

A regular meeting of the Groves City Council was held December 21, 2020 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 welcomed the attendees and news media. He then led the prayer and pledge of allegiance.

**APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 7, 2020 CITY COUNCIL MEETING:** Mayor Pro Tem Badon moved to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2020 City Council meeting as written and Councilmember Dugas seconded. Mayor Borne asked for discussion and there was none. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Borne asked for reports or citizen comments and there were none.

**CONSIDER AUTHORIZING MAYOR CHRIS BORNE, MAYOR PRO TEM SIDNEY BADON, AND CITY MANAGER D.E. SOSA AS SIGNATORIES ON ALL ACCOUNTS HELD BY THE CITY DEPOSITORY (FIRST FINANCIAL BANK):** Councilmember Dugas moved to authorize Mayor Chris Borne, City Manager D.E. Sosa, and Mayor Pro Tem Sidney Badon as signatories on all accounts held by the City Depository and Mayor Pro Tem Badon seconded. There were no questions and the motion passed unanimously.

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF THE REMAINDER OF LINDENMAYER PARK PROPERTY:** City Attorney James Black presented proposed Ordinance No. 2020-13, reading the caption as follows: "An ordinance directing the sale of real property located within the City of Groves near the intersection of 32<sup>nd</sup> St. and Texas State Highway 73 by public auction; authorizing the deed to said property; and directing the publishing of notice of such auction including the description of said property, its location, and the date, time and place of sale."

Mayor Pro Tem Badon made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2020-13, directing the sale of the remainder of Lindenmayer Park property and Councilmember McAdams seconded. Mayor Borne asked for questions. Councilmember Oliver asked what the property will be zoned as once it is sold. Mr. Sosa stated that it will be Commercial 2, the same as it currently is. Councilmember Dugas asked what account the proceeds of the sale will be put into. Mr. Sosa responded that it will go to the Parks fund and that it currently has a balance of approximately \$165,000. Councilmember Dugas questioned if the Parks Committee will be able to spend the funds and Mr. Sosa stated that they can make recommendations for use of the funds. Councilmember Dugas asked how much of the \$40,000 set aside for the park on the Indorama property had been paid to Indorama. Mr. Sosa stated \$10,000 had been

paid, and that each time a draw is made it will go before Council for approval. Mayor Pro Tem Badon reiterated that \$40,000 is all that has been approved by Council for the Indorama property and that money in the Parks fund has to be spent on existing parks or new parks. Mayor Pro Tem Badon asked how much is budgeted annually for parks and Mr. Sosa stated \$30,000 to \$50,000. Councilmember Oliver questioned the budgeted funds for Parks and Mr. Sosa explained that those funds cover the Property Maintenance Department, which is the parks department. Mayor Borne stated that the property is going to public auction and that the minimum bid will be \$116,000, per the appraised value. Councilmember Dugas stated that the City would retain mineral rights and Mr. Black stated that he did not know if the City has the mineral rights, but that it is included in the deed just in case. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

INVOICES: City Manager D.E. Sosa presented invoices for payment totaling \$609,938.46 as follows:

Fuelman	Gas and diesel fuel for November 2020.	11,807.16
Joiner Architects	Partial architect and engineering fees for new Fire Station.	484,589.08
Novus	Grinding of greenwaste-Hurricanes Laura, Delta.	28,764.00
Otto Environmental	500 garbage cans for damage replacements, storm losses, new residents, and 2 <sup>nd</sup> cans for current customers.	26,225.00
Republic Svc.	Sludge disposal (6,596.53); Neighborhood Svc.- 2200 Curt, 6230 East, 6601 Madison, Monroe/Indian Springs, 6738 Hansen, 3600 Pure Atlantic, 4721 Staci, 5905 25 <sup>th</sup> St., 3230 Cleveland, 5109 David, 4602 Main, 2100 Main, 2748 Royal, 5000 Twin City, 4900 Twin City, 4448 Wilson, 6115 39 <sup>th</sup> St. (7,609.83).	14,206.36
Texas Comm. on Environ- mental Quality	Water System Fee	18,027.10
Waukesha- Pearce	Takeuchi TB-216 Mini-excavator	26,319.76

Councilmember Dugas moved to approve payment of the invoices totaling \$609,938.46 and Councilmember Oliver seconded. Mayor Borne asked for questions and Councilmember Dugas asked what the payment to Joiner Architects covered.

Fire Chief Lance Billeaud responded that he had a detailed list of everything Joiner Architects and the engineers have done over the last two years and up until this point. He stated that he would forward the information to the Council the following day. Councilmember Dugas asked if residents have to pay for garbage can replacement and Mr. Sosa stated no, but that a monthly fee is paid for extra cans. Mayor Borne asked if the City was going to be reimbursed for the payment to Novus and Mr. Sosa stated that the City may be eligible for 75% reimbursement, or \$300,000. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Borne asked for Councilmember comments and Councilmember Dugas wished everyone a Merry Christmas. Mayor Pro Tem Badon commented that he had recently met with Mr. Sosa and Mr. Johnson and that the new street program is going to be a great asset and provide the City with quality streets. Mr. Sosa explained that the meeting included only two councilmembers so that a quorum was not present. He stated that he would be meeting with the other councilmembers in the near future.

Mayor Borne thanked everyone for their attendance and adjourned the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

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Mayor Borne

ATTEST:

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City Clerk