

Wilmington, Delaware
April 4, 2024

#0414

Sponsor:

**Council
Member
McCoy**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-363 of the City Code, City Council deemed it necessary and proper to specify the requirements for review and approval of City-sponsored grant applications and proposals, including authorization for expedited grant applications when necessary prior to Council's approval by resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Police Department has submitted a grant application to the State of Delaware Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund in the amount of \$40,000; and

WHEREAS, proposed grant funding in the amount of \$9,000 would allow for the purchase of a generator to support the Department's Crisis Management Hostage Negotiations Team vehicle. The current generator is not functional for more than ten minutes, which can risk interruptions in communications established with suspects and victims involved in critical incidents; and

WHEREAS, proposed grant funding in the amount of \$6,000 would allow for the purchase of an advanced computer and accessories capable of storing and preserving electronic forensic evidence. The current computer used by the Criminal Investigations Division has extensive data processing times and has led to delays, while this new equipment will be able to process data in minutes rather than hours; and

WHEREAS, proposed grant funding in the amount of \$25,000 would allow for the purchase of two (2) unmanned aerial vehicles (drones), to include batteries, warranties, and accessories. These aircraft are used to support public safety during events and other incidents, and the aircraft these drones would replace have become outdated; and

WHEREAS, this grant funding would cover expenses that would otherwise have to be paid for out of the Police Department’s annual operating budget, thereby continuing the Police Department’s efforts to identify funding opportunities to negate increases to the City’s annual operating budget; and

WHEREAS, no matching funds are required; and

WHEREAS, City Council deems it necessary and proper to authorize the grant application for the aforesaid purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the Wilmington Police Department’s grant application to the State of Delaware Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund in the total amount of \$40,000 is hereby authorized.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief of Police, or designee, shall be authorized to take all necessary actions to accept any and all funds associated with the grant application and to fulfill the grant requirements.

Passed by City Council,

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: This Resolution authorizes the Wilmington Police Department’s grant application to the State of Delaware Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund in the amount of \$40,000. The proposed grant funds would be used to purchase: (i) a generator to support the Department’s Crisis Management Hostage Negotiation Team vehicle; (ii) a Velox computer to store and preserve digital forensic evidence; and (iii) two (2) unmanned aerial vehicles to replace outdated equipment. No local matching funds are required.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT: There is no negative fiscal impact to the City because no local matching funds are required by this grant.

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