

A special meeting of the Groves City Council was held December 21, 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 THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 6, 2021 CITY COUNCIL MEETING: Councilmember McAdams moved to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2021 City Council meeting as written and Mayor Pro Tem Badon seconded. Mayor Borne asked for discussion and there was none. Motion passed unanimously.

RECOGNITION OF COUNCILMEMBER SIDNEY BADON: Mayor Borne presented a proclamation and plaque to Ward No. 3 Councilmember Sidney Badon, Jr. and thanked him for his 14 years of service as a Councilmember. Councilmember Badon thanked the Mayor and congratulated Mr. Vensel as the incoming Ward No. 3 Councilmember.

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

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AN ORDINANCE DECLARING THE RESULTS OF A SPECIAL RUNOFF ELECTION HELD ON DECEMBER 14, 2021 FOR THE POSITION OF WARD NO. 3 COUNCILMEMBER: City Attorney James Black presented proposed Ordinance No. 2021-21, reading as follows: "An ordinance canvassing returns and declaring results of a Special Runoff Election held on the 14th day of December, 2021, in the City of Groves for the purpose of electing a councilmember in Ward No. 3. Whereas, under and by virtue of an ordinance duly passed by the City Council of the City of Groves on the 15th day of November, 2021, a special runoff election was held in said City on the 14th day of December, 2021, for the purpose of electing a Councilmember in Ward No. 3; And it appearing from the tabulation of said election returns that the following candidates for Councilmember in Ward No. 3 received the number of votes set opposite their respective names, to-wit: Rob Vensel – 396; Barbara Edington – 322. Now, therefore, be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Groves: That said election resulted in the election of Rob Vensel to the office of Councilmember in Ward No. 3; and therefore: Rob Vensel is hereby declared to be duly elected to the office of Councilmember in Ward No. 3 of the City of Groves and shall take the oath of office and assume the duties thereof on December 21, 2021, and shall hold his office for a period of two (2) years, or until his successor shall have duly qualified..."

Mayor Pro Tem Badon made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2021-21 canvassing the returns and declaring results of the special runoff election held on December 14, 2021 and Councilmember Dugas seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE TO NEWLY ELECTED WARD NO. 3

COUNCILMEMBER: City Attorney James Black administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Ward No. 3 Councilmember Rob Vensel.

CONSIDER SETTING DATES AND TIMES FOR FUTURE CITY COUNCIL

MEETINGS: Councilmember Dugas moved to set dates and times for future City Council meetings and Councilmember McAdams seconded. Mayor Borne asked for questions. He also asked if anyone had issues with the 2022 meeting dates that had been provided (every other Monday), or the meeting time of 5:00 p.m. There were no objections to the proposed meeting dates and times- every other Monday at 5:00 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ELECTING A MAYOR PRO TEM FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR: Mayor Borne explained that the position of Mayor Pro Tem had been rotating through the wards, but that Councilmember Badon had served two years as Mayor Pro Tem due to the fact that the Ward No. 4 Councilmember would have been Mayor Pro Tem as a newly elected member of the Council. Councilmember McAdams made a motion to elect Councilmember Dugas as Mayor Pro Tem and Councilmember Vensel seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ABANDONING CITY UTILITY EASEMENTS ADJACENT TO THE NEW SCHOOL BEING BUILT ON THE WEST GROVES CAMPUS: City Manager D.E. Sosa explained that the Port Neches-Groves ISD property maintenance personnel had requested that the City abandon the utility easements adjacent to the new school. He also stated that the easements are closed and are part of the school property. Councilmember McAdams made a motion that the City abandon its utility easements adjacent to the school being built on the West Groves campus and Councilmember Vensel seconded. Mayor Borne asked for questions. Mayor Borne asked Mr. Sosa if there would be any other reasons to need access to the easements and Mr. Sosa stated that there would not, as the City has plenty of other options. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AWARDING THE PROPOSAL TO OVERLAY LACKEY ST. TO LD CONSTRUCTION WITH CDBG FUNDS USING SMALL PURCHASE PROCEDURE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$28,500 CONTINGENT ON COMPLETION BY DECEMBER 31, 2021, AND IF COMPLETION IS NOT MET, THE ALTERNATE BID WILL BE AWARDED TO COASTAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$34,138 WITH WORK TO BE COMPLETED BY DECEMBER 31, 2021: Mr. Sosa stated this is the last part of the Community Development Block Grant and that the City needs to use the remaining funds by the end of the year, or it will lose them. The City's only option is to use the funds to complete Lackey St. Mayor Pro Tem Dugas moved to award the proposal to overlay Lackey St. to LD Construction in the amount of \$28,500 contingent on completion by 12/31/2021, and if completion is not met, the alternate bid be awarded to Coastal in the amount of \$34,138 with work to be completed by 12/31/2021. Councilmember Oliver seconded the motion and Mayor Borne asked for questions. Sidney Badon of 2310 Lackey asked what would happen if LD Construction did not make the completion deadline. Mr. Sosa explained that this is just a one day job and that he is confident that the job will be completed. Mayor Borne asked for a mobilization date and the representative from LD Construction stated that once he received the grant information he needs, he plans on doing the one day job on Tuesday, December 28, 2021. Councilmember McAdams asked if LD Construction could foresee any problems with getting the job done and the representative stated that they were not anticipating any problems. Councilmember Oliver asked if there would be any additional costs and the representative responded that there would be no further costs. Councilmember Oliver asked about driveways and the representative explained that they will be 2-3 ft. ribbons and that he has to comply with the grant requirements. There were no other questions and the motion passed unanimously.

