



TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

DATE: November 19, 2024

FROM: Shannon Montgomery, Town Secretary

AGENDA ITEM: Discuss and consider approval of a Resolution establishing a Covered Applications and Prohibited Technology Policy as required by Government Code Chapter 620 and the Office of the Governor's directive regarding the installation and use of prohibited technologies on personal devices used to conduct Town of Bartonville business.

SUMMARY:

Last session, the Texas legislature passed Senate Bill (S.B.) 1893, which prohibits the use of TikTok and certain other social media applications and services on governmental devices. The bill specifically requires cities and other political subdivisions to adopt a policy: (1) prohibiting the installation of TikTok or another covered application on any device owned or leased by the governmental entity; and (2) requiring the removal of covered applications from those devices.

Although the bill went into effect immediately upon being signed by the governor in 2023, the requirement that a city adopt a policy described above did not apply until the Department of Information Resources (DIR) and the Department of Public Safety (DPS) jointly developed a model policy for governmental entities to use in developing their local policy. The DIR/DPS model policy was released on September 16, 2024.

The draft policy adheres to the DIR/DPS model policy. The Town has been blocking the installation of TikTok on all town owned phones since Senate Bill 1893 passed in 2023.

FISCAL INFORMATION: N/A

RECOMMENDED MOTION OR ACTION:

Move to approve a Resolution establishing a Covered Applications and Prohibited Technology Policy as required by Government Code Chapter 620 and the Office of the Governor's directive regarding the installation and use of prohibited technologies on personal devices used to conduct Town of Bartonville business.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Draft Resolution and Policy