

A regular meeting of the Groves City Council was held March 16, 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. He then led the prayer and pledge of allegiance.

APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 2, 2020 CITY COUNCIL MEETING: Councilmember Theis moved to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2020 City Council Meeting as written and Councilmember Borne seconded. Mayor Bailey asked for discussion and there was none. Motion passed unanimously.

RECEIVE REPORT FROM SCHNEIDER ELECTRIC REGARDING COST SAVINGS IMPROVEMENTS TO THE CITY'S WASTEWATER PLANT: City Manager D.E. Sosa introduced representatives from Schneider Electric: Eme Torlai- Account Executive, Zia Qureshi, P.E.- Water/Wastewater Manager, and Hannah Carter- Account Executive. Ms. Torlai gave the Mayor and Council copies of the report and suggested action plan (copy attached). Ms. Torlai stated that she had met with Mr. Sosa regarding the City's Water and Wastewater Plants. She explained that she would be summarizing findings and presenting recommendations and ideas. Schneider found that there is nothing wrong with either of the plants, but that they could operate more efficiently. The Water Plant operates very well. They did find that revisions and changes could be made at the Wastewater Plant. Presently there is not the capability to upscale or downscale operations at the Wastewater Plant.

Mr. Qureshi presented the recommendations for the Wastewater Plant. He stated that the wastewater operations are critical and that while there is nothing wrong with the plant, it was designed for 5.3 million gallons per day. The average daily flow is 1.5 million gallons, or 28% capacity. Everything is oversized. Mr. Qureshi reported that the City has two options. The first would be to continue operating the plant as is currently done. The second option would be to have an asset management program which can be budgeted. The cost to build a new plant would be \$100 million, but Mr. Qureshi suggested using the current infrastructure to make the plant work for the future. Under Option 1 the City would only use ½ of the plant to optimize energy use. The plant has old style centrifugal blowers and they are mismatched for the diffuser system. Option 2 complements the diffuser rehabilitation. A high speed blower would be installed and the old equipment would serve as backup. Mr. Qureshi recommended Option 2.

Councilmember Hollier asked when the City would receive a cost analysis. Ms. Torlai stated that Schneider operates under Local Government Code 302 and that any

project they do is under energy performance savings regulations and has to have savings associated with it to fund the entire project. She explained that the next step would be for the City to enter into a contract with Schneider and then the project design would begin. Mayor Bailey asked if the state offers any grants and Ms. Torlai stated that there are grants for lighting projects. Mr. Sosa stated that there are grants. Mr. Qureshi stated that there are many different grants available for cities. Councilmember Borne stated that the funds come from the savings and asked if the savings percentages are based on a year or over the total course and what is the initial percentage of the total savings in order to make a project work. Ms. Torlai stated that they typically do city projects for 15 to 20 years with 20 years being the maximum. Councilmember Theis asked if at 60% along the City decides not to do the project, does it revert back to the contract where there will be a set fee. Mr. Qureshi stated that there would not be a charge to the City. Councilmember Badon asked if the Wastewater Plant has 20 years left in it and Mr. Qureshi stated yes it does. Mr. Sosa explained that the next step will be to put something on the agenda to sign a contract with Schneider. Ms. Torlai stated that they work with Texas cities often and that they work closely with city staff. Anything they offer will help prepare the city for the long term performance.

Fire Chief Lance Billeaud gave an Emergency Management report in regards to the COVID-19 pandemic. He reported that he had received a call from Kenny Blanda at Magnolia Manor Nursing Home and that the City changed protocol for both Magnolia Manor and Oak Grove Nursing Homes. He stated that he had met with Mr. Sosa and officials from Nederland and Port Neches and that it was decided that the City would take precautions. The Groves Activity Building and the Groves Library have been closed to the public and Nederland and Port Neches will be doing the same thing. Port Neches has also closed Tugboat Island and the splash pad at Port Neches Park. The Groves Library offers online e-books or patrons can call to check out books that can be retrieved from a drop box. The Mayor has issued an emergency order similar to the order issued by Jefferson County Judge Jeff Branick. Events with more than 50 people are prohibited. Chief Billeaud reported that he had a call in to John Terrell, President of the Groves Sr. Citizens Association, and that they would be making precautionary decisions about operations at the Groves Sr. Citizens Center.

CONSIDER APPROVAL FOR ONE (1) FIREFIGHTER TO ATTEND AN ARSON INVESTIGATIONS CONFERENCE TO BE HELD MARCH 23-27, 2020 IN AUSTIN: Mayor Bailey stated that this item was being cancelled, as the conference had been cancelled.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AGREEING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SOUTHEAST TEXAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION'S UPDATE OF THE REGIONAL, HARDIN COUNTY, JEFFERSON COUNTY AND ORANGE COUNTY MITIGATION ACTION PLAN: City Attorney James Black presented proposed Resolution No. 2020-05, reading the caption as follows: "A resolution of the City Council of the City of Groves approving and agreeing to participate in the Suoth East Texas Regional Planning Commission's update of the regional, Hardin County, Jefferson County and Orange County Mitigation Action Plan." Councilmember Hollier moved to approve Resolution No. 2020-05, agreeing to participate in the SETRPC's update of the Regional Mitigation Action Plan and Mayor Pro Tem Badon seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSS AND IF APPROPRIATE TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE A REIMBURSEMENT RESOLUTION TITLED: RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF GROVES, TEXAS EXPRESSING OFFICIAL INTENT TO REIMBURSE THE CITY WITH TAX-EXEMPT OBLIGATION PROCEEDS FOR COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW CITY PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY: City Attorney James Black presented proposed Resolution No. 2020-07 and read the caption as follows: "A resolution by the City Council of Groves, Texas, expressing official intent to reimburse with proceeds of tax-exempt obligation for costs associated with contractual obligations and improvements for a new public safety facility." Councilmember Hollier made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2020-07, expressing official intent to reimburse the City with tax-exempt obligation proceeds for costs associated with building the new City Public Safety Facility and Mayor Pro Tem Badon seconded. Mr. Black stated that the City's bond attorney, Lance Fox, was present to answer any questions. There were no questions and the motion passed unanimously.

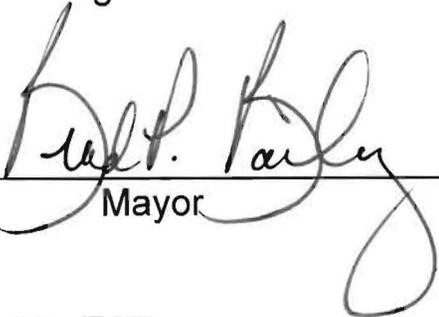
INVOICES: City Manager D.E. Sosa presented invoices for payment totaling \$27,954.14 as follows:

Fuelman	Gas and diesel fuel for February 2020.	14,505.12
Republic Svc.	Groves EDC- Monroe/Indian Springs, 6170 Hansen, Howell/Cleveland, 5000 Lawndale, 7039 32 nd St., 3229 Allison, 4834 Link, 7141 Howe, 5271 Monroe, 5028 33 rd St., 6270 25 th St., 5905 25 th St., 5120 39 th St.	5,970.02
Simply Aquatics	Gas detection system for Water Plant.	7,479.00

Mayor Pro Tem Badon moved to approve payment of the invoices totaling \$27,954.14 and Councilmember Theis seconded. Mayor Bailey asked for questions and Councilmember Borne asked if the gas detection system was a new system or parts. Mr. Sosa stated that they do not make parts so it is a new system. There were no other questions and the motion passed unanimously.

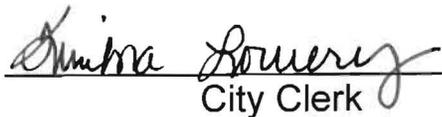
Mayor Bailey asked for Councilmember comments and there were none.

There being no further business, Mayor Bailey adjourned the meeting at 5:51 p.m.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk