

June 21, 2013

**To:** Honorable Mayor Gayle McLaughlin and Members of the City Council

**From:** Public Safety and Public Services Standing Committee

**Subject:** Summary of the Meeting of the Public Safety and Public Services Standing Committee, Thursday, June 20, 2013, at 10:05 a.m.

**Present:** Chair Bates and Councilmember Boozé.

**Absent:** Councilmember Myrick arrived at 10:32 a.m.

**THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING IS AS FOLLOWS:**

1. Receive a status report from Code Enforcement regarding compliance issues with the Allied Box Company located at 1015 Chesley.

*Councilmember Boozé gave an overview of the matter. Code Enforcement Superintendent, Denee Evans, stated that on May 6, 2011, Code Enforcement responded to the site regarding zoning ordinance violations. There were a number of businesses at the site without proper permits for the business they were conducting and improper discarding of waste. To date, there have been citations issued in the amount of \$750 for accumulation of debris. Councilmember Boozé requested that this matter be placed on the next Public Safety Committee meeting agenda for an update and with additional information. Chair Bates suggested that Councilmember Boozé meet with staff and the company to attempt to resolve the violation issues and attempt to bring them into compliance; therefore the matter would not need to return to the committee.*

2. Receive a status report and provide direction to staff regarding compliance with residential parking of a motor home on Bell Court.

*Code Enforcement Superintendent, Denee Evans, stated that an unapproved parking pad was observed with an RV on top of it. Notices have been issued to register the vehicle as a Planned Non-Operational (PNO) vehicle. The pad was approved by the Planning Department. The outstanding issue at this time is the refusal from the owner to retain a PNO from the DMV. Chair Bates requested that this matter be placed on the City Council agenda to set a policy regarding motor homes and if they are allowed to be on the street or stored at all in the city. Chair Bates requested that legal staff be present at Public Safety Committee meetings and referred the issue to the city attorney to look into the current ordinance pertaining to motor homes with a report to the committee at the next meeting.*

3. Receive a report from Captain Gagan regarding Flash Cam surveillance.

*Captain Mark Gagan stated that the two cameras have been placed on two of the top dumping hot spots. The committee requested that the cost of flashcams be provided and added to the upcoming budget checklist. Citizens are encouraged to report dumping to the dumping hotline or the police department's non-emergency number. Chair Bates suggested that the police department come up with a proposal that expands the city's camera surveillance coverage for curtailing of dumping and prostitution and return to the next committee meeting for an update. Jackie Thompson gave comments.*

4. Discussion and Recommendation regarding public safety strategy in curtailing crime in the city of Richmond.

*Councilmember Bates gave an overview of the matter. Chair Bates suggested police dogs should be trained to detect weapons also. Alternative solutions and approaches need to be undertaken to attempt to curtail crime, such as curfews and search and seizure of vehicles occupied by parolees, etc. Chair Bates also suggested that businesses be required to install cameras on their property. Deputy Chief Allwyn Brown stated that the police dogs are already trained in locating firearms and the department will be participating soon in a gun buyback program. The daytime curfew ordinance has been very effective also. A workshop will be scheduled in September with members of the Public Safety Committee and administrative members of the police department to further discuss potential strategies against crime.*

### **OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jackie Thompson stated that on Sundays on Cutting Boulevard between 17<sup>th</sup> Street and 22<sup>nd</sup> Street cars are parked on the sidewalk and across the sidewalks and entrances to driveways. Ms. Thompson also asked if the public is aware of where the earthquake shelters are located throughout the city. Also, there aren't enough disabled parking spots around city hall.

Chair Bates asked for information on how many disabled parking spots are located around city hall.

The meeting adjourned at 10:53 a.m.