

A regular meeting of the Groves City Council was held on April 24, 2023 in the Groves City Council Chamber with Mayor Chris Borne, Mayor Pro Tem Mark McAdams, Councilmember Rhonda Dugas, Councilmember Rob Vensel and Councilmember Paul Oliver in attendance. Mayor Borne called the meeting to order and welcomed the attendees. Mayor Pro Tem McAdams then led the opening prayer and the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 10, 2023 CITY COUNCIL MEETING: Councilmember Vensel moved to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2023 City Council meeting as written and Councilmember Oliver seconded. Mayor Borne asked for questions and there were none. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Borne then asked Interim City Manager Lance Billeaud if there are any reports and there was one. Interim City Manager Lance Billeaud then stated that he was approached by the gentleman that bought the old Renaissance Hospital and he wanted to know if he could approach Council about doing a Tax Abatement. Mr. Billeaud then stated that he knows there will be a lot of questions between both parties so he was thinking about having a Work Session. Mr. Billeaud stated that he could put an agenda item on the next Council Meeting to select a date for a Work Session. Council agreed that would be the best route.

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

CONSIDER AWARDING THE BID FOR THE 2021 GLO CDBG-DR STREET IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT PHASE III, GLO CONTRACT NO. 20-065-039-C120, GULF COAST, THE LOW BIDDER, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$501,085.00: Mayor Pro Tem Mark McAdams made a motion to consider awarding the bid for the 2021 GLO CDBG-DR Street Improvements Project Phase III, GLO Contract NO. 20-065-039-C120, Gulf Coast, the low bidder, in the amount of \$501,085.00 and Councilmember Vensel seconded. Interim City Manager introduced Susan Stover from David J. Waxman, Inc. and then explained to Council that we have \$375,766.03 remaining from Phase II of the GLO and we also have approximately \$400,000 remaining in our current budget for street repairs. Mr. Billeaud then explained to get Jackson and Royal repaired it would cost the City \$125,318.97 out of our street repairs budget. Therefore, the GLO Contract NO. 20-065-039-C120 would be used to pay \$375,766.03 and the City would pay the remaining \$125,318.97 out of the street repair budget which totals the amount of \$501,085.00 needed to repair Jackson and Royal. Councilmember Vensel asked what is the date that this money has to be used by and Mrs. Stover responded October of next year. There were no further questions and the motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AWARDING THE BID FOR THE 2023 CITY STREET IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR MONTROSE AND ADAMS TO GULF COAST, THE LOW BIDDER, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$228,502.00: Councilmember Vensel made a motion to consider awarding the bid for the 2023 City Street Improvement Program for Montrose and Adams to Gulf Coast, the low bidder, in the amount of \$228,502.00 and Councilmember Dugas seconded. Interim City Manager Lance Billeaud explained that to redo Montrose entirely it would be \$250,742.50 and if you use GLO money to repair streets then you have to redo everything. Mr. Billeaud then stated that the base of Montrose was done 3 years ago so it just needs to be capped. Mr. Billeaud also stated that he talked with the engineers and they informed us that since this money would come out of the City budget then we can just cap Montrose for \$75,110. Councilmember Vensel amended his previous motion to change the current motion price of \$228,502 to the corrected price of \$228,612 and Councilmember Dugas seconded. There were no further questions and the motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSS POSSIBLE CHANGES TO FEES FOR GAME ROOM APPLICATIONS: This agenda item was for discussion only and did not need a motion. Councilmember Dugas stated that she would like to change some of the fees for example take the \$400 Coin Operated Amusement Devices Fee to \$1,000. City Attorney Brandon P. Monk then stated that for the regulatory license fee there is discretion for the Cities which they are supposed to consider cost for enforcement. Mr. Monk then stated that the enforcement could include inspections both Building and Police or any other resources the City must use for enforcement. Councilmember Dugas also stated that she would like to change the distance from 300 ft. to 1000 ft along with adding residential area and Mr. Monk stated that as of now the state law is 300 ft. Councilmember Dugas then asked if we in fact have discretion where the application and renewal fee is concerned and Mr. Monk stated we do have that discretion but you have to consider what is the cost for the City. Mr. Monk also stated that this is not an opportunity to raise revenue. Mayor Borne then asked if we have any idea on what it costs the City to go through an application process and Mr. Monk stated that he does not. Mayor Borne then asked Finance Director Lamar Ozley if to his knowledge has the City ever ran a negative balance in what we have to do to keep these Game Rooms running based on the fees that they pay already and Mr. Ozley responded not to his knowledge. Mr. Ozley also stated that he also has no idea what the Police Department does with their portion of it. Mayor Borne then suggested that we talk to the City Marshal to find out what his requirements are on top of what Don and the Fire Department has to do. Mayor Borne then also stated that we have to stay in line of just covering our cost and not to make money. Councilmember Dugas also stated

that she would like to add routine and frequent inspections are needed in the Ordinance.

