ITEM #:	**16**
DATE:	**04-14-26**
DEPT:	**POLICE**

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: 2025 DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG) PROGRAM

BACKGROUND:

In March 2026, the Police Department received notice that it is eligible for grant funds through the 2025 Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program.

Grant funds can be used for state and local initiatives, technical assistance, training, personnel, equipment, supplies, contractual support, and information systems for criminal justice, as well as research and evaluation activities that will improve or enhance law enforcement programs related to criminal justice.

Because the Story County Sheriff provides jail services for the county, the grant conditions require that the Sheriff participate in the grant application for funding under this JAG program. **Therefore, it would be appropriate for the City enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Story County for acquisition and use of the funds.**

Total funding potentially available to the Ames Police Department and the Story County Sheriff's Office through this grant offering is $17,525. There is no match required with this grant. If awarded, grant funds will be used to:

1. Send staff to a Crisis Intervention Team conference and provide supplemental mental health and officer wellness training to staff.

2. Purchase smart sequential road flares for traffic direction and safety.

3. Purchase two high quality binoculars for patrol and investigative purposes.

4. Purchase two pole cameras.
   (Note: Pole cameras are video cameras placed temporarily at a location for investigative purposes. They are always in public areas and subject to our policy. We currently have two that are quite old and no longer work very well.)

The grant requires that the Mayor sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Story County as well as a certifications and assurances document indicating that the City will abide by the grant terms and conditions. These documents have been reviewed and approved by City's Legal Department.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Story County to apply for grant funding under the 2024 Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program and authorize application for that grant.

2. Do not approve the agreement with the Story County or the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program grant application.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

JAG funds have been used productively during the past few years to purchase equipment and provide training. The program has proven to be a valuable source of funds for special purchases and programs. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, as described above.

ATTACHMENT(S):
2025_Byrne_Grant_MOU.pdf
local-jag-ce-certification.pdf