

A regular meeting of the Groves City Council was held December 5, 2022 in the Groves City Council Chamber with Mayor Chris Borne, Mayor Pro Tem Rhonda Dugas, Councilmember Rob Vensel, Councilmember Mark McAdams and Councilmember Paul Oliver in attendance. Mayor Borne called the meeting to order and welcomed the attendees. Representatives from the local VFW then led the prayer and pledge of allegiance.

APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 21, 2022 CITY COUNCIL MEETING: Councilmember Mark McAdams moved to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2022 City Council Meeting as written and Councilmember Rob Vensel seconded. Mayor Borne asked for discussion and Councilmember Vensel stated that there was one correction that needed to be made and City Clerk Clarissa Thibodeaux stated that it has already been fixed. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Borne asked for reports and City Manager D.E. Sosa stated that he had one and wanted to let Council know that Bay, Allison and Woodlawn are about 98 percent complete. Mr. Sosa then stated that they only have a little more cul-de-sac to do then they will be going to Phase II of the programs. There were no further reports.

Mayor Borne then asked for citizen comments and there were none.

AUTHORIZE CITY MANAGER TO OBTAIN AN APPRAISAL ON THE OLD FIRE STATION FOR FUTURE SALE: Councilmember Mark McAdams made a motion to authorize the City Manager to obtain an appraisal on the Old Fire Station for future sale and Councilmember Rob Vensel seconded. Councilmember Paul Oliver then asked City Manager D.E. Sosa why do we have to sell it and Mr. Sosa stated that we do not have to sell it but this could possibly lead to funds to be able to put in the savings account. City Manager D.E. Sosa then stated that the Old Fire Station is not doing us any good just sitting there and that there has been some minor interest in it but we can't do anything without an appraisal. Councilmember Paul Oliver stated that he would like to see the City keep it because we are limited to the amount of property that we have. Councilmember Oliver then stated that if we lease it then we make the tenant responsible for the upkeep of the building but the City still owns it. City Manager D.E. Sosa then stated that this is just a recommendation that if Council doesn't want to get an appraisal then that's ok. Mayor Pro Tem Rhonda Dugas stated that she would like to keep the building also but would like to see an appraisal too.

Councilmember Paul Oliver then suggested that if we aren't going to sell it then we should not waste the money on an appraisal and suggested that we get a market analysis instead. City Manager D.E. Sosa stated that he could get a market analysis this week. Councilmember Mark McAdams amended his motion to authorize City

Manager to obtain a market analysis for the Old Fire Station and Rob Vensel seconded. Motion passes with Mayor Pro Tem Dugas, Councilmember McAdams, Councilmember Oliver and Councilmember Vensel for the motion. Mayor Borne was against the motion.

DISCUSS AND TAKE-ACTION AUTHORIZING ONE EYED JACKS PRODUCTIONS TO FILM IN SPIKES PARK ON JANUARY 15TH FROM 1 P.M. TO 5 P.M.:

Councilmember Rob Vensel made a motion to discuss and take-action authorizing One Eyed Jacks Productions to film in Spikes Park on January 15th from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. and Councilmember McAdams seconded. City Manager D.E. Sosa stated that the production company is present if Council has any questions. The representative stated that it is going to be a short film and then proceeded to tell Council about said film. Mayor Borne then asked if they had some type of insurance to cover the people that will be working on the movie and they production team stated they do not but will however make the crew sign a waiver so they can't sue the City. Mayor Pro Tem Dugas then asked if the production company could get those waivers to Mr. Sosa so he could then get them to Council and they agreed they could. There were no further questions and the motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER CANCELING OR RESCHEDULING THE JANUARY 2, 2022 CITY COUNCIL MEETING DUE TO THE OBSERVANCE OF NEW YEARS:

Councilmember Rob Vensel made a motion to consider canceling or rescheduling the January 2, 2022 Council Meeting Due to the observance of New Years and Mayor Pro Tem Dugas seconded. Councilmember Rob Vensel amended his motion to reschedule the meeting to January 3, 2023. There were no further questions and the motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER CANCELING OR RESCHEDULING THE JANUARY 16, 2022 CITY COUNCIL MEETING DUE TO THE OBSERVANCE OF MLK DAY: Councilmember Rob Vensel made a motion to consider canceling or rescheduling the January 16, 2023 City Council Meeting due to the observance of MLK Day and Councilmember McAdams seconded. Council then agreed to move that date to Tuesday, January 17, 2023. There were no questions and the motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSS AND TAKE-ACTION ON THE SCOPE OF IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE GROVES WASTE WATER PLANT: Councilmember Rob Vensel made a motion to discuss and take-action on the scope of improvements for the Groves Waste Water Plant and Mayor Pro Tem Dugas seconded. Councilmember Paul Oliver asked if they are wanting Council to approve Schneider Electric to move forward and City Manager

