

A regular meeting of the Groves City Council was held May 22, 2023 in the Groves City Council Chamber with Mayor Chris Borne, Mayor Pro Tem Mark McAdams, Councilmember Rob Vensel, Councilmember Rhonda Dugas, and Councilmember Paul Oliver in attendance. Mayor Borne called the meeting to order and welcomed the attendees. A representative from the local VFW then led the prayer and pledge of allegiance.

APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 8, 2023 CITY COUNCIL MEETING: Councilmember Rob Vensel moved to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2023 City Council meeting as written and Councilmember Paul Oliver seconded. Mayor Borne asked for discussion and there was none. Motion passed unanimously.

RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 8, 2023 AND MAY 15, 2023 PLANNING AND ZONING MEETINGS: Mayor Borne asked Council if everyone received a copy of the May 8, 2023 and May 15, 2023 Planning and Zoning Meeting Minutes and they all agreed they have. No motion is needed for this item.

PRESENTATION OF A PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING MAY 22, 2023 AS SHEVON HEBERT DAY: Groves Chamber of Commerce Director Letha Knaus addressed Council and read the letter that was submitted to the Chamber for the nomination of Mrs. Hebert for Mother of the Year. Mayor Borne then presented Mrs. Hebert with a Proclamation from the City of Groves designating May 22, 2023 as Shevon Hebert Day.

Mayor Borne asked for reports and there was a report from the local VFW educating all in attendance on what exactly the VFW does and a brief history concerning VE Day. Mayor Borne then asked for citizen comments and there were none.

DISCUSS AND APPROVE THE CITY OF GROVES TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH SOUTEX SURVEYORS & ENGINEERS TO DEVELOP, DESIGN, INSTALL AND PROVIDE TRAINING FOR NEEDED UPGRADES TO THE CITY OF GROVES WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY: Mayor Pro Tem Mark McAdams made a motion to discuss and approve the City of Groves to enter into a contract with Soutex Surveyors & Engineers to develop, design, install and provide training for needed upgrades to the City of Groves Wastewater Treatment Facility and Councilmember Dugas seconded. Interim City Manager Lance Billeaud introduced Public Works Director Troy Foxworth and Soutex Engineer Jeremy Mitchell. Mr. Foxworth explained to Council that a committee including himself, Michael Tentrup and Coby Doucet went through the RFQ's that were submitted and all unanimously picked Soutex as the number one choice. Mr. Foxworth then told Council that they are currently trying to replace the headworks and screening at the Sewer Plant. There

were four Engineer Firms that submitted RFQ's and they went through them all separately and got together with a unanimous decision on picking Soutex. Councilmember Paul Oliver asked what were the names of all of the Engineering Firms that submitted RFQ's and Mr. Foxworth listed Soutex Surveyors, Shaumburg and Polk, Schneider Electric and Lead Engineering. Councilmember Oliver then asked if this is for the Headworks part of the plant and Mr. Foxworth stated that it's for the screening and grit removal system if there is enough money to do so. Councilmember Oliver also asked what is Soutex Surveyors experience in this field and Mr. Foxworth stated that the head engineer designed our current Wastewater Plant. Mayor Borne asked if there were any monetary costs in the RFQ for their engineering services and Mr. Foxworth stated there was not, it was basically their qualifications.

