



## AGENDA ITEM COMMENTARY

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<b>MEETING NAME:</b>	City Council
<b>MEETING DATE:</b>	February 3, 2025
<b>ITEM TITLE:</b>	Consider and take appropriate action on Resolution 2025-005 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOLFFORTH, TEXAS APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE BUREAU OF JUSTICE EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JAG GRANT TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE
<b>STAFF INITIATOR:</b>	Patrick Austin, Assistant Chief of Police Randy Criswell, City Manager

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### **BACKGROUND:**

**Introduction by Mr. Criswell:** Over the past two budget cycles you've heard the need for additional police officers for Wolfforth, and you agreed this is a priority. Also over those past two cycles, you made a commitment to the funding of a fully paid Fire/EMS department. Now that the Fire/EMS conversion has been completed, you can place your priority on Police.

Below, Assistant Chief Austin has provided information regarding what is commonly referred to as a "JAG" grant.

**Information from Mr. Austin:** The Bureau of Justice Assistance will be awarding grant funding through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant during fiscal year 2026. The grant funding opportunity may be used by law enforcement agencies to fund a variety of items including specific personnel and equipment. The final day to apply for the grant is February 13, 2025, and the grant funding period will run from October 1, 2025 to September 30, 2026. Our department would like to apply for grant funding to assist in the addition of three officers, as well as equipment and vehicles for those officers.

The salary cost for three officers, two patrol officers and one detective, is \$183,040 and the cost of benefits for those three officers is \$72,644. Our department will request grant funding for the salaries of the officers and the benefits will be budgeted for in the general fund. Our department is currently waiting to receive quotes for equipment, and we have based cost estimates of equipment on past quotes. Our department will request grant funding for \$333,095 to pay for equipment and vehicles. The estimated amount of \$30,268 for remaining equipment will be budgeted for in the general fund. In total, our department will be requesting \$516,135 in grant funding and will be budgeting \$102,912 in the general fund in FY 2026 to facilitate the addition of three officers.

**Mr. Criswell:** As City Manager, I fully support this application. If we receive and accept the grant, we are obligated to hire the three new officers and to commit funding to pay for their continued employment to Wolfforth in the future, starting in FY 2026. I am confident we can do this.

**EXHIBITS:**

Resolution 2025-005

**COUNCIL ACTION/STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff requests that the council pass Resolution 2025-005 authorizing the police department to apply for the grant funding and to appoint Assistant City Manager Rick Scott as the Grantee's authorized official.