



MEMORANDUM

To: City of Seguin Mayor and Council
From: Andy Quittner, City Attorney *Andy Quittner*
Date: September 14, 2017
Re: Resolution Declaring a local disaster

Protecting the public from and after a hurricane or other calamity can be a challenge; even more so if a municipality is forced to work within the normal rules that govern contracting, collecting debris, repairing utilities, and protecting the health and safety of its residents and visitors. Recognizing these issues state law was passed that allowed a municipality to pass a declaration of emergency (or disaster) in a time where a real threat of emergency exists. Such a declaration works to loosen some rules, such as bidding requirements, provides other avenues to act as needed, and sets the initial groundwork for possible reimbursement for disaster costs from other governmental agencies, such as FEMA.

The damage caused by a storm, such as Harvey, remain for a period of time after the storm has passed. In many cases the time period is measured in months. Even though Seguin was lucky, and the damage was light, it still exists.

The City has collected nearly 30,000 cubic yards of debris and staff believes this will climb to nearly 50,000 cubic yards when city staff finishes collection for all of City property.

The debris will be chipped into mulch before disposal during the first week of October. At that time it will be ready for disposal. In order to keep all options open, and to assist in filing for disaster reimbursement, passing the attached resolution is requested. This Resolution extends a declaration of disaster until the end of October.