



City of Grand Prairie

City Hall
300 W. Main Street
Grand Prairie, Texas

Meeting Agenda

Public Safety, Health and Environment Committee

Monday, July 6, 2020

5:00 PM

Video Conference

Due to the imminent threat to public health and safety arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting of the Public Safety, Health and Environment Committee will be held via video conference. Members of the public may participate in the meeting remotely by webinar or telephone through the following:

When: Jul 6, 2020 05:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Topic: City of Grand Prairie - PSHE Meeting

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://gptx.zoom.us/j/92595335831?pwd=c1RsdkRCUIZkUUIFdzVJa0Q5RzZKUT09>

Password: 719430

Or iPhone one-tap :

US: +13462487799,,92595335831#,,,,0#,,719430# or

+14086380968,,92595335831#,,,,0#,,719430#

Or Telephone:

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US: +1 346 248 7799 or +1 408 638 0968 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or
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Webinar ID: 925 9533 5831

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International numbers available: <https://gptx.zoom.us/j/92595335831>

All meeting participants will automatically be muted until it is their turn to speak. To be recognized to speak, use the "raise hand" feature in the Zoom meeting platform. Or, if you are joining by phone, you may press *9 to raise your hand. Please call in only during discussion of the item on which you wish to speak. After speaking, remute your phone by pressing *6.

Call to Order

Agenda Items

Citizens may speak for up to five minutes on any item on the agenda by completing and submitting a speaker card.

- 1 [20-10083](#) Consider Minutes of June 1, 2020 Public Safety, Health and Environment Committee Meeting
Attachments: [PSHE June 1, 2020 Minutes.docx](#)

- 2 [20-10102](#) Discuss Eviction Ordinance

- 3 [20-10103](#) Republic Services Rate Increase
Attachments: [Solid Waste and Recycling FY2021a](#)

- 4 **20-10131** Resolution ratifying and amending the Municipal Maintenance Agreement between the City of Grand Prairie and the State of Texas Department of Transportation, providing for the City to conduct all mowing and litter collection along TxDOT rights-of-way in Dallas County.
Attachments: 0840 A1 - Municipal Maintenance Agreement - Dallas County - Amendment.pdf

- 5 **20-10132** Resolution ratifying and amending the Municipal Maintenance Agreement between the City of Grand Prairie and the State of Texas Department of Transportation, providing for the City to conduct all mowing and litter collection along TxDOT rights-of-way in Tarrant County.
Attachments: 0841 A1 - Municipal Maintenance Agreement - Ft Worth - Amendment.pdf

Executive Session

The Public Safety, Health and Environment 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"*

Citizen Comments

Citizens may speak during Citizen Comments for up to five minutes on any item not on the agenda by completing and submitting a speaker card.

Adjournment

Certification

In accordance with Chapter 551, Subchapter C of the Government Code, V.T.C.A. the Public Safety, Health and Environment Committee meeting agenda was prepared and posted July 2, 2020.

Mona Lisa Galicia, Deputy City 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 Mona Lisa Galicia at 972-237-8018 at least 24 hours in advance. Reasonable accommodations will be made to assist your needs.



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 20-10083 **Version:** 1 **Name:** June 1, 2020 PSHE Minutes
Type: Agenda Item **Status:** Agenda Ready - Committee
File created: 6/16/2020 **In control:** Public Safety, Health and Environment Committee
On agenda: 7/6/2020 **Final action:**
Title: Consider Minutes of June 1, 2020 Public Safety, Health and Environment Committee Meeting
Sponsors:
Indexes:
Code sections:
Attachments: [PSHE June 1, 2020 Minutes.pdf](#)

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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From
Lana Yancey

Title
Consider Minutes of June 1, 2020 Public Safety, Health and Environment Committee Meeting

Presenter
Chairman Jeff Copeland

Recommended Action
Approve

Analysis
Minutes are attached.



PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

June 1, 2020

The Public Safety, Health and Environment Committee meeting was called to order by Council Member Jeff Copeland at 4:00 p.m. on June 1, 2020 at the Grand Prairie City Hall, Council Briefing Room; 317 College St., Grand Prairie, Texas.

Attendees:

Chairman Jeff Copeland, Council Members Cole Humphreys and John Lopez were present. Staff members present: Deputy City Manager Steve Dye, Police Chief Daniel Scesney, Environmental Quality Manager Cindy Mendez, Emergency Management Coordinator Chase Wheeler, Emergency Management Assistant Coordinator Mike Joy, Emergency Management Specialist Daniel Ringhauser, City Manager Assistant Andrew Fortune, Code Compliance Manager Steve Collins, Deputy City Attorney Mark Dempsey and Recording Secretary Lana Yancey.

