



# City of Grand Prairie

City Hall  
317 College Street  
Grand Prairie, Texas

## Meeting Agenda Public Safety, Health and Environmental Committee

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Wednesday, September 4, 2013

3:30 PM

Council Briefing Room

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### Regular Meeting

#### Call to Order

#### Agenda Items

- 1      [13-2986](#)      Approval of Minutes for August 7, 2013  
  
**Attachments:**    [PSHE Mintues 08.07.2013.doc](#)
  
- 2      [13-2954](#)      Resolution authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant award from the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for the enforcement of safety belt, child safety seat, speed, intersection traffic control and DWI laws in the amount of \$201,311.05  
  
**Attachments:**    [TxDOT STEP Grant Expenditure Information.docx](#)
  
- 3      [13-2974](#)      One-year maintenance agreement with Motorola, a sole source provider, in the amount of \$275,452.56 for maintenance and management of the City-wide Radio Communications System from October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014.  
  
**Attachments:**    [Motorola.docx](#)

#### Executive Session

*The Public Safety, Health and Environmental Committee may conduct a closed session pursuant to Chapter 551, Subchapter D of the Government Code, V.T.C.A. to discuss the following:*

1. *Section 551.071 "Consultation with Attorney"*
2. *Section 551.072 "Deliberation Regarding Real Property"*
3. *Section 551.074 "Personnel Matters"*
4. *Section 551.087 "Deliberations Regarding Economic Development Negotiations"*

#### Adjournment

*Certification*

*In accordance with Chapter 551, Subchapter C of the Government Code, V.T.C.A. the Public Safety, Health and Environmental Committee agenda was prepared and posted by 5:00 p.m. on August 30, 2013.*

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*Gloria Colvin, Secretary*

*City Hall is wheelchair accessible. If you plan to attend this public meeting and you have a disability that requires special arrangements, please call Gloria at 972 237-8018 at least 24 hours in advance. Reasonable accommodations will be made to assist your needs.*



Legislation Details (With Text)

**File #:** 13-2986      **Version:** 1      **Name:** August 7, 2013 Minutes  
**Type:** Agenda Item      **Status:** Agenda Ready - Committee  
**File created:** 8/30/2013      **In control:** Public Safety, Health and Environmental Committee  
**On agenda:** 9/4/2013      **Final action:**  
**Title:** Approval of Minutes for August 7, 2013  
**Sponsors:**  
**Indexes:**  
**Code sections:**  
**Attachments:** [PSHE Mintues 08.07.2013.pdf](#)

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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Approval of Minutes for August 7, 2013

Richard Fregoe, Chairman

Approve



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**PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES**  
**August 7, 2013**

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The Public Safety, Health and Environmental Committee meeting was called to order by Chairman Richard Fregoe at 3:30 p.m. on August 7, 2013 at the Grand Prairie City Hall, Council Briefing Room, 317 College St., Grand Prairie, Texas.

**Attendees:**

Council Member Richard Fregoe, Chairman, and Committee Members Council Member Jeff Wooldridge were present. Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Ruthe Jackson was absent. Staff members present were: Tom Hart; City Manager; Steve Dye, Police Chief; Robert Fite, Fire Chief; Michael Taylor, Assistant Police Chief; Tonya Hunter; Emergency Management Coordinator; Don Postell, City Attorney; Steve Alcorn, Assistant City Attorney; Pablo Acosta, CMO Intern and Gloria Colvin, Recording Secretary.

**Police Staffing**

Mr. Hart informed the committee that he has been working with Police Chief Steve and Fire Chief Robert Fite on staffing plans that would allow our City to have appropriate coverage. Mr. Hart stated the increase in staff over the next several years is a must and because of this came up with a possible solution for the additional Police staff.

Mr. Hart stated that the citizens of Grand Prairie voted last year to extend the Crime Tax for 10 more years to pay off the Public Safety Building. The plan would be to go back to the voters with a referendum requesting their permission to use the excess Sales Tax for operational needs. The Sales Tax is doing well and would give us a funding source for we need, still allowing us to pay off the Public Safety Building. Mr. Hart believes that the majority of the citizens would understand the proposed plan and vote to support the plan.

Chief Steve Dye presented to the committee a presentation on the GP Police Department Staffing Plan that included the policing challenges unique to Grand Prairie, areas of concern and the staffing proposal for additional staff.

Mr. Fregoe appreciates all the efforts for increasing staff and believes the approach is an opportunity that we should take advantage of. Mr. Wooldridge agreed with Mr. Fregoe's comment.

The committee supports the proposed plan for additional Police staff and recommends going forward to City Council for final approval.

**Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program Grant**

Chief Dye informed the committee that the mission of the Grand Prairie Police Department's MCSAP Commercial Vehicle Enforcement (CVE) Unit is to enforce the laws of the State of Texas and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations to ensure the safe and efficient movement of commercial traffic traveling the highways and local streets within the City.

Through effective enforcement and interaction with the trucking industry and citizens, the goal of MCSAP agencies is to reduce commercial vehicle crashes and the number of unsafe vehicles operating on the roadways. The unit goal is to also promote detection and correction of commercial motor vehicle safety defects, commercial vehicle driver deficiencies, and unsafe motor carrier practices before they become contributing factors to crashes and hazardous materials incidents. This should thereby contribute to the reduction of commercial vehicle crashes in the City.

Last year the Police Department was awarded a MCSAP grant in the amount of the \$184,761. The program has been very successful in performing the following enforcement activities to-date: 260 commercial vehicle inspections, 592 violations identified, 245 citations issued; 83 commercial vehicles and/or drivers taken out of service. The Police Department requests to apply for a second year of funding in the amount of \$162,000 with a 20-percent match of \$40,500. The match will be both a cash and in-kind match as explained in Financial Considerations section below.

If awarded, the 2<sup>nd</sup> year MCSAP Grant will continue to fund a full-time police officer position in addition to paying police officers overtime to engage in the aforementioned commercial motor vehicle activities.

The committee supports the resolution and recommends its presentation to City Council for final approval.

**Purchase of 15 Motorola Radios and Related Equipment/Parts from Motorola through an Inter-local Agreement with Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC) in the amount of \$64,676.03**

Ms. Hunter advised the committee that the City Council approved a contract with Motorola in December of 2002 to purchase a radio communication system. All radios purchased for City Communications must be the Motorola brand to best operate on our existing system and to best operate on the new P25 radio system. The radios are a sole manufacturer brand, but have various retail distributors.

Chapter 791 of the Texas Government Code, also known as the Inter-local Cooperation Contracts Act, authorizes all local governments to contract with each other to perform governmental functions or services including administrative functions normally associated with the operation of government, such as purchasing of necessary equipment, supplies and services. The City of Grand Prairie does not need to competitively bid items purchased through such agreements as they have already been bid by the sponsoring entity or agency. The City of Grand Prairie has master inter-local cooperative agreements with various entities including HGAC.

Motorola, through their HGAC contract, offers the Motorola radios and related equipment and parts. The City of Grand Prairie was awarded grant funding as part of FY2012 Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Grant to provide the City the capability to enhance interoperable communications. The City of Grand Prairie was awarded \$64,676.03 to purchase these radios.

The committee supports the request to purchase additional Motorola radios and related equipment/parts and recommends going forward to City Council for final approval.

**Tarrant County 9-1-1 District 2014 P25 Radio Interoperability Assistance Program**

Assistant Police Chief Taylor informed the committee that the Tarrant County 9-1-1 District is offering a new funding source to assist and improve regional communications interoperability. The 2014 P25 Radio Interoperability Assistance Program will have an estimated \$2,000,000 available to its district members, in the fall, with an allocation of approximately \$150,000 for Grand Prairie. The amount available for Grand Prairie was determined based on the City's percentage of population (approximately 7 percent) within the district. The program will reimburse the City of Grand Prairie for the purchase of 33 P25 compliant radios and equipment.

Project 25 (P25) is a set of standards produced through the joint efforts of the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials International, the National Association of State Telecommunications Directors, selected Federal agencies and the National Communications System and standardized under the Telecommunications Industry Association. The P25 set of standards involves digital Land Mobile Radio services for local, state/provincial and national public safety organizations and agencies. This funding through the P25 Radio Interoperability Assistance Program funding requires no City match and will help alleviate costs in the upcoming radio system replacement project next year.

The committee supports the proposed resolution and recommends its presentation to City Council for final approval.

**Amending Ordinance regarding the Use of Wireless Communication Devices While Driving**

Chief Dye informed the committee that over the last several years, the proliferation of cell phones has led to texting and driving becoming a scenario that occurs far too often and leads to property damage, injuries and sometimes deaths. This driving distraction creates a danger to other motorists on the roadways as sending or receiving a text takes a driver's eyes away from the road for an average of 4.6 seconds (equivalent to the length of a football field at 55 M.P.H. - Virginia Tech Transportation Institute). In addition, eighteen (18) percent of drivers admit to texting while driving (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration). In Texas in 2012, there were 10,273 crashes attributable to a distraction in the vehicle, many of which were texting while driving. Year-to-date, there have been 4,992 distraction in vehicle crashes in the State. In Grand Prairie in 2012, there were 71 motor vehicle crashes caused by a distraction in the vehicle and year-to-date there have been 31. In addition to the aforementioned safety concerns of texting while driving, this irresponsible driving behavior also results in enormous amounts of property damage each year, which can lead to an increase in insurance rates. The Grand Prairie Police Department had hoped the State of Texas would pass a State law prohibiting texting while driving. However, while several Bills have been proposed over the last two legislative sessions no such State laws have been passed.

While the passage of a "no texting" ordinance would not solely solve the problem of texting while driving, the police department believes it can be a component to help modify distracted driving behavior and help change the driving culture of those who text while driving. The proposed ordinance would be a part of a larger educational awareness campaign spearheaded by the Grand Prairie Police Department in collaboration with the Grand Prairie Independent School District, the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB), insurance carriers and cell phone providers.

By taking proactive action toward this epidemic, the City of Grand Prairie can take the initial steps in working to reduce this dangerous driving behavior and ensure all possible remedies are being taken to promote safety and prevent traffic crashes in the City.

Chief Dye mentioned that staff recommends the City adopt the attached “no texting” ordinance. If passed, a 90-day grace period would be in place prior to any enforcement of the ordinance.

The committee supports the proposed ordinance and recommends its presentation to City Council for final approval.

### **Price Agreement for Law Enforcement Uniforms from Red the Uniform Tailor**

Chief Dye informed the committee that this is a backup contract to cover all police uniforms and equipment. At this time, this contract is being proposed for uniforms for female officers and ballistic vests for all officers. The price for ballistic vests on this contract is significantly less than the vest prices on the existing contract with GST. In addition, this proposed contract will facilitate the purchase of uniforms, for female officers, through another vendor to improve the fit.

State purchasing laws, Local Government Code, Chapter 271, authorize local governments to enter into joint contacts and cooperative agreements for the performance of governmental functions normally associated with the operation of government such as purchasing necessary materials and supplies. The City approved a Master Inter-local agreement with the City of Frisco whereby the City could make use of all of that entities agreement(s). This communication is to notify the Council that staff would like to make use of this particular agreement and enter into an annual contract with Red the Uniform Tailor for law enforcement uniforms and other police gear (i.e. ballistic vests), for the initial twelve (12) month term and any/all of the four optional one-year renewals as executed by the City of Frisco. The estimated annual expenditure will be \$65,871.

The committee supports the recommended price agreements and recommends its presentation to City Council for final approval.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

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Richard Fregoe, Chairman



Legislation Details (With Text)

<b>File #:</b>	13-2954	<b>Version:</b>	1	<b>Name:</b>	Police TxDOT STEP grant
<b>Type:</b>	Agenda Item	<b>Status:</b>		<b>Status:</b>	Consent Agenda
<b>File created:</b>	8/22/2013	<b>In control:</b>		<b>In control:</b>	Police
<b>On agenda:</b>	9/17/2013	<b>Final action:</b>		<b>Final action:</b>	
<b>Title:</b>	Resolution authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant award from the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for the enforcement of safety belt, child safety seat, speed, intersection traffic control and DWI laws in the amount of \$201,311.05				
<b>Sponsors:</b>					
<b>Indexes:</b>					
<b>Code sections:</b>					
<b>Attachments:</b>	<a href="#">TxDOT STEP Grant Expenditure Information.pdf</a>				

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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Joe Dionisi

Resolution authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant award from the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for the enforcement of safety belt, child safety seat, speed, intersection traffic control and DWI laws in the amount of \$201,311.05

Chief Steve Dye, Police Department

Approve

The results of special statewide traffic enforcement efforts in Texas and other states confirm that coordinated programs, such as the Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP), are highly effective in reducing traffic-related fatalities, injuries and costs.

The latest statistics from the National Safety Council show that people who wear safety belts have a 45 percent better chance of surviving a serious traffic crash and a 50 percent better chance of surviving without serious injuries. The State of Texas has had a Mandatory Use Law for safety belts since 1985. Since that time, Texas has seen safety belt use rise to among the highest levels in the country. In 2011, the percentage of Texas front seat occupants restrained was 93 percent. Currently, in the City of Grand Prairie, compliance is 97 percent. That rate is attributed to the enforcement of safety belt and child safety seat laws. Most other area cities range between 90 and 93 percent compliance.

As for the contributing factor of speed, locally during 2012, Grand Prairie police investigated 470 vehicle crashes that involved speed as a contributing factor to the cause of the crash. In the same year, Grand Prairie Police investigated 87 alcohol-related crashes.

The Grand Prairie Police Department has participated in the Selective Traffic Enforcement Program for 23 years. The total grant money addresses primarily seatbelt, child safety seat, speeding, intersection traffic control, and DWI laws.

Year-to-date through July, the TxDOT STEP Grant has resulted in the following grant-related citation totals: speeding (3,855); seatbelt (308); unrestrained child (104); intersection control devices (4,903); DWI (17). The total number of citations issued from October 2012-July 2013 is 12,013, which includes the above totals and other hazardous and non-hazardous violations. The new grant will fund approximately 5,674 enforcement hours for the department.

The Selective Traffic Enforcement Program benefits the citizens of Grand Prairie by increasing safety belt compliance and reducing the number of crashes caused by excessive speed, disregarding traffic control devices, and alcohol.

The Finance and Government Committee reviewed this item on September 3, 2013 and the Public Safety, Health and Environmental Committee reviewed it on September 4, 2013. Both committees recommended this item be forwarded to the City Council.

The grant period begins October 1, 2013, and ends September 30, 2014. It is anticipated the total cost for the City during this period will amount to an equal cash match of \$201,311.06. The Texas Department of Transportation will fund \$201,311.05 to pay the City for overtime salaries and benefits for enforcement efforts.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS, IN SUPPORT OF A TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION GRANT FOR SAFETY BELT, CHILD SAFETY SEAT, SPEED, INTERSECTION TRAFFIC CONTROL, AND DWI ENFORCEMENT TO BECOME EFFECTIVE UPON ITS PASSAGE AND APPROVAL.**

**WHEREAS**, the Grand Prairie Police Department wishes to participate in an intensified enforcement of safety belt, child safety seat, speed, intersection traffic control and DWI laws;

**WHEREAS**, the City will provide any applicable cash match to the Texas Department of Transportation;

**WHEREAS**, in the event of loss or misuse of Texas Department of Transportation funds, the City of Grand Prairie assures that the funds will be returned to the Texas Department of Transportation in full;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS THAT:**

**SECTION 1.** the City Manager of the City of Grand Prairie is empowered to accept, reject, alter or terminate this grant on behalf of the City Council;

**SECTION 2:** this resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval in accordance with the Charter of the City of Grand Prairie and it is accordingly so resolved.

**PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS, ON THIS THE 17TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER , 2013.**

CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE  
OPERATING BUDGET EXPENDITURE INFORMATION

FUND: Police Department General Fund

AGENCY: Police

ACCOUNTING UNIT: 281210

AVAILABLE: 90075, Transfer to grant fund 3005, \$201,311.06

STAFF CONTACT: Joe Dionisi

VENDOR NUMBER:

VENDOR NAME:

CONTINGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_



Legislation Details (With Text)

<b>File #:</b>	13-2974	<b>Version:</b>	1	<b>Name:</b>	Motorola Radio Agreement
<b>Type:</b>	Agenda Item	<b>Status:</b>		<b>Status:</b>	Consent Agenda
<b>File created:</b>	8/26/2013	<b>In control:</b>		<b>In control:</b>	Police
<b>On agenda:</b>	9/17/2013	<b>Final action:</b>		<b>Final action:</b>	
<b>Title:</b>	One-year maintenance agreement with Motorola, a sole source provider, in the amount of \$275,452.56 for maintenance and management of the City-wide Radio Communications System from October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014.				
<b>Sponsors:</b>					
<b>Indexes:</b>					
<b>Code sections:</b>					
<b>Attachments:</b>	<a href="#">Motorola.pdf</a>				

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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Joe Dionisi

One-year maintenance agreement with Motorola, a sole source provider, in the amount of \$275,452.56 for maintenance and management of the City-wide Radio Communications System from October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014.

Chief Steve Dye and Assistant Mike Taylor, Police Department

Approve

The city-wide radio system provides radio communications to all city departments who have a need for these communications, including police, fire and EMS among others. City operations, such as police and fire, require the system to remain in a good state of repair with little or no down time. This agreement includes 24/7 repair responses to all onsite infrastructure and equipment; microwave system service; network and system management; and system survey and analysis.

This request is for a one-year maintenance agreement for the city-wide radio communications system in the amount of \$275,452.56, which is a decrease from the current fiscal year amount of \$283,582.20. The decrease in the price is due to some older equipment that is no longer supported and has been removed from the agreement.

The Finance and Government Committee reviewed this item on September 3, 2013 and the Public Safety, Health and Environmental Committee reviewed it on September 4, 2013. Both committees recommended this item be forwarded to the City Council.

Funding of \$275,452.56 is available in the FY 2013/2014 General Fund Operating Budget (1001); Police Department Accounting Unit 282010; Account Code 63105 (Communication Equipment Maintenance).

CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE  
OPERATING BUDGET EXPENDITURE INFORMATION

FUND: Police Department General Fund

AGENCY: Police

ACCOUNTING UNIT: 282010

AVAILABLE: \$275,452.56 is available in General Fund Operating Budget (1001)  
Account code 63105.

STAFF CONTACT: Joe Dionisi

VENDOR NUMBER:

VENDOR NAME:

CONTINGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_