Mayor Borne then asked Councilmember Dugas what the motive is to increase the fees associated with Game Rooms and Ms. Dugas stated because she does not want Game Rooms in Groves. Mayor Borne then asked her then why not change the Ordinance to just outlaw Game Rooms. Councilmember Rob Vensel then asked if \$1,000 is the limit and Mr. Monk stated that on the regulatory fees there is not a statutory limit but more about what your resources are. Mr. Monk also stated that some of the figures came from neighboring municipalities. Councilmember Oliver asked if those neighboring municipality Ordinances for Game Rooms follow what we are trying to establish here and Mr. Monk stated that he thinks we are in line with those municipalities. Councilmember Dugas then asked City Attorney Brandon P. Monk if he can work up some guidelines on what was discussed today and Mr. Monk stated he would. There was no further discussion on this item.

INVOICES: Interim City Manager Lance Billeaud presented invoices for payment totaling \$540,777.25 as follows:

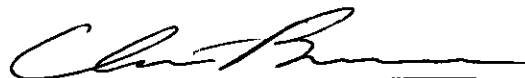
Delta Industrial Service and Supply INC	New Gear for replacement of old gear and for new hires.	8,099.18
Delta Industrial service and Supply INC	Replacement gear for three volunteer firefighters.	8,941.18
DXI Industries, INC	CL2 and SO2 for Wastewater Plant.	9,646.20
Fuelman of Lafayette	Gas and diesel for March 2023.	21,377.02
Kontrol Automations, Inc	New control panel for centrifuge.	59,500.00
Lower Neches Valley Authority	Raw Water Purchased.	22,777.04
Motorola Solution	New radios for Police Department.	26,785.65

Newtron Electrical Services	High Service #4 went out three months out of warranty. Pump Solutions repaired motor at discounted price.	6,950.00
Newtron Electrical Services	Heater to be installed for High Service #4 to prevent moisture.	8,275.00
Republic Services	Collection of commercial dumpsters – March 2023.	7,132.64
Republic Services	March Sludge Disposal.	8,390.31
Soutex Surveyors, INC	Engineering Services for 2022-2023 CLFRF Pipe Bursting Project (50% complete).	6,856.25
Soutex Surveyors, INC	Fire Station HMAC Street Program Gulf Ave, Doyle and Washington.	21,757.00
Texas Pride Utilities	Pay Application #3 for 2022-2023 CLFRF Pipe Bursting Project.	148,604.40
Texas Pride Utilities	Pay Application #4 for 2022-2023 CLFRF Pipe Bursting Project.	158,446.80
Wathen, DeShong & Juncker, L.L.P.	FYE 2022 Audit Final Bill.	11,500.00
WC Tractor Washington County Tractor	Repair slope mower.	5,738.58

Councilmember Rhonda Dugas made a motion to approve payment of the invoices totaling \$540,777.25 and Councilmember Vensel seconded. Councilmember Dugas asked about the HMAC Street Program for Gulf Ave, Doyle and Washington and Interim City Manager Lance Billeaud stated that these street repairs are from the Bond Money. Councilmember Dugas then asked Finance Director Lamar Ozley why we are paying Wathen, DeShong & Juncker another \$11,500 and Mr. Ozley stated

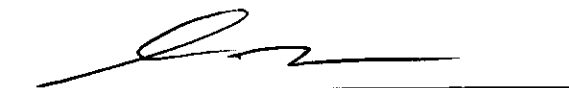
that because it is the contract price that was approved by Council years prior. There were no further questions. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Borne asked for Councilmember comments. Mayor Borne stated that he had the privilege of attending the KC's Estelle and Allen Fetters Golf Tournament this weekend and it was a great success. There being no further business, Mayor Borne adjourned the meeting at 5:38 p.m.



Mayor Borne

ATTEST:



City Clerk