
City Council Regular Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Public Safety Communications

FROM: Paul Bradley, Director

MEETING: July 24, 2023

SUBJECT:

Consider approval of an ordinance authorizing establishment of the Burleson Public Safety Communications Department as a Law Enforcement Telecommunication Agency through the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE). (Final reading) *(Staff Contact: Paul Bradley, Director of Public Safety Communications)*

SUMMARY:

On June 1, 2020, Burleson City Council approved a contract with public safety consulting firm Mission Critical Partners to conduct an organizational assessment of the Communications Division of the Burleson Police Department. The findings of the assessment were presented to Council on October 5, 2020. Mission Critical Partners recommended that Communications be separated from the Police Department and established as a standalone department. Then City Manager Bryan Langley advised Council of the intent to establish the Public Safety Communications Department and create a Governance Committee comprised of City Management, Police and Fire Command Staff and Public Safety Communications management. Public Safety Communications has been operating as a standalone department since January 2021 under the leadership of Director Paul Bradley. The Department has a total allotted staff of 22: 1 Director, 1 Assistant Director, 1 Quality Assurance Coordinator, 1 Training Coordinator, 3 Supervisors, 3 Leads and 12 Specialists (Telecommunicators).

The Burleson Police Department currently holds the licenses of Burleson Telecommunicators through the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE). The Burleson Public Safety Communications Department wishes to be established as a TCOLE Law Enforcement Telecommunication Agency separate from the Burleson Police Department. The creation of a separate agency would allow Public Safety Communications management oversight of licensing and training records of staff; currently, Police Department staff must assist with new licenses, reporting of training and record changes for Public Safety Communications staff. Additionally, the establishment of the Public Safety Communications Department as a separate agency would place responsibility on the individual departments for TCOLE audit purposes as well as certification and continuing education tracking.

The TCOLE Law Enforcement Telecommunication Number Application requires documents from the governing body authorizing creation of the agency; i.e., municipal ordinance and minutes approving the ordinance. A memorandum, policies and other required documents will be submitted with the application. There is a \$1,000 non-refundable application fee.

The Public Safety Communications Department desires to become a TCOLE Telecommunication Agency. It is recommended that Council consider approval of an ordinance authorizing creation of the agency "Burleson Public Safety Communications Department."

The City Council considered and approved this ordinance on first reading at its July 10, 2023, meeting.

OPTIONS:

- 1) Approve the ordinance
- 2) Deny the ordinance

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the ordinance as outlined

PRIOR ACTION/INPUT (Council, Boards, Citizens):

The City Council considered and approved this ordinance on first reading at its July 10, 2023, meeting.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Budgeted: Yes

Fund Name: Public Safety Communications – Miscellaneous Expense

Amount: \$1,000.00

STAFF CONTACT:

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