Consider Minutes of March 2, 2020

The Public Safety, Health and Environment Committee minutes for March 2, 2020 were approved by Chairman Jeff Copeland and Council Member John Lopez. The minutes carried unanimously.

COVID-19 Update – Cindy Mendez, Environmental Services Manager, and Chase Wheeler, Emergency Management Coordinator

Cindy Mendez presented info on COVID-19 Testing. A lot of things are still evolving. There are 6.2 million cases worldwide, a little over 371,000 deaths and about half of COVID-19 cases have recovered. The other cases have not been reported yet if they have recovered or not. The United States has significantly more cases than any other country. The United States, Canada, Australia, Spain, Italy and Russia are the top countries who have done the most testing. Chairman Copeland asked, why do we need testing if 5 minutes after testing I could have symptoms? So we can find who the asymptomatic people are and isolate those people. Dr. Fauci estimated that 25%-50% of people are asymptomatic, so how are we going to stop this if we don't test asymptomatic people? Even people with no symptoms carry the same viral load, which is why testing has to be part of the solution. Public education is important. Contact tracing needs to be done as well. Chairman Copeland asked, do we have the percentage breakdown of testing of symptomatic people versus asymptomatic people? Dallas County is hopeful to have this information but no confirmed numbers. We will hopefully have this information from Grand Prairie COVID-19 testing. There are federal do's and don'ts that they can ask or not ask when people test. Mr. Steve Dye will be presenting more results tomorrow night. The Grand Prairie Fire Department is doing the antibody testing and 4% of people tested positive. Chairman Copeland asked, how often do we test our first responders? We are now able to test all city employees and their households. We have access to rapid testing for first responders just in case of exposure, but it has to take place at a clinic and it is \$190 per test. In order to test all city employees it will cost \$12,000 which will be reimbursed by the government.

Rapid testing only takes place in unique purposes. We are contracted with MD Medical Group to get testing done. Chairman Copeland asked, why are we testing charter school employees and not other private businesses? Mr. Steve Dye advised because they are around children who are very vulnerable to the virus. We have marketing throughout the entire the city for testing by appointment only. When citizens call in they are screened twice before they actually get tested. Results come within 3-7 days. Maximum number of tests at the drive thru is 300, and we have not maxed out yet. Chairman Copeland asked, what if someone tests positive and we attempt to reach out to that person, but that person doesn't respond, what do we do? Someone with the clinic will call them, if they don't respond there isn't anything we can do but they are still reported to the state. If a city employee tests positive they are to self-isolate for 10 days and take the leave balances that they have and at times can go into the red in order to take care of them self. It is not administrative time or free time. There are federal mandates regarding this. Chairman Copeland voiced concerns about employees "self-isolating," but were actually going out on vacations and not isolating themselves. The employee's argument can be "it was my PTO time." We are airing on the side of caution with each employee and so far no complaints. Testing is taking place Monday thru Friday and we have a minimum of 50 tests per day and a maximum of 300. We will look into also testing on a Saturday for those that work during the week. There will be ample marketing to let Grand Prairie residents know when testing is available and where. We are also trying to get testing at assisted living and nursing homes. There are eight candidate vaccines in clinical trial right now. There may be a vaccine in summer or fall of 2021, but not before flu season this year. There are 4 phases in these clinical trials and none of them are past phase 2. Antibody testing is good to find out who have been exposed to COVID-19, but cannot tell if you are currently infected. There are false positives when testing for COVID-19 so they encourage to get tested again to make sure. We are looking forward to Antigen testing that is available to take at home.