Mr. Foxworth explained the process of Soutex going out for bids then whatever company gives the best bid will be chosen for the job. Interim City Manager Lance Billeaud stated that the money for this project will be used from the CLFRF Grant. Councilmember Rob Vensel asked how much money is left in that grant and Mr. Billeaud stated about 1.6 million. There were no further questions and the motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER SETTING A DATE FOR A JOINT PUBLIC HEARING ON A REQUEST FOR A SPECIFIC USE PERMIT FOR GAMING MACHINES AND GAME ROOMS AT 6900 32ND ST: Councilmember Rob Vensel made a motion to consider setting a date for a Joint Public Hearing on a request for a Specific Use Permit for Gaming Machines and Game Rooms at 6900 32nd St. and Councilmember Dugas seconded. Building Official Don Pedraza recommended June 19, 2023 and Council agreed. Councilmember Vensel amended his motion to include the date of June 19, 2023 directly following the regularly scheduled City Council Meeting and Councilmember Dugas seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER SETTING A DATE FOR A JOINT PUBLIC HEARING ON A REQUEST FOR A SPECIFIC USE PERMIT FOR GAMING MACHINES AND GAME ROOMS AT 2600 MAIN AVE: Councilmember Vensel made a motion to consider setting a date for June 19, 2023 for a Joint Public Hearing on a request for a Specific Use Permit for Gaming Machines and Game Rooms at 2600 Main Ave. and Councilmember Dugas seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER SETTING A DATE FOR A JOINT PUBLIC HEARING ON A REQUEST FOR A SPECIFIC USE PERMIT FOR GAMING MACHINES AND GAME ROOMS AT

2610 MAIN AVE: Councilmember Vensel made a motion to consider setting a date for June 19, 2023 for a Joint Public Hearing on a request for a Specific Use Permit for Gaming Machines and Game Rooms at 2610 Main Ave. and Councilmember Dugas seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 2023-05 TO GRANT A REZONE FOR 5589 GULFWAY DRIVE FROM R-2 ONE & TWO FAMILY RESIDENCE DISTRICT AND C-1 RETAIL BUSINESS DISTRICT TO C-3 GENERAL HEAVY COMMERCIAL DISTRICT: Councilmember Vensel made a motion to consider approval of Ordinance 2023-05 to grant a rezone for 5589 Gulfway Drive from R-2 One & Two Family Residence District and C-1 Retail Business District to C-3 General Heavy Commercial District. Mayor Pro Tem Mark McAdams seconded. City Attorney Brandon P. Monk presented proposed Ordinance reading the caption as follows: "An Ordinance amending the City of Groves Zoning Ordinance by changing the following described property, to wit: 5589 Gulfway Drive, Tract 19-A 1.430 (called 1.4302) acres of land, a replat of all of Lot 19 & parts of Lots 18 & 20, Orange Acres Addition, from R-2 One & Two Family Residence District and C-1 Retail Business District," as designated in articles VIII, Zoning District Regulations, Section 8-200 and section 8-500, to "C-3 General Heavy Commercial District," as designated in Article VIII, Zoning District Regulations, section 8-800; providing that no other portions of the Zoning Ordinance shall be affected hereby; providing for publication by publishing the caption only; and providing an effective date." There were no questions and the motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 2023-06 GRANTING A SPECIFIC USE PERMIT FOR GAME ROOM & GAMING MACHINES AT 5130 TWIN CITY HWY: Mayor Pro Tem Mark McAdams made a motion to consider approval of Ordinance 2023-06 granting a Specific Use Permit for a Game Room & Gaming machines at 5130 Twin City Hwy. and Councilmember Vensel seconded. City Attorney Brandon P. Monk presented proposed Ordinance reading the caption as follows: "An Ordinance authorizing a Specific Use Permit for Gaming Machines and Game Rooms at 5130 Twin City Highway; LT 4 TR 1 11.82 AC & TR 7.394 AC BLK 8 RG F PALCO 4900-5170 Twin City Highway; providing that no other portions of the Zoning Ordinance shall be affected hereby; providing for publication by publishing the caption only; and providing an effective date." There were no questions and the motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSS EXISTING ROOSTER ORDINANCE AND PROVIDE DIRECTION TO THE CITY ATTORNEY AS TO WHETHER AMENDMENTS TO THE ORDINANCE ARE NEEDED AT THIS TIME: Mayor Pro Tem McAdams made a motion to discuss existing Rooster Ordinance and provide direction to the City Attorney as to whether amendments to the Ordinance are needed at this time and Councilmember Vensel seconded. City Attorney Brandon P. Monk stated that he believes we have two issues here and one being the animal control and the requiring a certain period of time before they can act and the other is enforcing ongoing repeated problems through citations. Ronnie Marioneaux of 3000 Graves Avenue was present to address Council on the problems he is experiencing with roosters in his neighborhood. City Attorney Brandon P. Monk then stated that the 30-day notice comes from the animal control side and not the Rooster Ordinance. Mr. Monk then stated that we do have to wait to remove the animal but do not have to wait to issue a citation. Council suggested changing the 30-day notice to remove the animal to 72 hours. There was no further discussion on this item.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER GUIDELINES FOR POTENTIAL AMENDMENTS TO THE GAME ROOM FEES AND ORDINANCE: Mayor Pro Tem Mark McAdams made a motion to discuss and consider guidelines for potential amendments to the Game Room Fees and Ordinance and Councilmember Vensel seconded. City Attorney Brandon P. Monk stated that we now have more information from the City in terms of cost associated with the Game Rooms. Councilmember Dugas then asked for explanation of what the abbreviations stand for on the Police Report and Officer Robbins helped explain these. Mayor Borne then asked City Attorney Brandon P. Monk if with the information we have here can we justify raising the price per machine and Mr. Monk stated we can. Councilmember Dugas asked if we could justify raising the price per machine, renewal fee and application fee and Mr. Monk stated we can. Council agreed to raise the fees to \$1,500 for renewal, application and fees per machine. Councilmember McAdams amended his motion to change the renewal fee to \$1,500, application fee to \$1,500 and fee per machine to \$1,500. Councilmember Vensel seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

INVOICES: Interim City Manager Lance Billeaud presented invoices for payment totaling \$743,550.22 as follows:

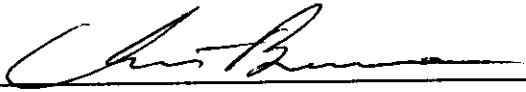
Braeko Fence	New gate at plant, replace 300FT of fence at Taft LS and replace 100 FT of fence at Georgia LS.	30,700.00
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Brenntag Southwest, INC	Brennfloc aid used with polymer in the flocculation process.	9,762.50
Brenntag Southwest, INC	Sodium Hydroxide used for PH adjustment.	13,749.24
Chameleon Industries	Polymer for water plant.	34,580.00
Chastang Enterprise	New Way Garbage Truck.	380,016.00
Fuelman of Lafayette	Gas and Diesel for April 2023.	20,605.73
Lower Neches Valley Authority	Raw Water Purchased.	21,136.73
Mastercard Gold	AE Tools and Computers- Software updates for Garage.	6,330.00
Republic Services	Sludge disposal for April 2023.	6,924.22
Texas Pride Utilities	Pay Application #5 for 2022-2023 CLFRF Pipe Bursting Project.	219,745.80

Councilmember Vensel moved to approve payment of the invoices totaling \$743,550.22 and Councilmember Oliver seconded. Mayor Pro Tem McAdams asked how often the software updates are done for the garage computer and it was stated every year. Councilmember Vensel asked if the gate was electric and Public Works Director Troy Foxworth stated the one they are buying is. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

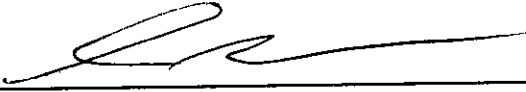
Mayor Borne asked for Councilmember comments and Councilmember Vensel stated that we need to keep one of our firefighters' wife in our prayers. Councilmember Dugas stated that she asked for an item to be put on the agenda and it was not. Interim City Manager Lance Billeaud stated that a request for an item to be put on the agenda needs a second. Councilmember Dugas stated that Councilmember Oliver seconded it in an email. Mayor Borne stated that was not a second. There were no further Councilmember Comments.

There was no further business and Mayor Borne adjourned the meeting at 6:15 p.m.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk