

CONSIDER AWARDING PROPOSAL FOR CITY DEPOSITORY SERVICES: Mr. Ozley stated that the City had issued a Request For Proposals for Depository Services in accordance with State law and that one (1) bid was received and reviewed by staff. Staff recommended awarding First Financial the contract, as it was deemed to be the most advantageous to the City. Councilmember Borne moved to award the bid for City depository services to First Financial and Mayor Pro Tem Badon seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

INVOICES: City Manager D.E. Sosa presented invoices for payment totaling \$18,156.76 as follows:

Delta Industrial Svc.	Class A foam and bunker gear for Fire Dept.	5,725.00
P&P Trailer Sales	Equipment trailer	6,454.00
Republic Services	Sludge Disposal	5,977.76

Mayor Pro Tem Badon moved to approve payment of the invoices totaling \$18,156.76 and Councilmember Hollier seconded. Mayor Bailey asked for questions and Mayor Pro Tem Badon asked if the bunker gear was a budgeted item. Mr. Sosa stated that it was. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Bailey asked for Councilmember comments. Councilmember Hollier reported that he had received a letter from the Texas-DX Society, thanking him for the role he played in allowing them to operate an amateur (Ham) radio station from the pavillion at Lions Park on July 30, 2020. Councilmember Hollier stated that the letter included information showing that the group had 2-way communications with other operators as far north as Canada. This was a practice to increase communication levels across the state, country, and world in times of emergency.

Mayor Bailey reported that as of August 3, 2020 the City had 42 active cases of COVID-19 and a total of 161 cases, with an increase of 114 cases in July. The CDC recommendation is to have parks and the spray pad manned to wipe down equipment as it is used. Therefore, the City's parks will remain closed for the time being, as the City does not have the manpower to have employees stationed at these locations.

There was no further discussion and the meeting was adjourned at 5:34 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Groves City Council was held August 3, 2020 in the Groves City Council Chamber with Mayor Brad Bailey, Mayor Pro Tem Sidney Badon, Councilmember Chris Borne, Councilmember Kyle Hollier, and Councilmember Karen Theis in attendance. Mayor Bailey called the meeting to order and welcomed the attendees. Mayor Pro Tem Badon led the prayer and pledge of allegiance.

APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 20, 2020 CITY COUNCIL MEETING: Councilmember Theis moved to approve the minutes of the July 20, 2020 City Council meeting as written and Councilmember Borne seconded. Mayor Bailey asked for discussion and there was none. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Bailey asked for citizen comments and there were none.

CITY MANAGER AND DEPARTMENT BUDGET PRESENTATIONS: City Manager D.E. Sosa stated that he would be giving an overview in draft form and that there are several things that the staff is waiting on before the budget can be finalized. At this time we do not have the calculations that Jefferson County makes on what we call the effective tax rate. That formula tells us what the tax rate would be in light of the increased values or the "Effective Tax Rate". There is a new consideration this year that deals with percentages and the requirement to hold an election if the percentage is over 3.5%. We are calculating and presenting this budget with the same tax rate of .007616 that we have used for the last two years and are optimistic that the calculations will not require an election for the tax rate (report attached). Mayor Bailey thanked Mr. Sosa for the report.

CONSIDER AWARDING PROPOSAL FOR CITY AUDITOR: Director of Finance Lamar Ozley stated that the City had issued a Request For Proposals for auditing services in accordance with State law with the proposed term of three (3) years with two one (1) year options. RFPs were mailed to nine (9) firms in the state and three (3) bids were received: BrooksWatson & Co. (\$37,225, \$38,200, \$39,231); Wathen, DeShong & Juncker (\$30,950, \$30,950, \$31,500); Beasley, Mitchell & Co. (\$37,168, \$38,282, \$39,430). Staff recommended awarding the bid to Wathen, DeShong & Juncker.

Councilmember Hollier made a motion to award the proposal for City Auditing Services to Wathen, DeShong & Juncker of Beaumont, TX in the amount of \$30,950 for 2020, \$30,950 for 2021, and \$31,500 for 2022. Councilmember Theis seconded and the motion passed unanimously.