Mike Joy briefed the committee on the Cares Act Allocations. This is money set aside for us to get reimbursed on necessary expenditures incurred during March 1, 2020 to December 30, 2020 due to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19. The Cares Act is a treasury legislation which allows 100% reimbursement. The eligible costs for response to COVID-19 are \$300,000 so far. The Federal Government disburses the money to the state and then to the county, in which Tarrant and Dallas counties allocates Grand Prairie \$55 per person. For instance, IT doing what they need to do to allow employees to be able to work from home during COVID-19, all of that will be reimbursed. Also, drive thru and at home COVID-19 testing is eligible along with reimbursement of staff time. So far we have not submitted a request for money yet. We have set up a task force that has representatives from the City Manager's Office, Office of Emergency Management, Finance, a City Auditor and Environmental Quality to ensure that we are taking proper steps to document and track everything. Since this is new legislation we do not know how they are going to audit, so we are following the most strict reimbursement standards. Employees that were sent home on paid administrative leave, to me is in direct relation to COVID-19 and we should be reimbursed for that, but some say since payroll is already budgeted it's not included. Revenue short falls are not covered. Grand Prairie is in two counties that have already received allocations. We will get 20% of those funds, which should be sent to us within the week. Dallas and Tarrant both have towns over 500,000 population so that means the reimbursements will come from the county. Cities that are in counties with towns under 500,000 population will receive money directly from the treasury department. So far it has been very nonpartisan. If the money that was reimbursed is not spent by December 30th, 2020 it has to go back to the counties. The Federal government has washed their hands of the money but there will have to be paperwork to show where all the money went. We are spending all this money wisely so we aren't embarrassed later. Office of the government will be auditing us as well to see where the money has gone. For this reason we have pay codes to specify COVID-19 leave and work hours.

Chairman Copeland suggested having the Mayor add some of what we are doing behind the scenes for our citizens to the Mayor's Message. Mr. Steve Dye advised that he is pushing all this information to Amy Sprinkles as well. Andrew Fortune briefed the committee on our strategic approach to small business loans. Dallas and Tarrant County are in the process of finalizing small business loan programs. Tarrant seems to be more restrictive on what they consider a small business, so we are still deciding on the procedures we will follow. We are looking to use one of those programs and tailor one of the programs to Grand Prairie small businesses. We will do what is best for our citizens. We have plenty of money allocated at this time from the counties. We are looking to team up with Grand Prairie United Charities (GPUC) to help out with rental assistance and food distribution. Why United Charities? Grand Prairie United Charities has been around Grand Prairie for a very long time and they already have experience in helping citizens with this kind of thing. GPUC has always done so much with very little so we are confident they will do great things for our citizens. We will be using the same FEMA guidelines that we already use to allocate money to citizens. Mr. Steve Dye suggests using GPUC as long as they show proof of expenditures and we are only giving GPUC increments of money as needed. If we have the proper safe guards in place we shouldn't have a problem. We will also work diligently to make sure that the money given to citizens is going straight to the mortgage company or land lord. There will be a lot of hoops to jump through in order for citizens to receive assistance. We want to make sure the money is used properly and the citizens aren't left homeless soon after receiving funds due to delinquencies or deferred payments. The actual agreement with GPUC will be between them and the City of Grand Prairie. Life Line Shelter will also be assisting GPUC with the applications that come in from Grand Prairie citizens. Cole Humphreys doesn't have a problem with GPUC handling this program. John Lopez agrees as well with GPUC overseeing this program. Chairman Copeland approves with conditions, as long as there are procedures in place. Mr. Steve Dye advised that GPUC will receive a 5% administrative cost to ensure that volunteers aren't doing the vetting process for rental assistance. He is also aware that GPUC will need to be prepared for surge in business with word of mouth getting out about their services. There is a time frame for rental assistance funding that will go back to March 1st and cuts off in November, if the citizen can prove that they were significantly impacted by COVID-19 we can back date the rent. No household will receive more than \$4,500. We are also working on another North Texas Food Bank Food Distribution at Lone Star Park soon. Our next meeting is June 16th. So far with Food Distributions we have given out over 22,000 boxes of food. They have slowed down frequency of food distributions due to things opening back up, but we may need to start back up.

Break 17:20 – 17:22

Resolution supporting the one-year continuation of the Police Department's Victims Assistance Program grant in the amount of \$139,802

This is a VOCA Federal Grant that the Grand Prairie Police Department has received for 20+ years. Victims Assistance cannot be funded by Crime Tax because it is civilian employee positions. Council Member Cole Humphreys asked if these funds help address the root of the problem or could we get more funds if it did? The Victims Assistance employees have been working throughout the COVID-19 pandemic to provide help to victims of abuse. Due to the shutdown of businesses and schools, children have not had an outlet to be able to make an outcry if needed. They are stuck at home with their abuser. We also partner with Children's First and Brighter Tomorrow's to get help to these victims and their families. These funds cannot be used for anything else. Board Members are in support. Board members have a heart to do more if there is opportunity to receive more money.

Ordinance amending the FY 2019/2020 Red Light Safety Fund in the amount of \$336,265, for the purchase of 29 license plate recognition cameras in the amount of \$116,000 from Flock Safety for an initial two-year term, and three additional optional one-year terms at \$58,000 per year, totaling \$290,000, through a sole source purchase agreement; and the purchase of other traffic safety related equipment, in the amount of \$220,265; authorize the City Manager to execute the renewal options with aggregate price fluctuations of the lesser of up to \$50,000 or 25% of the original maximum price so long as sufficient funding is appropriated by the City Council to satisfy the City's obligation during the renewal terms

There will be a number of different items to be funded due to the end of Red Light Camera's. For instance, Vehicle License Recognition Cameras (LPR) which will help identify suspect vehicles in hit and run accidents, large trucks being in an area where they shouldn't be, and can also help with identifying suspects in burglaries of motor vehicles. This equipment does not take a picture of your license plate and send a ticket in the mail. Chairman Copeland asked is this similar software that the Lake Department utilizes? Chief Scesney advised it is similar and stores the data, but it also sinks with our body worn camera software. Main concern of the LPR is to make sure that everyone understands it is an investigative tool. This agreement will also include a black box reader to help investigate fatality accidents, additional LIDARS, outfitting Police Tahoe's with traffic safety equipment and 10 additional Police Tahoe's that are already on the lot and ready to go. Due to COVID-19 there has been a significant delay in getting Patrol Tahoe's. Chairmen Copeland asked if it is possible to get all Police Tahoe's equipped with LPR's. Chief Scesney advised that does exist, which our Marshalls have but also anytime an Officer runs a license plate it shows a history of why it was ran. We are also working on information bulletins being added to our computer system to know any and all information regarding that particular license plate or vehicle. We did have the LPR's on Patrol Tahoe's a few years ago but every time we had to transfer that equipment to another vehicle it cost \$1,400 to move. Board Members support this agenda item. This will go to Finance & Government Committee Meeting tomorrow.

Ordinance amending Chapter 17, "Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions," Article I, "In General," by adding Section 17-31 "Fishing from Waters in Residential Areas."

Chief Daniel Scesney briefed the committee on this agenda item. This has been to City Council Development Committee. The spirit of the ordinance is that there is a problem with people going into residential areas, behind people's homes to fish from sun up to sun down. The problem isn't to prevent dad and son from going fishing but to prevent people from fishing in the middle of the night and causing a noise disturbance. The important thing to know and remember is the Grand Prairie Police Department is a spirit of law and not a letter of law, so if we go out there and someone is fishing in the very early hours of the morning and not doing anything illegal we will probably ask them to leave. We won't necessarily give them a ticket. This agenda item will help us have a mechanism to help us deal with these incidents. Jeff Copeland used the synopsis of "If I were staying at a Hotel and asked does the pool really close at 11? The employees say if you are at the pool raising hell then yes it does. If you are in the pool minding your own business and not causing a problem then you can be in the pool past 11." These are mainly residential ponds where they are fishing and it is open for public use, so we can't stop people from fishing at these locations. We can find legal reasons, for example not parking on the grass or playing loud music, to move people out of the area if needed.

Board Members agree and approve this agenda item.

Ordinance amending Chapter 17, Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions," Article I, "In General," by adding Section 17-32 "Parking Near Mailboxes During Specific Times"

Chief Daniel Scesney briefed the committee and advised Mr. Steve Collins has done a great job with amending this ordinance. This prohibits people from parking in front of mail boxes. During COVID-19 especially, the mail man does not have access to mailboxes and is unable to drop off medications to those getting them through USPS. Vehicles cannot be parked in front of mail boxes Monday – Saturday, sun up to sun down. Chairman Copeland cannot believe this hasn't already been made an ordinance. Grand Prairie Police Department will be working with some H.O.A.'s to get adequate signage up. Chief Scesney advised that if someone has a problem with someone blocking their mail box or anything else, call the police. If it is important to them it is important to GPPD. Chairman Copeland commended Code Compliance and the work they are doing and their professionalism. Code Compliance has received compliance in result of education to citizens about issues.

Committee members approve and agree.

Meeting adjourned at 5:48 p.m.

Executive Session

There was no executive session.

