

March 8, 2023

To: Mayor and Members of City Council 202300757
From: Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager
Subject: Emergency Ordinance – Police: Amending Ordinance No. 0243-2022

Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

AMENDING Ordinance No. 243-2022 to authorize the City Manager to accept the transfer of equipment purchased by the Hamilton County Emergency Management Agency with funds awarded through the FY 2022 Homeland Security Grant Program, Urban Area Security Initiative (ALN 97.067).

This Emergency Ordinance would amend Ordinance No. 0243-2022 to authorize the City Manager to accept the transfer of equipment purchased by the Hamilton County Emergency Management Agency (HCEMA) with funds awarded through the FY 2022 Homeland Security Grant Program, Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) (ALN 97.067).

On August 3, 2022, the City Council passed Ordinance No. 0243-2022, which authorized the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant in the amount of up to \$591,655, effective FY 2023, from the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), through the FY 2022 Homeland Security Grant Program, Urban Area Security Initiative (ALN 97.067), for the purpose of providing funding for clothing, communications equipment, physical barriers, and license plate reader mobile cameras for the Cincinnati Police Department's Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team and Civil Disturbance Response Team (CDRT).

The grant was ultimately awarded to the Cincinnati Police Department in the amount of \$310,000, consisting of \$50,000 for the purchase of tactical entry communications equipment, \$196,000 for the purchase of physical barrier devices, and \$64,000 for the purchase of intelligence surveillance equipment. When the City Council originally approved Ordinance No. 0243-2022, it was mistakenly believed that the City would receive the grant funds through the Hamilton County Emergency Management Agency, then use those funds to purchase the SWAT equipment. In actuality, HCEMA is the regional fiscal agent and uses the grant funds to purchase the SWAT equipment for the City, then transfers ownership of the SWAT equipment to the City. Ordinance No. 0243-2022 must be amended to allow the City to accept the SWAT equipment purchased by HCEMA.

The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to accept the transfer of Grant-funded equipment in a timely manner.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

cc: Andrew M. Dudas, Budget Director
Karen Alder, Finance Director

Attachment