

A regular meeting of the Groves City Council was held September 27, 2021 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. Councilmember Oliver led the prayer and pledge of allegiance.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 13, 2021 CITY COUNCIL MEETING, (2) SEPTEMBER 16, 2021 PUBLIC HEARINGS, AND SEPTEMBER 16, 2021 SPECIAL MEETING: Councilmember Dugas moved to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2021 City Council Meeting, (2) September 16, 2021 Public Hearings, and the September 16, 2021 Special Meeting as written and Councilmember Oliver seconded. Mayor Borne asked for questions and there were none. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Borne asked for reports and there were none.

Mayor Borne asked for citizen comments and Cheryl Richie, Debbie Jones, and Carol Heintschel of the Mid County Paws group addressed the Council. Their group assists in caring for, fostering, and adopting out the dogs and puppies in the Mid County Animal Shelter. They stated that they are in need of assistance with veterinary bills and inquired as to when the annual \$5,000 set aside for them in the City's budget would be available. City Manager D.E. Sosa asked that they meet with him after the meeting. Mayor Borne thanked them for helping the City.

Linda Brown of 6161 Mire addressed the Council and reported that there is a construction site across the street from her house. She has complained about high grass at the site and also that there is a portable restroom and dumpster on the property. Ronnie Tyson of 3750 Dave asked that Council meetings be held at later hours in order to accommodate citizens who work during the day and suggested 6:00 p.m. or 6:30 p.m. Suzanne Williamson of 5301 Kent Ave. stated that over the past three weeks she had addressed the Council three times regarding the budget time period and also made two requests for public information. She stated that she did not think it was a coincidence that last week she had received an anonymous email which included a picture of her license plate. Ms. Williamson stated that she believed this is stalking and that maybe someone is wanting her to keep quiet. She said that possibly someone on the Council or someone that works for the City may have sent it, but that she had no idea. She speculated that she felt that someone on the Council probably knows who had sent it. At that time Mayor Borne told Ms. Williamson that she would not accuse the Council of sending it and Ms. Williamson

stated that she wasn't. Mayor Borne stated that she just did and Mayor Pro Tem Badon called for a point of order. Mayor Borne stated that the email had nothing to do with the City and that she could make a different comment. Ms. Williamson said thank you and returned to her seat.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A NEW FIVE (5) YEAR CONTRACT WITH THE GROVES POLICE ASSOCIATION: Mr. Sosa stated that changes had been made to improve the contract and that the Mayor and Council had been given a summary of the changes. Mr. Sosa asked that the Council approve the contract. Mayor Pro Tem Badon made a motion to approve the new five year contract with the Groves Police Association and Councilmember McAdams seconded. Mayor Borne asked for discussion. Councilmember Oliver asked if the new contract is in the new budget and Mr. Sosa stated yes and that it is all funded in the budget. Councilmember Dugas asked if the cost of living adjustment is funded in the new budget and Finance Director Lamar Ozley stated that it is. Councilmember Dugas asked if the certification education pay is added to the employee's check each month and Mr. Ozley stated that is correct. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

INVOICES: City Manager D.E. Sosa presented invoices for payment totaling \$236,888.05 as follows:

City of Beaumont	Regional radio maintenance (Police Dept.)	22,124.11
DXI Industries	Wastewater Plant and Water Plant chemicals (2,580; 950; 3560).	7,090.00
Fuelman	Gas and diesel fuel for August 2021.	20,477.22
Gulf Coast	Walking track at West Groves Park (offset from proceeds from sale of Lindenmeyer Park property).	48,576.00
Hol-Mac Corp.	Complete boom assembly for #48 limbpicker.	23,863.99
Kraftsman Commercial	Park equipment funded by proceeds in park capital bank account from sale of Lindenmeyer Park property.	85,436.42
Martin Asphalt	Rocking oil for chip seal - 2021 Street Program.	8,040.80
Moody Brothers	Wastewater Plant – chlorine and SO2 PM service.	5,220.00
Mustang Rental	Pneumatic roller rental – 2021 Street Program.	9,733.06
Republic Svc.	Sludge disposal	6,326.45

Councilmember McAdams moved to approve payment of the invoices totaling \$236,888.05 and Mayor Pro Tem Badon seconded. Mayor Borne asked for questions. Councilmember Dugas asked if the walking track at West Groves Park was completed and Mr. Sosa stated that it was completed two weeks ago. Mayor Borne asked if the limbpicker repairs were an emergency item. Mr. Sosa stated no, that the repairs were planned so that the City could keep the truck and just replace the boom. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Borne asked for Councilmember comments. He remarked that Garage Supervisor John Spikes will be greatly missed and that he was great at his job and loved the City. He extended his condolences and remarked that John will never be replaced.

There was no further business and Mayor Borne adjourned the meeting at 5:21 p.m.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk

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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