Jeff Copland, Chairman



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 20-10102 **Version:** 1 **Name:** Eviction Ordinance
Type: Agenda Item **Status:** Agenda Ready - Committee
File created: 6/19/2020 **In control:** City Manager's Office
On agenda: 7/6/2020 **Final action:**
Title: Discuss Eviction Ordinance
Sponsors:
Indexes:
Code sections:
Attachments:

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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From
Mona Lisa Galicia, Deputy City Secretary

Title
Discuss Eviction Ordinance

Presenter
Steve Dye, Deputy City Manager



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 20-10103 **Version:** 1 **Name:** Republic Services Rate Increase
Type: Agenda Item **Status:** Agenda Ready - Committee
File created: 6/19/2020 **In control:** City Manager's Office
On agenda: 7/6/2020 **Final action:**
Title: Republic Services Rate Increase
Sponsors:
Indexes:
Code sections:
Attachments: [Solid Waste and Recycling FY2021a](#)

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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From
Mona Lisa Galicia, Deputy City Secretary

Title
Republic Services Rate Increase

Presenter
Steve Dye, Deputy City Manager, and Dr. Patricia Redfearn, Solid Waste and Recycling Manager



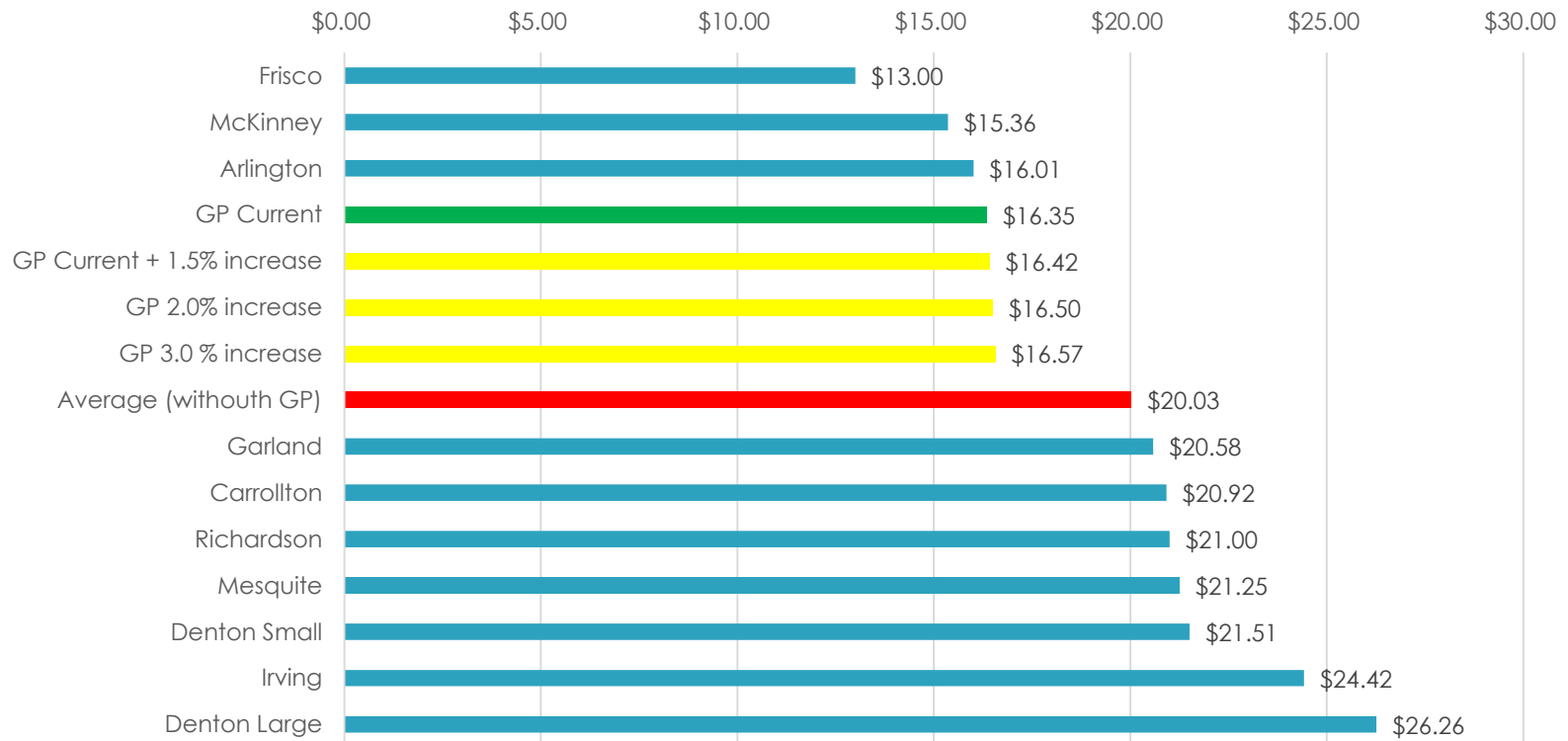
Solid Waste and Recycling

For your Consideration



Comparison of Residential Rates FY 2021

Comparison Cities - Garbage Rate for FY 2021





Questions?

Solid Waste & Recycling