INVOICES: City Manager D.E. Sosa presented invoices for payment totaling \$759,953.45 as follows:

Durotech, Inc.	11/2021 payment for new fire station construction.	317,127.18
Fuelman	Gas and diesel fuel for November 2021.	20,875.84
Groves	Advertising expenses for Groves Christmas Tree	21,500.00
Chamber of Commerce	Trail (6,500) and Pecan Festival (15,000).	
Gulf Coast	HP cold mix asphalt for street patching.	5,220.12
Greenscapes Six, LLC	Hitt St. project	208,440.00

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Jefferson Co. Clerk	Election services for Dec. 14, 2021 Runoff Election.	7,447.18
Joiner Architects	11/2021 payment for construction of fire station.	10,127.03
Kay Radio	Radio tower for fire station.	89,137.00
SHI Govt. Solutions, Inc.	Computer system/software.	5,208.00
TCEQ	Water System Fee for FY2022.	18,027.10
TX Correctional Industries	Chairs, end tables, des, and beds for fire station.	33,414.00
Wastewater Transport Svc.	Clean grit and grease from Georgia Lift Station.	5,091.00
Watchguard Video	Motorola Solutions video equipment for Police Dept.	11,690.00
Worthington Direct	Training room tables for fire station.	6,649.00

Mayor Pro Tem Dugas moved to approve payment of the invoices totaling \$759,953.45 and Councilmember McAdams seconded. Mayor Borne asked for questions. Mayor Pro Tem Dugas asked if the payment for Hitt St. was for the first estimate. Mr. Sosa explained that it is the first estimate of a \$231,600 job and that this payment is the bulk of it. Mayor Borne asked what the computer system/software was for and Mr. Sosa stated that it is for archiving for the City's facebook page, and that the City is required to have it. The IT Department requested that the City purchase the software and they will install it. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

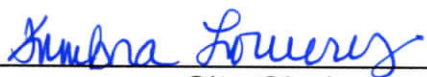
Mayor Borne asked for Councilmember comments and Councilmember Vensel thanked Sidney Badon for his years of service and his help with his campaign. He also thanked his friends and family for their presence at the meeting and remarked that he looks forward to working with the Council and City Attorney. Mayor Pro Tem Dugas voiced appreciation for the City employees and wished them a Merry Christmas. She also thanked City Clerk Kim Lowery for the integrity of the City's recent election and runoff election. Mayor Borne reminded everyone of the EDC meeting following the Council meeting.

There was no further business and Mayor Borne adjourned the meeting at 5:28 p.m.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk

