

A regular meeting of the Groves City Council was held February 27, 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. Councilmember Vensel then led the opening prayer and pledge of allegiance.

APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 13, 2023 CITY COUNCIL MEETING: Mayor Pro Tem Mark McAdams moved to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2023 City Council meeting as written and Councilmember Vensel seconded. Mayor Borne asked for questions and there were none. Motion passed unanimously.

RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 13, 2023 PLANNING AND ZONING MEETING: Mayor Borne stated that the minutes have been received.

Mayor Borne then asked Interim City Manager Lance Billeaud if there are any reports and there were three reports for this meeting. The first report was from Events Coordinator Libbie LeJeune regarding the 2023 Spring Fest. Ms. LeJeune then gave Council a brief overview of the event and of the different vendors that will be set up. There were no further questions for Ms. LeJeune.

City Marshal Norman Reynolds then went over the 2022 UCR/NIBRS Crime Summary Report. Marshal Reynolds went through the report and explained to Council the differences in all of the offenses comparing 2021 to 2022. Marshal Reynolds also stated that 2022 was the lowest number of offenses the City has seen since the 60's. Mayor Pro Tem McAdams asked how many Officers do we have and Marshal Reynolds stated that we have 23 full time Officers and 1 part time. There were no further questions from Council regarding this report.

City Marshal Reynolds then went over the 2022 Racial Profiling Report. Marshal Reynolds stated that they have been doing this report since 2003 and this is a required annual report that has to be sent to the State. He then stated that throughout the years this report verifies that the City of Groves has never had a disproportionate number of stops, searches or arrests of minorities. Marshal Reynolds also stated that the Groves Police Department does not condone selective enforcement of any kind. There were no questions from Council.

Mayor Borne then asked for Citizen Comments and Larry Mannino of 4100 Grant asked Council to not vote for Baker Tilly in regards to selecting an executive search firm to hire City Manager. Mr. Mannino then stated that his son lives at 3908 Berry and that they have been trying to get the City to fix his ditch in front of his house for three years. Mr. Mannino stated that the water stands in his yard really bad. Mr. Mannino also stated to Council that he feels like the City needs a forensic audit.

There were no other Citizen Comments.

DISCUSS AND TAKE VOTE ON SETTING A DATE FOR A WORK SESSION TO DISCUSS THE PUBLIC WORKS WASTEWATER SYSTEM: Councilmember Rob Vensel made a motion to discuss and take vote on setting a date for a Work Session to discuss the Public Works Wastewater System and Mayor Pro Tem Mark McAdams seconded. Councilmember Vensel amended his previous motion to include the date of March 6, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. and Mayor Pro Tem McAdams seconded. There were no further questions. Motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER A DRAFT AMENDMENT TO THE EXISTING SIGN ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO TEMPORARY OFF-SIGHT SIGNAGE IN THE CITY OF GROVES RIGHT OF WAYS AND EASEMENTS: Councilmember Dugas made a motion to discuss and consider a draft amendment to the existing sign ordinance pertaining to temporary off-sight signage in the City of Groves right of ways and easements and Councilmember Oliver seconded. City Attorney Brandon P. Monk stated that all he did from the last draft ordinance was to delete the limitations of the size of the yard signs that could be displayed for special occasions. Council then discussed the ordinance and the different regulations in it. There was no vote taken on this item.

DISCUSS AND TAKE VOTE ON SELECTING AN EXECUTIVE SEARCH FIRM TO HIRE CITY MANAGER (TABLED AT PREVIOUS MEETING): Councilmember Rob Vensel made a motion to discuss and take vote on selecting an Executive Search Firm to hire City Manager and Mayor Pro Tem McAdams seconded. Mayor Borne asked City Attorney Brandon P. Monk if he had been able to look at the contracts from a legal standpoint and asked if there were any significant structural differences that were of concern. Mr. Monk then stated that Slavin contract specifically spells out a little different than the others that there is an expense figure and a not to exceed amount that is a percentage amount of the professional fees. Mr. Monk then stated that Baker Tilly specifies that their advertisement is all inclusive and their contract

supports that too. Councilmember Oliver stated that Slavin has a two-year guarantee and Baker Tilly has a one-year guarantee. Councilmember Vensel made a motion to un table the decision to select Baker Tilly as the Executive Search Firm and Mayor Pro Tem McAdams seconded. There were no further questions. All Councilmembers voted against selecting Baker Tilly as the Executive Search Firm and motion failed. Councilmember Vensel then made a motion to select Slavin as the Executive Search Firm to hire City Manager and Mayor Pro Tem McAdams seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 2023-01, AMENDING CHAPTER 11 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GROVES; CREATING ARTICLE IV GOVERNING THE OPERATION OF FOOD TRUCKS IN THE CITY:

Councilmember Vensel made a motion to consider approval of Ordinance 2023-01 and Mayor Pro Tem Mark McAdams seconded. City Attorney Brandon P. Monk presented proposed Ordinance No. 2023-01, reading the caption as follows: "An Ordinance amending Chapter 11 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Groves; creating Article IV governing the operation of food trucks in the City; approving C-3 district: general heavy commercial district for food truck operations; approving C-2 district: general light commercial district for food truck operations upon approval of Specific Use Permit; providing a permit fee for food trucks and for site permits for food trucks; providing a penalty; providing for codification; providing for publication by publishing the caption only; making findings of fact; and providing for an effective date." There were no questions and motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 2023-02, AMENDING CHAPTER 21, ARTICLE III, GAME ROOM AND GAMING MACHINES OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES; REQUIRING A SPECIFIC USE PERMIT APPLICATION YEARLY IN ORDER TO OPERATE IN THE CITY OF GROVES: Councilmember Rob Vensel made a motion to consider approval of Ordinance 2023-02 and Councilmember Rhonda Dugas seconded. City Attorney Brandon P. Monk presented proposed Ordinance No. 2023-01, reading the caption as follows: "An Ordinance amending Chapter 21, Article III. Game Rooms and Gaming Machines of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Groves; requiring a Specific Use Permit application yearly in order to operate Game Rooms and Gaming Machines in the City; providing for codification; providing for publication by publishing the caption only; making findings of fact; and providing for an effective date." Councilmember Dugas asked City Attorney Brandon P. Monk if there is a rule about how many gaming machines you can have and Mr. Monk stated that the Ordinance itself would have that in there and I

don't know off of the top of my head but I can look it up. There were no further questions and motion passed unanimously.

INVOICES: Interim City Manager Lance Billeaud presented invoices for payment totaling \$101,986.18 as follows:

Core & Main, LP	Registers for Water Meters.	22,800.00
Fuelman of Lafayette	Gas and Diesel for January 2023.	23,925.67
Houston Poly Bag	Trash Bags for Water Office.	5,058.00
National Playground Construction, LLC	Labor for Lions Park Playground Installation.	23,983.00
Republic Services	Peace and Dignity Program: 5521 Marion, 3701 Pure Atlantic, 6255 Garner, 6398 Monroe, 5905 25 th , 4970 Wilson, 6657 Washington, 4710 Martha, Monroe Indian Springs, 3815 Pure Atlantic, 6528 Washington, 5600 39 th , 7048 Washington.	7,345.79
Republic Services	January sludge disposal.	7,784.01
Southern Tire Mart, LLC	Sixteen new tires for multiple Solid Waste Vehicles.	5,330.74
United Rentals Beaumont	Equipment rentals for 39 th St. Concrete Repairs.	5,758.97

Councilmember Vensel made a motion to approve payment of the invoices totaling \$101,986.18 and Councilmember Dugas seconded. Councilmember Vensel asked if these are the meters that we have been waiting on and Utilities Manager Michael Tenstrup stated that these were ordered last summer. Councilmember Vensel then asked how many Meters came in and Interim City Manager Lance Billeaud stated it was 100 and they are all installed. Mayor Borne then asked about the installation of playground equipment for Lions Park and Interim City Manager Lance Billeaud stated that they split the invoice and charged us for the actual equipment

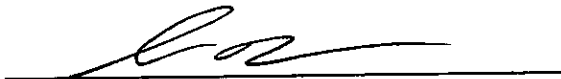
and the installation at separate times. There were no further questions. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Borne asked for Councilmember comments. Councilmember Dugas thanked everyone for voting for Slavin. There being no further business, Mayor Borne adjourned the meeting at 5:50 p.m.



Mayor Borne

ATTEST:



City Clerk