

A regular meeting of the Groves City Council was held June 19, 2023 in the Groves City Council Chamber with Mayor Chris Borne, Mayor Pro Tem Mark McAdams, Councilmember Rhonda Dugas, Councilmember Paul Oliver and Councilmember Rob Vensel in attendance. Mayor Borne called the meeting to order and welcomed the attendees and then a member of the local VFW then led the prayer and pledge of allegiance.

APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 5, 2023 CITY COUNCIL MEETING: Councilmember Rob Vensel moved to approve the minutes of the June 5, 2023 City Council Meeting as written and Councilmember Paul Oliver seconded. Mayor Borne asked for questions and there were none. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Borne asked for reports and we did have three reports, the first is from Interim City Manager Lance Billeaud regarding the selling of the old Renaissance Hospital. Mr. Billeaud stated that with the selling of the hospital the City was able to recuperate roughly \$6,000 in liens from grass cutting that will go into the General Fund. Mr. Billeaud then stated that we also received a check for water bill out of date for \$53,275.03 that goes into the water and sewer utilities. Interim City Manager Billeaud also stated that he has been working on this with Brett Smith and that Mr. Smith has been very adamant from the very beginning that the City needs to be reimbursed for these bills.

Mayor Borne then introduced Mrs. Letha Knaus for a report regarding updates to the Pecan Festival. Mrs. Knaus stated that she wanted to update Council on a couple of things that were added to the Pecan Festival this year and the first will be a Gumbo Cookoff. The Gumbo Cookoff will be October 7th which is the Saturday before the Festival at Lion's Park and also a cooking with pecans beverage contest. Mrs. Knaus then stated that they have already started with sponsorships and that it is going really well. Mrs. Knaus also stated that they are already full on the food vendors and we have some really great bands lined up.

Ken Lofton from the local VFW then gave a report on D Day which occurred June 6, 1944 and was the invasion of the Beaches of Normandy.

Mayor Borne then asked if there were any citizen comments and James Frederick of 6367 Adams St. spoke about an email from UPS regarding trees hanging over the roads that needed to be trimmed. Mayor Borne then asked if there were any other citizen comments and there were none.

CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM BORN AGAIN MINISTRIES TO HOLD AN EVENT AT LIONS PARK ON AUGUST 5, 2023: Councilmember Vensel made a motion to

consider a request from Born Again Ministries to hold an event at Lions Park on August 5, 2023 and Mayor Pro Tem McAdams seconded. Mayor Borne then stated that Borne Again Ministries were not able to make this meeting and would like to be considered for another Council Meeting. Mayor Borne then suggested that this item be tabled and Council agreed. Councilmember Vensel made a motion to table this motion and Mayor Pro Tem McAdams seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

SET A DATE FOR A WORKSHOP REGARDING A JOINT POLICE AND FIRE TRAINING FACILITY TO BE CONSTRUCTED AT THE GROVES WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OFF THE PROCTOR EXTENSION: Mayor Pro Tem Mark McAdams made a motion to set a date for a Workshop regarding a Joint Police and Fire Training Facility to be constructed at the Groves Wastewater Treatment Plant off the Proctor Extension and Councilmember Dugas seconded. Council and the representatives from the Police and Fire agreed on June 27, 2023. Mayor Pro Tem McAdams amended his motion for the Work Session to be on June 27, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. and Councilmember Dugas seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSS AND TAKE A VOTE ON SETTING WORK SESSIONS FOR THE FY 2023-2024 BUDGET: Councilmember Rob Vensel made a motion to discuss and take a vote on setting Work Sessions for the FY 2023-2024 Budget and Councilmember Rhonda Dugas seconded. Interim City Manager then addressed Council and explained that himself along with Finance Director Lamar Ozley would like the first Work Session to be with just Council and the following Work Sessions to include Directors and staff. Councilmember Vensel amended his original motion to include June 27, July 10, July 11 and July 18, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. and Councilmember Dugas seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 2023-07 TO INCREASE FEES ASSOCIATED WITH GAME ROOM APPLICATIONS: Councilmember Rob Vensel made a motion to consider approval of Ordinance 2023-07 to increase fees associated with Game Room Applications and Councilmember Paul Oliver seconded. City Attorney Brandon P. Monk presented proposed Ordinance No. 2023-07, 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; increasing the fees set forth in Sec. 21-54 – Fee Schedule in Article III; 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 the motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPOINTMENTS TO THE EDC BOARD:

Councilmember Dugas made a motion to discuss and consider appointments to the EDC Board and Oliver seconded. Councilmember Dugas stated that they have Mrs. Letha Knaus and Mr. Derrick Theall as names to add to the EDC Board. Mayor Borne made a motion to table this appointment to the EDC Board until letters of interest can be received and reviewed from all of Council and Councilmember Vensel seconded. Mayor Borne then stated that he is asking to table this item because he has not received any letters from applicants to review. The motion to table did not pass with Mayor Borne and Councilmember Vensel for the item to be tabled. Mayor Pro Tem McAdams, Councilmember Oliver and Councilmember Dugas against tabling. Motion failed. Councilmember Dugas amended her previous motion to discuss and consider appointments to the EDC Board and included to approve Mrs. Letha Knaus and Mr. Derrick Theall to the Board and Mayor Pro Tem McAdams seconded. Motion passed with all in favor except Mayor Borne.

INVOICES: Interim City Manager Lance Billeaud presented invoices for payment totaling \$423,634.52 as follows:

Core & Main, LP	Registers for water meters.	25,600.00
DXI Industries, INC.	Chlorine for Water Plant.	6,861.60
Fuelman of Lafayette	Gas and Diesel for May 2023.	19,947.97
Meineke Car Care	Fixed DEF System on old Fire Pickup Truck.	6,477.32
Republic Services	Sludge disposal for May 2023.	7,929.13
Texas Pride Utilities	Pay Application #6 for 2022-2023 Pipe Bursting Project.	356,818.50

Councilmember Vensel moved to approve payment of the invoices totaling \$423,634.52 and Mayor Pro Tem McAdams seconded. Mayor Borne then asked for questions. Councilmember Dugas asked how many registers were purchased with the \$25,600 and Utilities Supervisor Mike Tentrup stated it was 100 water meters. Mayor Pro Tem McAdams asked if we have caught up with replacing the meters that have went out and Mr. Tentrup stated that we have caught up but we will probably

loose ground due to not being able to order more until next budget. Councilmember Oliver then asked out of the over 7,000 meters we have in the City how many do you still have to manually read and Mr. Tentrup stated about 1,400. There were no other questions and motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Borne asked for Councilmember comments. Councilmember Dugas stated that she went to the Oak Grove Nursing Home ground breaking for their expansion and remodel and it was really nice. There were no further comments.

There was no further business and Mayor Borne adjourned the meeting at 5:47 p.m.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk