The Public Safety Committee met in regular session on Wednesday, August 8, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the Seabrook Fire Station #1, 1850 East Meyer, Seabrook, Texas to discuss and if appropriate, take action on the agenda items listed below.

THOSE PRESENT WERE:

LAURA DAVIS	CHAIRPERSON
RAY COOK	SVFD FIRE CHIEF
ROY HUNTER	CLEMCCHIEF
GARRY MACK	SVFD PRESIDENT
JEFF GALYEAN	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR
DON HOLBROOK	COUNCIL MEMBER
MARC HATTON	POLICE REPRESENTATIVE
PETE BRACCIO	SEABROOK CITIZEN REPRESENTATIVE
RONICA HALL	SEABROOK CITIZEN REPRESENTATIVE
TOM MERCHANT	EL LAGO REPRESENTATIVE
MEREDITH BRANT	ASSISTANT CITY SECRETARY

Chairperson Laura Davis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Items 1 and 2 were considered together.

1. **Review submitted and/or current Public Safety Fund requests and integrate into Public Safety Fund Budget.**

2. **Review current and future budget for the Public Safety Fund.**

Ms. Davis explained that the budget for the Public Safety Fund was deliberately set for January to simplify the process and remain separate from the City's regular budget.She also added that the funds available are from collections made last year and help insure that the committee doesn't overspend. Available funds for next year are projected to be $91,200.

Jeff Galyean explained the purchases to date which total $38,440, with $15,000 allocated but not spent and a balance of $15,000 remaining. Ms. Davis added that unspent funds rollover and ten percent is set aside to capture grant money and emergency needs.

Ms. Hall asked whether the funds could be used toward acquiring a 501(c)(3) for C.E.R.T. She stated that there is a fee of $400 for non-profit accounts that would always be less than $10,000 and a fee of $850 for accounts over $10,000. Currently there is $528 in the account which is sufficient for the smaller fee, but not enough for the larger fee. Members recommended the higher fee and did not object to the use of Public Safety funds for such an expense. Ms. Hall stated that she would submit the request at the September meeting.

3. Discuss ISO rating process.

Chief Cook stated that there is no new information for this item.

4. Consider establishing an amateur radio operator facility.

Mr. Holbrook stated that the size for the building should be determined as well as the elevation required and the cost. He stated that a simple layout is required, but the fire department should provide input on the specifications. Mr. Holbrook stated that he will set up a meeting for additional input.

5. Discuss purchasing options and specifications of the mobile command unit.

Mr. Galyean stated that El Paso just purchased a mobile command unit which cost $440,000 and is similar to what the committee may be interested in. He added that this one is chassis driven and the cost of a trailer is unknown at this time. Also, the cost of housing would have to be factored in.

Chief Cook stated that the fire department may extend the covered area which might accommodate the mobile command unit.

6. Update from C.E.R.T. on progress in obtaining a 501(c)(3) including any suggestions for assistance from the Public Safety Committee..

Ms. Hall stated that C.E.R.T has received its non-profit status and is applying for its 501 (c)(3) as stated earlier in the meeting.

7. Discuss emergency planning exercises as required for funding and part of a three-year training plan.

Mr. Galyean stated that as a part of the City's Emergency Management Preparedness Grant (EMPG)'s training requirement, on the 28th of the month he will be participating in an emergency exercise with the cities of Nassau Bay and Webster. He explained that training starts as a tabletop exercise, then a functional exercise, then the actual exercise. CERT will also participate in the exercises. He stated that there will also be more training with the police department and the fire department. Exercises could be based on a pipeline explosion, a chemical spill, a boating accident, a shooter or any other type scenario which would be an emergency, placing citizens at risk. Currently, credit is not given for actual events, so it is important to train with emergency entities as well as surrounding communities.

Chief Cook stated that the Fire Department is building a better relationship with the Port through joint training for HazMat issues, leading to a regional interface where teams engage in five year commitments. In addition to better dealing with the safety issues, such interfacing also prepares for better interactions with citizens.

Other comments included the continued need for more interoperability; concerns regarding sufficient manpower; reliable communications during emergencies and continued training exercises spearheaded by the Public Safety Committee.

Motion was made by Chief Cook and seconded by President Mack

To conduct a tabletop exercise at the October 10 meeting led by Mr. Galyean.

MOTION CARRIES BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

8. Update on events affecting public safety since last meeting.

C.E.R.T. – Taylor Lake Christian Church has signed up with the Red Cross as a shelter. The next C.E.R.T. class starts January 10, 2013 and will be for eight weeks.

Fire Department – Chief Cook stated that HazMat training has been augmented by the Port of Houston. They recently received a grant in kind for the GRACE accountability system which interfaces with computers to use with air packs. It is countywide and part of a Homeland Security Grant which is substantial. It will enable them to place one repeater at each fire station as well as the chief's truck. Chief Cook also mentioned that the new fireboat was placed in service last weekend and training on it will continue.

Police Department – Captain Wright stated that nothing major has happened. Currently the PD is short two dispatchers.

CLEMC and El Lago had nothing to report.

Emergency Management – Officer Galyean stated that he is currently involved in the Harris County emergency drill.

Chairperson Davis stated that City Council has looked at revising the resolution for the Public Safety Committee in order to address the Public Safety Fund and to include membership recommendations which may be modified to include two Council members, CLEMC chief or designee, CERT coordinator, two members of SVFD (the chief and president), Chief of Police or designee and the Emergency Management Coordinator. An El Lago member would remain in an ex-officio capacity. City Council has requested that the Public Safety Committee assess the current resolution and bring a new draft resolution to Council. Ms. Davis stated that the three agenda attachments on this topic from the Council meeting last night will be sent to members. She added that the revised resolution will be for consideration at the September meeting of the committee.

9. Review/approve minutes of the Public Safety meeting of July 11, 2012.

Motion was made by Mr. Holbrook and seconded by Ms. Hall

To approve the minutes as written.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

10. Future meeting dates and agenda items.

The next meeting will be September 12 at 7:00 p.m.

Upon motion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

APPROVED THIS 12TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2012.

Laura Davis, Chairperson

Meredith Brant, TMRC
Assistant City Secretary