

A special meeting of the Groves City Council was held September 29, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. in the Groves City Council Chamber with Mayor Chris Borne, Mayor Pro Tem Sidney Badon, Councilmember Rhonda Dugas, Councilmember Mark McAdams, and Councilmember Paul Oliver in attendance. Mayor Borne called the meeting to order and led the prayer and pledge of allegiance. Mayor Borne welcomed the attendees.

Mayor Borne asked for citizen comments pertaining to the two items on the agenda and there were none.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GROVES, TEXAS FOR THE 2021-2022 FISCAL YEAR, APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR DISBURSEMENT FOR THE VARIOUS PURPOSES AND USES OF THE CITY, PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE, AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE: City Attorney James Black read the caption to proposed Ordinance No. 2021-13 as follows: "Annual Appropriation Ordinance of the City of Groves for the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year, appropriating funds for disbursement for the various purposes and uses of the City, providing an effective date." Mayor Pro Tem Badon moved to approve Ordinance No. 2021-13 (appropriation ordinance for fiscal year 2021-2022), and Councilmember Dugas seconded. Mayor Borne asked for questions. Councilmember McAdams asked Mr. Black if the special meeting was a legal meeting and Mr. Black stated that it was. Mayor Borne asked if the wording of the motion was correct and Mr. Black stated it was. Motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE TAX ASSESSMENT ROLLS FOR THE YEAR 2021, LEVYING AND ASSESSING TAXES FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE CITY OF GROVES AND THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT THEREOF; APPORTIONING EACH LEVY FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES; LEVYING AND ASSESSING OCCUPATION TAXES AND A HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX; PROVIDING THE DATE FOR THE COLLECTION OF TAXES; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE: City Attorney James Black presented proposed Ordinance 2021-14, reading the caption as follows: "An ordinance approving the tax assessment rolls for the year 2021, levying and assessing taxes for the support of the City of Groves and the municipal government thereof; apportioning each levy for specific purposes; and levying and assessing a hotel occupancy tax; providing the date for the collection of taxes; providing a savings clause; and providing an effective date." Councilmember Dugas made a motion to approve the ordinance as follows: "I move that the City of Groves adopt a property tax rate of \$0.653446, consisting of a M&O rate of \$0.595924 and an I&S rate of \$0.057522, which is equal to the no-new-revenue tax rate. This tax rate will raise more taxes for maintenance and operations than last year's tax rate." Councilmember McAdams seconded the motion. Mayor Borne reread the motion to adopt the tax rate and then asked if there were any questions. Mayor Borne asked Mr. Black if the ordinance followed the law appropriately and Mr. Black stated that it did. There were no other questions and the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Borne adjourned the meeting at 5:07 p.m.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk

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A regular meeting of the Groves City Council was held October 11, 2021 in the Groves City Council Chamber with Mayor Chris Borne, Mayor Pro Tem Sidney Badon, Councilmember Rhonda Dugas, and Councilmember Paul Oliver in attendance. Councilmember Mark McAdams was not present at the meeting. Mayor Borne called the meeting to order and welcomed the attendees. He also led the prayer and pledge of allegiance.

APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 27, 2021 CITY COUNCIL MEETING AND THE SEPTEMBER 29, 2021 SPECIAL MEETING: Mayor Pro Tem Badon moved to approve the minutes of the September 27, 2021 City Council Meeting and the September 29, 2021 Special Meeting as written and Councilmember Dugas seconded. Mayor Borne asked for discussion and there was none. Motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING THE 2021 GROVES PECAN FESTIVAL ROYALTY: Mayor Borne presented a proclamation recognizing the 2021 Groves Pecan Festival Royalty as follows: Queen Isabelle Colin, Princess Alesandria Cardenas, Junior Miss Molli Lira, Countess Lilyian Hallmark, Duchess Savannah Schrader, Little Miss Aspen Guy, Petite Miss Abella Ceja. Mayor Borne congratulated the royalty on behalf of the City Council and presented proclamations to each of them.

Mayor Borne asked for reports and there were none.