D.E. Sosa stated that Council just needs to decide which scope they would like to move forward with. Mayor Borne then stated that in his opinion City Manager D.E. Sosa and Finance Director Lamar Ozley have given us a valuable way to pay for the project and his recommendation would be to do all four scopes. Mayor Borne then stated that it is our duty to use money that we collect to repair any infrastructure that needs to be repaired. Councilmember Paul Oliver then stated that he feels that the money is available today but that money will also need to be available for the next 20 years and we don't know if it will be. Councilmember Oliver then stated that he feels we need to get multiple contractors to come out and give us bids for each scope broken down then fix one thing at a time as we have the money available. Mayor Borne then responded by saying if your dishwasher breaks then you save up for a new dishwasher and if your roof blows off you get a new roof, you don't save up for it. Mayor Borne then stated that this is not small projects for the City but sometimes you have to bite the bullet. Mayor Pro Tem Rhonda Dugas asked Finance Director Lamar Ozley if we have the money to pay for Scope 1 and 2 which is the headworks. Mr. Ozley stated between the grant money and cash on hand we would be able to pay for those. Councilmember Mark McAdams asked if we don't do this now then prices could go up and Mayor Borne stated that anything we don't approve tonight would be subject to increased cost.

Councilmember Mark McAdams asked City Manager D.E. Sosa to explain where we are looking to get the money to pay for this project. City Manager D.E. Sosa explained the attached list. Please see attached copy. Councilmember McAdams then asked City Manager D.E. Sosa how confident he is that this will not raise taxes and Mr. Sosa stated that he guarantees this won't raise taxes and explained that this would be paid for from water/sewer rates as opposed to taxes. Mayor Borne then asked Craig Messenbrink from Schneider Electric if we decided to fix three out of the four scopes then the cost savings would go down and Mr. Messenbrink stated that was correct. Mr. Messenbrink then explained that with all four scopes it would be a savings of \$97,000 per year and without the digester it would be a cost savings of about \$67,000 per year.

Councilmember Rob Vensel decided to take his motion back. Councilmember Mark McAdams made a motion to do scopes one, two, three and four and Mayor Chris Borne seconded. Motion failed with Mayor Borne and Councilmember McAdams for the motion and Mayor Pro Tem, Councilmember Oliver and Councilmember Vensel against it.

Mayor Borne made a motion to do scopes one, two, and three and Councilmember McAdams seconded. Motion failed with Mayor Borne and Councilmember McAdams for the motion and Mayor Pro Tem Dugas, Councilmember Oliver and Councilmember Vensel against the motion.

Mayor Borne then asked if there were any other motions and there were none. All motions failed for this line item.

CONSIDER ELECTING A MAYOR PRO TEM FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR:
Councilmember Vensel made a motion to consider electing a Mayor Pro Tem for the upcoming year and Councilmember Oliver seconded. Mayor Borne then stated that with our rotation the next Mayor Pro Tem in line would be Councilmember Mark McAdams. There were no questions and motion passed unanimously. Mayor Pro Tem is now Mark McAdams.

INVOICES: City Manager D.E. Sosa presented invoices for payment totaling \$215,666.33 as follows:

Coy Development INC.	Heritage Point Subdivider Rebate.	6,386.
Higginbotham Insurance Agency	Windstorm Insurance Renewal.	144,758.97
Motorola Solutions	3 portable radio's for Fire Department Personnel.	15,028.65
Core & Main L.P.	Registers and Meter Couplings.	19,862.80
Performance Truck	Repairs for Garbage Truck.	13,395.20
S.H. Absolute Construction, LLC	Awning for the side of shop for welding.	16,234.00


Councilmember Rob Vensel moved to approve payment of the invoices totaling \$215,666.33 and Councilmember Rhonda Dugas seconded. Mayor Borne asked for questions. Councilmember Dugas asked if the Windstorm Insurance is budgeted and City Manager D.E. Sosa stated that it is. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

City Council Meeting

December 5, 2022

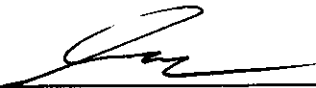
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Mayor Borne asked for Councilmember comments and Councilmember Dugas stated that she had an excellent time at the Lighting of the Christmas Tree and the Christmas Parade. Councilmember Dugas also requested that we make an Ordinance regarding signs that are put on poles throughout the City. There was no further business and Mayor Borne adjourned the meeting at 6:52 p.m.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk