



Meeting Agenda

Public Safety, Health and Environment Committee

Monday, January 4, 2021

4:00 PM

Council Briefing Room

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 [20-10710](#) December 7, 2020 Public Safety, Health and Environment Minutes

 Attachments: [PSHE 2020 12 07 Minutes.pdf](#)
- 2 [20-10535](#) Implementation of the “Text to 9-1-1” initiative (Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG911) digital technologies) - Presented by Aubry Insko
- 3 [20-10621](#) Short Term Rentals - Presented by Steve Collins, Code Compliance Manager, and Mark Dempsey, Deputy City Attorney
- 4 [20-10721](#) Ratify Application for Texas Emergency Rental Assistance Program grant funding in the amount of \$363,210.74 for the purpose of administering rental assistance to eligible applicants in Grand Prairie through a third party administrator; Authorize City Manager to accept grant if awarded
- 5 [20-10460](#) Review of Smoking Ordinance - Presented by Cindy Mendez, Environmental Quality Manager

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 for up to five minutes on any item 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 January 1, 2021.

Jennifer Stubbs, 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 Jennifer Stubbs at 972-237-8018 at least 24 hours in advance. Reasonable accommodations will be made to assist your needs.



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 20-10710 **Version:** 1 **Name:** DEcember 7, 2020 PSHE Minutes
Type: Agenda Item **Status:** Agenda Ready - Committee
File created: 12/22/2020 **In control:** Public Safety, Health and Environment Committee
On agenda: 1/4/2021 **Final action:**
Title: December 7, 2020 Public Safety, Health and Environment Minutes
Sponsors:
Indexes:
Code sections:
Attachments: [PSHE 2020 12 07 Minutes.pdf](#)

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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From
Lana Yancey

Title
December 7, 2020 Public Safety, Health and Environment Minutes

Presenter
Chairman Jeff Copeland

Recommended Action
Approve

Analysis
Minutes Attached.



PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

December 7, 2020

The Public Safety, Health and Environment Committee meeting was called to order by Chairman Jeff Copeland at 4:00 p.m. on December 7, 2020 via Zoom Videoconference.

Attendees:

Chairman Jeff Copeland and Committee Members Cole Humphreys and John Lopez were present. Staff members present: Deputy City Manager Steve Dye, City Manager Assistant Andrew Fortune, Solid Waste and Recycling Services Manager Patricia Redfearn, Assistant City Attorney Tiffany Bull, and Recording Secretary Lana Yancey.

Consider Minutes of November 2, 2020

Committee Member Cole Humphreys motioned to approve the minutes as presented, Committee Member John Lopez and Chairman Jeff Copeland in favor. Minutes passed as presented.

Solid Waste and Recycling Services Survey - Presented by Dr. Patricia Redfearn, Solid Waste and Recycling Manager

Dr. Redfearn briefed the committee on this item and gave a timeline and description of when the survey will be ready to send out to citizens and what questions will be on it. Amy Sprinkles has already sent out a bid to printing companies to prepare for when the survey is ready to go. Once the surveys are printed my goal is to get them to the post office on January 4th. We are allowing for a 2-4-week response time which will be January 19th through February 2nd. We will start tabulating surveys once received and that should also take about 2-4 weeks. Deputy City Manager Steve Dye wants this council to give input on these questions and know that if we don't have enough participation with the survey maybe we don't switch to cart service and stick to garbage bag pickup as is. We want to be subjective with these questions. The questions that will be on the survey are as follows:

- 1) I am a Grand Prairie Resident and my address is?
- 2) On average my household sets garbage out for collection A) Once a week B) Twice a week C) Every other week D) Once per month
- 3) On average my household generates how many 13-gallon garbage bags per week A) 1 bag or less B) 2-3 bags C) 4-5 bags D) 6-7 bags or more
- 4) I would be interested in using two separate city provided rolling carts for garbage and recycling pickup? Yes or No
- 5) I would be willing to pay a little more per month to have weekly rolling cart garbage and recycling services? A) Yes. Up to \$1.50 B) No. I would not be willing to pay more for a rolling cart to collect garbage and recycling.

Deputy City Manager Steve Dye advised that we are going to keep a database with address information and responses, which is why we ask question 1. Question 2 is asked because if we go to carts, we will move to trash pickup once a week. Chairman Jeff Copeland asked to clarify Question 4 to make sure that citizens know that there are 2 separate

Carts, one for garbage and one for recycling. Dr. Redfearn advised that If we go to both garbage and recycling in a cart there would be a slight net increase in cost. Chairman Jeff Copeland suggested adding \$1.50 to Question 5, and not have it only in the answer. Dr. Redfearn has thought about adding a price range in the question but we are not completely sure of the real price because NewGen Strategies and Solutions is telling us it costs \$9.81 more per household, per month for recycling cart service. This price seems high, so we are trying to get clarification on how much it really costs. The City of Grand Prairie has a take all program but, if a household puts out their entire household Code Compliance will come out. If there are bulky items put out the resident is to call a specific number to have it picked up by someone else, but if there are overflow bags, Republic will pick that up as long as it is sitting right next to the cart. We believe that Republic will soon go away with bagged garbage pickup without carts, they are having a hard time finding and keeping employees to run behind a garbage truck. The garbage pickup employees are running roughly 20 miles per day and in the summer months there are a lot of hospitalizations due to the heat. On the survey it includes a picture and size of the cart, explains the cart needs to be stored out of street view or on side of the house, and that the frequency of pickup and pickup day may change. Also, if we go to recycling cart service no bags are allowed in that cart because the bags get caught up in the recycling plant. When and if we go to cart service, for a little while the carts will be all over the place after garbage pickup until Code Compliance can contact residents and they get used to putting the cart back in its place. Code Compliance will also have stickers to hand out to homeowners about the cart and what they are doing wrong after the service is implemented. When Republic Services does alley pickups it will be with a smaller truck with a lever that can pick up carts in a smaller space. The smaller trucks will have helpers that will be on the back of that truck and they will make more trips to the landfill. It was discussed to see if people have a problem with moving garbage pickup from the alley to the front of the house. With the following question preface, "While this may not be necessary" Is your garbage or recycling currently picked up in the alleyway? If yes, would you be willing to move it to the front? Deputy City Manager Steve Dye asked Assistant City Attorney Tiffany Bull if he can email the committee members with the updated questions so that we don't have to bring it to another meeting. Ms. Bull was ok with having discussions via email but not talking about things that require decision making from board members. We want to get these surveys in the mail on or before January 4th. Chairman Jeff Copeland advised that he is comfortable with all of us being on the same page and understanding of what we want with the cart service survey, and he is ok with the final survey that Dr. Redfearn and Deputy City Manager Steve Dye makes. Committee Member John Lopez asked if we should add Vietnamese to the survey to include those who speak that language. He also asked if we could discuss the blue recycling bags. Dr. Redfearn shared that people are passionate about those bags and once people know why we are taking them away they ask what they can do instead. On windy days those blue recycling bags are blown all over the place, and many of the surrounding cities are moving away from the blue bags. Two people on our team had a tour of the recycling plant and we saw firsthand how the employees frequently must cut out the blue bags from the equipment. Don Johnson has put a video together that is on our website regarding this. Committee Members are good on this discussion and trust that the questions on the final survey will be exactly what is needed to decide if we should go with cart service or not. There was no further discussion.

Emergency Assistance Program Update – Presented by Andrew Fortune, Assistant to the City Manager

Mr. Fortune briefed the committee on this item. With the additional \$250,000 that this committee awarded Grand Prairie United Charities last month we have serviced 98 clients in November. The breakdown of that is Dallas County residents allotted \$710.75 in electric, \$3,442.92 in mortgage and \$30,800.95 in rent and Tarrant County resident allotted \$779.58 in electric, \$600 in mortgage and \$10,781.57 in rent. The zip code distribution of funds was 21% living in 75050, 58% om 75051, \$20% in 75052 and 1% in 75054. There were 118 other clients that were served through other sources with FEMA funds and partnerships with other agencies. With the rate we are going we may be able to stretch these

funds through March, but with the Eviction Moratorium ending January 1, 2021 we may be inundated with people needing help. We did decide at the beginning of this program that we will not be catching residents up on multiple months of rent at once. There may be another stimulus coming out and a vaccination on the way, so we are thankful for the guidance of this committee. Committee Member John Lopez asked about landlords raising and doubling rent and if we have any clients expressing that is their case. City Manager Assistant Andrew Fortune explained that there are federal guidelines forbidding landlords from raising rent too much and only being able to raise it a small percentage if any, but we have not seen a lot of that with our clients. Many of our clients have had their hours cut at their job, which is why they are contacting us. Tenants that have their landlords raise their rent that much can contact our Housing Department because that may be a fair housing violation, and we can look at for them. No further questions at this time.

Meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

Executive Session

There was no executive session.

Jeff Copland, Chairman



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 20-10535 **Version:** 1 **Name:** Text to 9-1-1
Type: Presentation **Status:** Agenda Ready - Committee
File created: 10/26/2020 **In control:** City Secretary
On agenda: 1/5/2021 **Final action:**
Title: Implementation of the "Text to 9-1-1" initiative (Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG911) digital technologies) - Presented by Aubry Insko
Sponsors:
Indexes:
Code sections:
Attachments:

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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Title
Implementation of the "Text to 9-1-1" initiative (Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG911) digital technologies) - Presented by Aubry Insko



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 20-10621 **Version:** 1 **Name:** Short Term Rentals
Type: Agenda Item **Status:** Agenda Ready - Committee
File created: 11/17/2020 **In control:** City Secretary
On agenda: 1/6/2021 **Final action:**
Title: Short Term Rentals - Presented by Steve Collins, Code Compliance Manager, and Mark Dempsey, Deputy City Attorney
Sponsors:
Indexes:
Code sections:
Attachments:

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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Title
Short Term Rentals - Presented by Steve Collins, Code Compliance Manager, and Mark Dempsey, Deputy City Attorney



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 20-10721 **Version:** 1 **Name:** TDHCA EAP Funds
Type: Agenda Item **Status:** Agenda Ready - Committee
File created: 12/28/2020 **In control:** City Manager's Office
On agenda: 1/5/2021 **Final action:**

Title: Ratify Application for Texas Emergency Rental Assistance Program grant funding in the amount of \$363,210.74 for the purpose of administering rental assistance to eligible applicants in Grand Prairie through a third party administrator; Authorize City Manager to accept grant if awarded

Sponsors:
Indexes:
Code sections:
Attachments:

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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From
Andrew Fortune

Title
Ratify Application for Texas Emergency Rental Assistance Program grant funding in the amount of \$363,210.74 for the purpose of administering rental assistance to eligible applicants in Grand Prairie through a third party administrator; Authorize City Manager to accept grant if awarded

Presenter
Andrew Fortune, Manager of Legislative Affairs/Assistant to the City Manager

Recommended Action
Approve

Analysis
The City of Grand Prairie was approached by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) mid-December with the opportunity to apply for an additional \$363,210.74 in rental assistance funding. The application was submitted on the deadline of December 28th, 2020. Due to the unique timing, this item is to retroactively authorize the City to apply for these additional funds. A third party administrator contract will be brought before City Council on January 19th for consideration, with staff recommending Grand Prairie United Charities as the third party administrator. Funds will be administered in accordance with TDHCA guidelines.

Financial Consideration
None



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 20-10460 **Version:** 1 **Name:** Smoking Ordinance
Type: Agenda Item **Status:** Agenda Ready - Committee
File created: 10/6/2020 **In control:** City Council Development Committee
On agenda: 1/5/2021 **Final action:**
Title: Review of Smoking Ordinance - Presented by Cindy Mendez, Environmental Quality Manager
Sponsors:
Indexes:
Code sections:
Attachments:

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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Title
Review of Smoking Ordinance - Presented by Cindy Mendez, Environmental Quality Manager