Mayor Borne asked for citizen comments and Michael Campise of 6575 Verde (who is a Ward No. 3 candidate for City Council) presented a timeline of when some of his campaign signs had been stolen. He requested that whoever is taking his signs cease from doing so.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A CARNIVAL LICENSE APPLICATION FOR THE GROVES PECAN FESTIVAL TO BE HELD IN LIONS PARK NOVEMBER 4TH – 7TH, 2021: Ronnie Boneau of the Groves Chamber of Commerce addressed the Council and stated that they had been given copies of the carnival license application submitted by Wagner's Carnival, along with Wagner's certificate of liability insurance. Mr. Boneau explained that Wagner's had listed 18 rides on their application, but that only some of them would be brought to the Pecan Festival and that the rides chosen would be at the owner's discretion. He stated that he had the required state inspection records for the rides and that Fire Chief Lance Billeaud will inspect the rides the day before the festival opens. Councilmember Dugas made a motion to approve the carnival license application for the Groves Pecan Festival to be held in Lions Park November 4th – 7th, 2021 and Councilmember Oliver seconded. Mayor

Borne asked for discussion and asked if the Pecan Festival had used Wagner's Carnival before. Mr. Boneau stated yes and that Wagner's had been at the Pecan Festival for many years. Councilmember Oliver asked if the Chamber of Commerce pays a fee per ride. Mr. Boneau explained that the Chamber gets a percentage of the proceeds made at the carnival. Motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX REVENUE FUNDS TO BE USED FOR ADVERTISING COSTS FOR THE GROVES PECAN FESTIVAL: Ronnie Boneau, representative for the Groves Chamber of Commerce, stated that the Chamber had been applying for these funds to cover advertising costs for the Groves Pecan Festival since 2004. He explained that the Chamber was requesting \$15,000 from the City's Hotel/Motel tax fund. He referenced the advertising layout proposed by the Chamber which includes radio, digital, television, billboard, and newspaper advertisements for a total of \$16,090. He stated that the Chamber would cover the remaining \$1,090 balance for the ads. Councilmember Dugas moved to approve the application for hotel occupancy tax revenue funds to be used for advertising costs for the Groves Pecan Festival and Mayor Pro Tem Badon seconded. Councilmember Dugas asked if advertising would be done on Facebook and Mr. Boneau stated that it would. Mayor Borne asked City Manager D.E. Sosa if the City has the funds to approve this request. Mr. Sosa stated yes, there are adequate funds to cover the request. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Boneau thanked the Mayor, Council, and City on behalf of the Chamber and Pecan Festival Board. Motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$23,160.00 FROM FIREHOUSE SUBS FOR THREE (3) THERMAL IMAGING CAMERAS AND ACCESSORIES: Mr. Sosa recognized Fire Chief Lance Billeaud and Firefighter Haden Grove. Chief Billeaud explained that Mr. Grove had found this grant and done all of the paperwork and applied for the grant all on his own. Mayor Pro Tem Badon moved to accept the grant for \$23,160.00 from Firehouse subs for three (3) thermal imaging cameras w/accessories and Councilmember Oliver seconded. Mayor Borne asked if this is the first grant the Groves Fire Department has gotten from Firehouse Subs and Mr. Grove stated that it is. Councilmember Oliver asked if the fire department currently has thermal imaging and Chief Billeaud stated that they have had two cameras since 2012. He explained that thermal imaging helps firefighters locate fires and victims also. Mayor Borne asked if the grant will allow one camera per fire truck. Mr. Grove stated that was correct, and at this time the department has two cameras and three fire trucks. Chief Billeaud remarked that the new cameras be an upgrade. Mayor Borne thanked Mr. Grove for his efforts. Chief Billeaud also

thanked Mr. Grove for taking the lead and spending numerous hours on the grant. Mr. Grove thanked Chief Billeaud and the other firefighters for helping him with the grant process. Motion passed unanimously.

