



COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM MEMORANDUM

DEPT./DIVISION SUBMISSION & REVIEW:

Mitch Randles, Fire Chief

ITEM DESCRIPTION: Consider adopting a resolution authorizing the Fire Chief or their designee to apply for regular license plates and exemption from identification requirements for the Fire Marshal's office investigative vehicles.

BACKGROUND: Chapter 721 of the Texas Transportation Code requires city owned motor vehicles to have the name of the city and department plainly visible on the body of the vehicle. These vehicles are issued exempt license plates. Section 721.005 allows a municipality to use unmarked vehicles for specific purposes upon approval of the governing body and application for regular license plates. Approval has been granted in the past for police vehicles to be used in undercover work. In 2007, the Legislature amended section 721.005 so that municipal fire marshals or arson investigators could also be approved for unmarked vehicles. The Temple Fire Marshal's Office would like to utilize an unmarked vehicle for investigative purposes. Using an unmarked vehicle will help the Fire Marshal's Office facilitate undercover and surveillance work while conducting arson investigations. The Texas Department of Transportation requires a resolution by the governing body to approve any application for regular plates. If approved, this resolution will authorize the Fire Chief, or their designee, to submit an application for regular license plates and be exempt from the identification requirements for those vehicles designated to be used for investigative processes in the Temple Fire Marshal's office.

ALIGNMENT WITH ADOPTED PLANS: This resolution supports the City of Temple's Strategic Plan goal of "A safe and healthy community," as well as the Strategic Plan commitment to "Enhance our public safety services to create a safer community and foster public trust."

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval as presented

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS RECOMMENDATION: This item was not reviewed by any of the official boards and commissions.

FISCAL IMPACT: Not applicable.

ATTACHMENTS:
Resolution