana Police Department proposes to use the funds to purchase TASERS for CIT officers if approval to purchase them is granted by the Council.

If Council does not approve the purchase of TASERS, then the Urbana Police Department proposes to use the funds to make improvements to the Urbana Police Department firearms range. This change can be made by submitting a budget amendment form to the Department of Justice.

Grant Details: The grant funds must be expended by September 30, 2015, unless an extension is granted by the Department of Justice. There will be no budget impact as there is no local match required for this grant. The funds may not be used for security enhancements or equipment for nongovernmental entities not engaged in criminal justice or public safety. The application for the JAG funds must be made public and an opportunity to comment provided.

Alternatives:

- Approve the Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a grant agreement with the U. S. Department of Justice for a grant of \$14,832.
- Do not approve the Resolution and provide further direction to staff.

Discussion of Alternatives:

Alternative 1 would secure the 2014 JAG grant funds of \$14,832 for the City of Urbana.

- Advantages
 1. Receipt of \$14,832 in grant funds with no matching funds required.
 2. The purchase of TASERS for CIT officers, or improvements made to the Urbana Police Department firearms range.
- Disadvantages
 1. Additional staff time needed in the Police Department to administer the grant.

Alternative 2 would not approve the Resolution and provide further direction to staff.

- Advantages
 1. No additional staff time required for administration of the grant.
- Disadvantages
 1. The City of Urbana would not receive the grant of \$14,832 from the federal government.

Community Input: A legal notice has been published in the Champaign News-Gazette and a public hearing will be held on July 14, 2014 during the Urbana City Council meeting.

Budget and Staffing Impact: The federal government would provide \$14,832 for the City of Urbana to be spent over a 15 month period, not requiring any matching funds. If this grant is approved by Council, a budget amendment will be submitted to reflect this change; however there would be a net zero change to the budget since all expenditures are offset by the grant revenue.

The only staffing concern is the time needed to apply for and administer the grant, which is approximately twenty hours over the life of the grant.

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-07-037R

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE 2014 EDWARD BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT

WHEREAS, the City of Urbana (the “City”) is an Illinois home rule unit of local government pursuant to Section 6 of Article VII of the Illinois Constitution of 1970 and the statutes of the State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that it is appropriate and beneficial for the City and its departments to apply for and receive grants from state and federal agencies; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs has created and operates the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program for local units of government which maintain and operate law enforcement departments; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, has announced that it is taking applications for grant funding for FY 2014; and

WHEREAS, if received, the proceeds of the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program is intended to fund the acquisition and/or replacement of equipment useful in and beneficial to law enforcement activities; and

WHEREAS, in the past, the City has joined with one or more other communities as allocated by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, in applying for and receiving grant funding from the said Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the City seeks to apply on its own for grant funding from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Urbana, Illinois, as follows:

Section 1: The Police Department of the City of Urbana, Illinois be and the same is authorized to execute, by and through its Chief of Police or his designee, and to submit an application for grant funding to the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program with the purpose and intent of obtaining and securing grant funding from the said program.

Section 2: In the event that the City of Urbana, Illinois and/or its Police Department is or are successful in obtaining funding from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program, the Mayor or the Chief of Police of the Urbana Police Department shall be and is/are hereby authorized to execute such agreements as the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, deems necessary and appropriate in order to receive such grant funding.

Ayes:
Nays:
Abstain:

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this ____ Day of _____, 2014.

Phyllis D. Clark, City Clerk.

APPROVED BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF URBANA, ILLINOIS this ____ Day of _____, 2014.

Laurel Lunt Prussing, Mayor.