INVOICES: City Manager D.E. Sosa presented invoices for payment totaling \$1,337,073.82 as follows:

Crabtree Barricade	Traffic striping for Monroe Blvd.	11,007.40
Durotech	Fire Station construction- August (762,981.40); September (481,285.87).	1,244,267.27
Fuelman	Gas and diesel fuel for September 2021.	22,294.51
Wesley Nugent	Crescent tower fence.	6,375.00
PNGISD	Summer Recreation participation	10,000.00
Pump Solutions	#4 high service electric motor replacement (WP).	10,483.00
Republic Svc.	Peace and Dignity Program – 4748 Beaumont, 6540 Capitol, 5509 E. Parkway, 4249 Taft, 5252 Twin City, 6141 25 th , 5225 33 rd , 6616 32 nd , 4432 Lawndale, Monroe/Indian Springs, 5905 25 th , 5505 25 th , 3328 Pure Atlantic, 3329 Pure Atlantic, 6555 Washington, 3211 Canal, 6154 25 th , 2620 1 st .	8,846.64
Soutex Surveyors	Engineering on Hitt St. project (street, drainage, and sewer improvements).	12,800.00
Vector Controls	Stream and current monitor (WP).	11,000.00

Councilmember Dugas moved to approve payment of the invoices totaling \$1,337,073.82 and Mayor Pro Tem Badon seconded. Mayor Borne asked for questions and asked if the electric motor replacement (Pump Solutions) was scheduled. Mr. Sosa stated that it was an emergency item. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Borne asked for Councilmember comments and Councilmember Dugas thanked Mr. Boneau for his work on the Groves Pecan Festival. There was no further business and Mayor Borne adjourned the meeting at 5:28 p.m.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk

A Joint Public Hearing was held October 11, 2021, in the Groves City Council Chamber with the following councilmembers present: Mayor Chris Borne, Mayor Pro Tem Sidney Badon, Councilmember Rhonda Dugas, and Councilmember Paul Oliver. Councilmember Mark McAdams was not present. Planning and Zoning Commission members present were Rodney Pacetti, Craig Plokhooy, and Michael Presley, Alternates Rod Hatch and Michael Campise, and Building Official Don Pedraza.

Mayor Borne called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m., reading the Notice of Public Hearing as follows: "Notice is hereby given that a Joint Public Hearing between City Councilmembers and Planning and Zoning Commissioners will be held on Monday, October 11, 2021, directly following the regular City Council meeting, which begins at 5:00 pm at 3947 Lincoln Avenue. Request by Building Official for the change of ordinances listed herein. To consider two amendment changes to the Groves Zoning Ordinances. Items to be discussed: Article VIII Zoning District Regulations: Section (8-302) Minimum Lot Widths and Section (8-705) Permitted Uses. This meeting is a Joint Public Hearing in compliance with the rezoning ordinance of the City of Groves."

Mayor Borne stated that there would be a brief report from Building Official Don Pedraza. Mr. Pedraza stated that the first item addresses a change in the lot width requirement for duplexes. He explained that the change does not affect single family homes and that, technically, on every building the front door is supposed to be facing wherever the address is. Mr. Pedraza then discussed the second item and stated that it is in response to zoning issues on Main Ave. He explained that Main Ave. is zoned C-2 which allows trucking companies to locate there. Because Main Ave. is mixed with residential and commercial property, there are problems with noise and residents in that area are concerned. This change will move trucking companies into C-3 and there will be conditions to be met as C-3 is Heavy Commercial District and C-2 is Light Commercial District. Councilmember Oliver stated that this changes C-2 and Mayor Borne clarified, stating that it is not changing C-2, but moving trucking companies from C-2 to C-3. Mr. Pedraza remarked that this change will make for easier access for the trucks to their businesses.

Mayor Borne asked for questions/comments from the Council and there were none. Mayor Borne asked for questions/comments from the Planning and Zoning Commission. Rodney Pacetti stated that one of the issues has been ingress and egress for the businesses' safety, as the drives at the trucking businesses are too narrow. Mr. Pedraza agreed and stated that is another reason he is not giving building permits for buildings that do not fit on the lot the right way. Mayor Borne asked for citizen comments and there were none.

Mayor Borne stated that no action would be taken at this meeting and that the Planning and Zoning Commission would be meeting and making a recommendation to the Council for consideration at a later date. He also thanked the Planning and Zoning Commission for their efforts on behalf of the City. There was no further business and Mayor Borne adjourned the meeting at 5:44 p.m.



Mayor

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