

Introduced by: Lee Foley, City Manager

Date: April 22, 2009

Action: Passed

Vote: 5-0

## *CITY OF BETHEL, ALASKA*

### **Resolution # 09-21**

#### **PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM, A PROGRAM OF THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009**

**WHEREAS**, on February 17, 2009, President Obama signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment, which provided the U.S. Department of Justice with funds for grants;

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance, is soliciting grant applications for the Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant Program, a program funded with Recovery Act funds;

**WHEREAS**, the City of Bethel Police Department is eligible and able to apply for these grant funds;

**WHEREAS**, funds from this grant would pay the salaries and benefits of the following three new full-time positions at the Police Department for two years beginning July 10, 2009: (1) investigator, (2) crime scene technician, and (3) victims advocate;

**WHEREAS**, funds from this grant would pay for essential crime scene investigation equipment not currently in use by the Bethel Police Department;

**WHEREAS**, the City foresees the following economic benefits associated with implementing this grant: (1) creation of high skill level jobs at the Bethel Police Department, (2) the results of the investigative team's work leading to additional hires in the criminal justice system, (3) promotion of economic recovery through increased spending in Bethel by the new hires, and (4) additional sales tax revenue to the City from the new hires;

**WHEREAS**, the City foresees the following improvements to the criminal justice system: (1) greater effectiveness and efficiency in processing crime scenes, gathering and preserving evidence, and preparing cases for the District Attorney's Office, (2) increased number of criminal cases filed by the District Attorney's Office, (3) increased number of convictions by the District Attorney's Office, (4) reduction in crime per capita long-term as the grant-funded improvements in crime scene investigations become institutionalized and the resulting increased conviction rate deters prospective criminals, (5) increased number of victims receiving assistance, and (6) improved quality of the victim assistance received;

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**WHEREAS**, the Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive grant application is due April 27, 2009;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Bethel City Council supports the preparation and submission of a grant application to the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance, to request funding for three positions and related equipment, supplies, travel, and training.

**ENACTED THIS 22<sup>nd</sup> DAY OF APRIL 2009 BY A VOTE OF 5 IN FAVOR AND 0 OPPOSED.**



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Dan Leinberger, Vice-Mayor

ATTEST:



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Lori Strickler, City Clerk