

VILLAGE OF YELLOW SPRINGS, OHIO

RESOLUTION 2022-54

**AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE MANAGER TO APPLY TO THE OHIO OFFICE OF
CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES FOR A GRANT TO PURCHASE BODY WORN
CAMERAS AND EQUIPMENT FOR THE YELLOW SPRINGS POLICE
DEPARTMENT**

WHEREAS, the Village of Yellow Springs has, through the work of the Justice System Task Force in 2018 through the present work of a Manager's working group evaluated the risks and benefits of a body-worn camera (BWC) program, including the initial expense for the cameras and equipment as well as records retention compliance and a BWC Use Policy was approved by Council by ordinance 2022-09; and,

WHEREAS, implementation of body-worn cameras would provide the opportunity to review the Village of Yellow Springs police officers' actions and reactions in the field, promoting necessary changes in policies and training, and in taking disciplinary action for officer wrong-doings and serve to enhance public trust and by adding another layer of transparency to police actions; and,

WHEREAS, Village of Yellow Springs Codified Ordinance Section 607.03 requires the Village Manager to obtain Village Council approval, after a public hearing, prior to "seeking funds for new surveillance technology, including but not limited to applying for a grant, or soliciting or accepting state or federal funds or other donations"; and

WHEREAS, Village of Yellow Springs Codified Ordinance Section 607.04 requires Council, before approval of any request to "fund, acquire or use" surveillance technology, to determine that the benefits of the technology outweigh its costs, and consider additional factors which are specific to use of such technology if implemented, rather than aspects of funding requests; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services ("OCJS") has prioritized grant funding for Fiscal Year 2023 for police departments without existing body-worn camera programs and applications for the grant are due to OCJS by September 8, 2022,

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLUTION, by the Council of the Village of Yellow Springs, State of Ohio that:

Section 1: The Village Manager is authorized to submit the grant application to OCJS for up to \$100,000.00 to purchase up to eleven body-worn cameras, one for each sworn officer, and sufficient digital storage equipment to maintain the data for the Yellow Springs Police Department, as well as redaction software to comply with Ohio Revised Code Section 149.43.

Section 2. Council expressly finds that the benefits of seeking grant funding through the OCJS program outweigh the costs pursuant to Section 607.04 of the Village Codified Ordinances; if grant funds are awarded, the Village Manager shall further comply with the provisions of Chapter 607.04 of the Yellow Springs Code to implement a body-worn camera policy for the Police Department after an additional public hearing process.

Section 3: All formal actions pertaining to this Ordinance were conducted in in meetings open to the public in compliance with Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code and Chapter 607 of the Village Code of Ordinances.

Brian Housh, Council President

Passed: 8-15-2022

Attest: _____

Judy Kintner, Clerk of Council

Roll Call:

Housh__Y__

MacQueen_Y__

Stokes__Y_

Brown_Y__

Devore Leonard__Y__