

A regular meeting of the Groves City Council was held April 11, 2022 in the Groves City Council Chamber with Mayor Chris Borne, Mayor Pro Tem Rhonda Dugas, Councilmember Mark McAdams, Councilmember Paul Oliver and Councilmember Rob Vensel in attendance. Mayor Borne called the meeting to order and welcomed the attendees. Councilmember Rob Vensel then led the prayer and pledge of allegiance.

APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 28, 2022 CITY COUNCIL MEETING: Councilmember Rob Vensel moved to approve the minutes of the March 28, 2022 City Council Meeting as written and Councilmember Mark McAdams seconded. Mayor Borne asked for questions and there were none. Motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF A PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13TH AS GO ORANGE DAY: Mayor Borne issued a Proclamation designating APRIL 13, 2022 as Go Orange Day to Joey Breaux from Public Works.

PRESENTATION OF A PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING APRIL AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH: Mayor Borne issued a Proclamation designating April as Fair Housing Month.

Mayor Borne asked for reports and City Manager D.E. Sosa stated that there were none. Mayor Borne then asked for citizen comments and there were none.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER AUTHORIZING THE CLOSURE OF LINCOLN AVE. FROM CAPITAL TO JEFFERSON ON SUNDAY, MAY 1ST FROM 10 A.M. TO 7 P.M. FOR A DOWNTOWN CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATION: Councilmember Mark McAdams made a motion to discuss and consider authorizing the closure of Lincoln Ave. from Capital to Jefferson on Sunday, May 1st from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. for a downtown Cinco de Mayo celebration. Councilmember Rob Vensel seconded. Mayor Chris Borne asked what boutique the representative Elizabeth is from and she stated that she owns Boutique and Bling which is located in the front of the Courtyard. Mayor Pro Tem Rhonda Dugas then asked Elizabeth where do the profits from this event go. Mrs. Elizabeth stated that the money collected from the vendors is going back into the event. It will be used for the bounce house, ice cream truck, and food. Mayor Pro Tem Dugas then asked if it is 4 businesses besides yourself and Elizabeth stated that yes but they will also have 20 paid vendors. The vendors will rent the space so they can sell their merchandise. Councilmember Paul Oliver then asked if they are looking into making this an annual event and Mrs. Elizabeth said possibly. Councilmember Oliver also asked if there would be security there and Mrs. Elizabeth stated that at the previous events they did not have any, they just gave the road closure barricades. Mayor Pro Tem Dugas asked if there would be Police presence

and Mrs. Elizabeth stated that they did not have any at the previous events in October and December. Mayor Pro Tem Dugas stated that we have reports that Police were present at those events. City Manager D.E. Sosa stated that the Police did make presence but they were not asked to be there by the event coordinators. Mayor Pro Tem Dugas asked if they would be able to make a presence for this event also and City Manager Sosa stated that they would be able to. Councilmember Oliver asked what time of the day will the event actually start and Mrs. Elizabeth stated from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Dugas asked again about security and Mrs. Elizabeth said that they could pay for security if needed. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE CONTRACT EXTENSION BETWEEN DRC EMERGENCY SERVICES AND THE CITY OF GROVES AND CERES AND THE CITY OF GROVES: City Councilmember Rob Vensel made a motion to consider approval of the contract extension between DRC Emergency Services and the City of Groves and CERES and the City of Groves. Mayor Pro Tem Rhonda Dugas seconded. City Manager D.E. Sosa stated that this is a contract that we currently have but has expired. This will be a one-year extension for DRC and a two-year extension for CERES. City Manager Sosa stated that we are getting ready for hurricane season and these two companies have done a really good job in the past. Mayor Borne asked if DRC is the debris removal and CERES is the monitor and Mr. Sosa stated that was correct. Mayor Borne asked if there were any other questions and there were none. Motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSS AND REVIEW IMPROVEMENT OPTIONS TO CITY WASTE WATER PLANT: City Manager D.E. Sosa stated that we are at a decision-making point on what direction the Council wants to take on the Groves Wastewater Improvement Project. This project started in July of 2020, please see attached report for details. Mayor Pro Tem Dugas asked when was the last time we increased fees, and City Manager D.E. Sosa stated that we haven't increased maintenance fees in 5 or 6 years. He then stated that last year we had a small increase for water and sewer base rates. Councilmember Paul Oliver asked what the yearly budget is for the facility for maintenance. City Manager D.E. Sosa stated that it's about \$160,000 to \$200,000 and about \$100,000 of that has been going straight to the lift stations. Mr. Sosa said that the lift stations are great now so we can take the hundred thousand we were using for that and put it towards the sewer plant. Councilmember Paul Oliver asked if we do a work session then can we make sure our workers are there along with Schneider and Mr. Sosa stated that they would be. City Manager D.E. Sosa stated that we can schedule a work session for Monday, April 18th.

APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR PRO TEM RHONDA DUGAS AS EX-OFFICIO FOR THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION: Mayor Borne stated that he as Mayor appoints Mayor Pro Tem Dugas as the Ex-Officio for the Planning and Zoning Commission.

CONSIDER SETTING A DATE FOR A JOINT PUBLIC HEARING IN REGARD TO THE REQUEST FOR A SPECIFIC USE PERMIT, ALLOWING AN RV PARK AT LT 4 TR 2 BLK 4 RG C PALCO 5.62 AC: Mayor Pro Tem Dugas made a motion to consider setting a date for a Joint Public Hearing in regard to the request for a Specific Use Permit, allowing an RV Park at LT 4 TR 2 BLK 4 RG C PALCO 5.62 AC. Councilmember Rob Vensel seconded. Mayor Borne made a motion to set a Joint Public Hearing following the City Council meeting on May 9, 2022 regarding allowing an RV Park at LT 4 TR 1 BLK 4 RG C PALCO 5.62 AC. Mayor Pro Tem Dugas seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2022-02 ADOPTING THE OFFICIAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICY AS RELATED TO THE USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS AND ADOPTING ITS OFFICIAL PROCUREMENT POLICY AS RELATED TO THE FEDERAL FUNDS: City Attorney James Black presented proposed Resolution No. 2022-02 reading the caption as follows: "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Groves, Texas, Adopting 2 CFR 200, Subpart D, Sections 200.300 through 200.309 as its Official Financial Management Policy as related to the use of Federal Funds; and adopting 2 CFR 200, subpart D, sections 200.317 through 200.327 as its official procurement policy as related to use of federal funds; and agreeing to adhere to all guidelines defined in 2 CFR 200, subpart D, sections 200.300 through 200.309, and sections 200.317 through 200.327, attached to this resolution as Exhibit "A"." Mayor Pro Tem Dugas moved to consider approval of Resolution 2022-02 adopting the official financial management policy as related to the use of Federal Funds and adopting its Official Procurement Policy as related to the Federal Funds. Councilmember Rob Vensel seconded. Mayor Borne asked the Director of finance, Lamar Ozley if this is needed to complete our review from the GLO funds. Mr. Ozley stated that was correct, this is a new requirement that they are adding to federal grants we may receive in the future. He also stated that it is not very different than what we already have in place, but they are formalizing this for us and every other community that receives these grants so we all have the same rules. Councilmember Paul Oliver asked Mr. Ozley what has changed regarding this new policy. Mr. Ozley stated that usually it is attached to the grant itself but this is more like a master agreement or procurement policy that will apply to any and all grants going forward from the Federal Government versus a contract by contract. One of the

main changes are if we earn more than \$500 interest in our bank account from a grant then we have to remit anything that's over the \$500 back to the Federal Government and they lay out the procedures to do that. Mayor Pro Tem Dugas asked who will oversee us to make sure that we are compliant with all of the laws. Mr. Ozley stated City Manager D.E. Sosa, myself, Mr. Waxmans office and our 3rd party auditor. Mayor Borne asked if there were any other questions and there were none. Motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 2022-03 AMENDING THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION WHICH WAS TABLED AT THE MARCH 28, 2022 MEETING: Councilmember Rob Vensel made a motion to un table the item for considering approval of Ordinance 2022-03 amending the qualifications for the Planning and Zoning Commission which was tabled at the March 28, 2022 meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Rhonda Dugas seconded. Mayor Pro Tem Dugas then made a motion to amend Ordinance 2022-03 as proposed at the March 28, 2022 City Council Meeting, with the new wording as follows, "The members of the commission shall be citizens of the United States of America, qualified voters of the State of Texas and the City of Groves. Each shall have resided within the corporate limits of the City for at least six (6) months prior to their appointment. Any member of the Commission ceasing to possess any of these qualifications, or convicted of a felony while in office, shall immediately forfeit his/her position on the Commission. He/She must meet the same qualifications as a candidate for Mayor and Councilmember." Councilmember Rob Vensel then seconded the motion to amend. Motion to amend passed with Mayor Pro Tem Dugas, Councilmember Oliver, Councilmember Vensel, and Councilmember McAdams for amending the item and Mayor Borne against.

INVOICES: City Manager D.E. Sosa presented invoices for payment totaling \$199,681.07 as follows:

A&J Engine Service Inc.	Diagnostic computer for heavy equipment (Garage).	5,000.00
Chameleon Industries	Polymer for Water Plant.	29,549.00
Chemtex Environmental	Lab Charges. (Jan. \$3,165) (Feb. \$3,025). Public Works.	6,190.00

City of Port Arthur	Sludge Disposal (2,000); Partial Feb./Mar. 2022 Landfill Fees (16,395)	18,395.00
Durotech Inc.	March payment for construction on New Fire Station.	61,299.75
Fuelman of Lafayette	Gas and diesel fuel for February 2022.	19,886.12
Otto Environmental Systems	Garbage Cans – Public Works.	32,235.00
Philpot Motors	Fire Chief water pump job and Outside repair on Dogcatcher truck.	5,091.06
Republic Services	Peace and Dignity, new home, and demolition. 4748 Beaumont, 3711 Boyd, 3211 Canal, 3824 Charles, 5901 David, 5410 Grant, 6515 Kennedy, 3328 Pure Atlantic, 5905 25 th , Monroe Indian Springs, 6762 Jefferson, 6200 Mire, 5120 Simpson, 6660 32 nd , 4401 Lincoln, 5225 33 rd , 6230 Terrell, 6285 39 th .	9,535.14
Trac-N-Trol	Engineering design for water plant SCADA system upgrade.	12,500.00

Councilmember Vensel moved to approve payment of the invoices totaling \$199,681.07 and Councilmember McAdams seconded. Mayor Borne asked for Questions. Mayor Pro Tem Dugas asked how many more payments do we have for the New Fire Station. Lamar Ozley stated that all we should have left is the retainage. Mayor Borne then stated that if they already turned that Station over to us then they should have already billed us complete and they just have to nitpick and then they get the retainage back. Mayor Pro Tem Dugas then asked about the SCADA system upgrade and Troy Foxworth Public Works Director stated that is the control over the entire water plant in regards to the computer system that links the pumps, motors, etc. together. Mayor Borne then asked if this is just the design portion of it and will there be software and hardware to be purchased in the future. Mr. Foxworth stated that is correct. Councilmember Rob Vensel asked how many trash cans did we get


for \$32,000 and D.E. Sosa said it was 500 units. There were no other questions and motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Borne asked for Councilmember comments. Councilmember Vensel stated that we had a very nice Easter Egg Hunt this past weekend with a great turnout with approximately 130 kids showing up.

There was no further business and Mayor Borne adjourned the meeting at 5:52 p.m.



Mayor

ATTEST:


City Clerk