

Public Safety Committee Meeting of September 10, 2012

Minutes

Members present: Preston Edwards, Council Member – District 3, Committee Chairman

B. J. Williams, Council Member – District 4 Jim Cahill, Council Member – District 8

Other Council: Anita Goebel, Council Member – District 2

Staff present: Mitch Bates, Chief of Police, Staff Liaison to PSC

Brad Neighbor, City Attorney

Mike Betz, Deputy City Attorney/Police Legal Advisor

Cindy Hale, Senior Administrative Assistant - Police Administration

Clint McNear, Police, Garland Police Association

Eric Brown, Fire, Garland Fire Association

Chairman Preston Edwards called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Item #1: Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

The minutes from the previous meeting held on February 6, 2012, were approved unanimously.

<u>Item #2: Discuss and consider the enforcement of the state law regarding the use of handheld communication devices</u>

The Public Safety Committee (PSC) discussed the state law regarding the prohibited use of cell phones in school zones within certain provisions. Chief Mitch Bates informed the committee that there have been no reported accidents due to cell phone use in a school zone within Garland. Brad Neighbor, City Attorney, discussed the legal issues surrounding the law enacted by the state legislature. The logistical issue involved with the required implementation of new signs in school zones was also discussed. The committee requested further information on additional alternative(s) and voted unanimously to reconvene in the near future for further discussion.

Item #3: Review and discuss enforcement options for vehicles unlawfully passing school buses when loading or unloading

Chief Bates updated the Public Safety Committee (PSC) in regard to the state law that already exists to address these violations. After further discussion, the committee voted unanimously to take no further action at this time.

Future Iter	<u>ms</u>	
1. Арр	proval of minutes	
2. The	next meeting will be scheduled at a later date.	
The meetir	ng was adjourned at 3:08 p.m.	
Submitted	By: Mitch Bates, Staff Liaison to PSC Chief of Police	on
Approved I	By: Preston Edwards, Chairman Council Member – District 3	on