

A regular meeting of the Groves City Council was held January 29, 2024 in the Groves City Council Chamber with Mayor Chris Borne, Mayor Pro Tem Mark McAdams, Councilmember Pete Konidis, Councilmember Rhonda Dugas, and Councilmember Paul Oliver in attendance. Mayor Borne called the meeting to order and welcomed the attendees. The prayer and pledge of allegiance was then held by the local VFW.

APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 8, 2024 CITY COUNCIL MEETING: Councilmember Pete Konidis moved to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2024 City Council meeting as written and Mayor Pro Tem Mark McAdams seconded. Mayor Borne asked for discussion and there was none. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Borne then called for reports and Mr. Ken Lofton from the local VFW gave a report on different activities and community service events they are involved in. Local VFW 4820 did approximately \$187,000 worth of community service in 2023. There were no further reports.

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

DELIBERATE AND ACT ON AERIAL WAIVER AUTHORIZING THE JEFFERSON COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT TO FLY AT LOW ALTITUDES, AS REQUIRED FOR THE APPLICATION OF PESTICIDES FOR THE CONTROL OF MOSQUITOS WITHIN THE GROVES CITY LIMITS: Mayor Pro Tem McAdams made a motion to deliberate and act on Aerial Waiver Authorizing the Jefferson County Mosquito Control District to fly at low altitudes, as required for the application of pesticides for the control of mosquitos within the Groves City Limits and Councilmember Oliver seconded. Mayor Borne asked if this waiver is any different from the ones in the past and City Manager Kevin Carruth stated it is not. There were no further questions and the motion passed unanimously.

DELIBERATE AND ACT ON LOWER NECHES VALLEY AUTHORITY MUNICIPAL RAW WATER SUPPLY CONTRACT AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS: Councilmember Konidis made a motion to deliberate and act on Lower Neches Valley Authority Municipal Raw Water Supply Contract and authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute all necessary documents. Mayor Pro Tem Mark McAdams seconded. Councilmember Dugas asked City Attorney Brandon P. Monk if he has read through the contract and if there is anything that needed to be changed or discussed. Mr. Monk stated that he has been through the contract and all his questions have been answered. Mr. Monk then suggested that the change in the gallons per minute be explained to Council. Public Works Director Troy Foxworth explained that in the

previous contract the LNVA suggested to go over the amount that we can produce but, in this contract, we changed it to the actual amount we can produce which is 3900 gallons per minute. City Attorney Brandon P. Monk also stated that the length of the contract changed to more of an Evergreen type renewal of one year which will automatically renew unless the City decides not to renew. Mayor Borne suggested that we review this yearly prior to the automatic renewal. There were no questions and the motion passed unanimously.

DELIBERATE AND ACT ON ORDINANCE 2024-02, REPEALING CHAPTER 16, ARTICLE IV, SECTION 16-71, WHICH ESTABLISHES A CURFEW FOR MINORS IN THE CITY OF GROVES: Councilmember Konidis made a motion to deliberate and act of Ordinance 2024-02, repealing Chapter 16, Article IV, Section 16-71, which established a curfew for minors in the City of Groves. Mayor Pro Tem McAdams seconded. City Attorney Brandon P. Monk stated that this something that is a little out of date and inconsistent with state law. City Manager Kevin Carruth stated that the Texas Legislature eroded the City's authority in this area in the last session and it went into effect September 1st. Mr. Monk then stated that we have not been enforcing this but it does need to be removed from our ordinances. Mayor Borne stated that the curfew could be put back into place for emergency situations. There were no further questions and the motion passed unanimously.

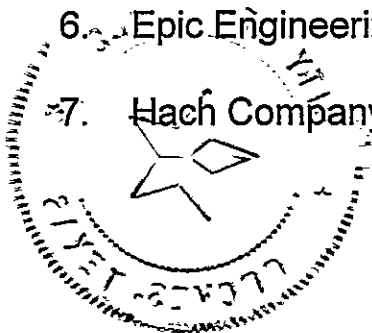
DELIBERATE AND ACT ON A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A FY 2025 BODY-WORN CAMERA PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION AND DESIGNATING THE INTERIM CITY MARSHAL AS THE AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: Councilmember Dugas made a motion to deliberate and act on a Resolution authorizing the submission of a FY 2025 Body-Worn Camera Program Grant Application and designating the Interim City Marshal as the authorized official. Councilmember Paul Oliver seconded. Interim City Marshal Chris Robin stated that this is a competitive State funded Grant Program for Body-Work Cameras. Marshal Robin then informed Council that this specific grant does have a required match that the city would have to meet if these funds were granted. Councilmember Konidis asked if this funding would fall into next years budget and Marshal Robin stated it would. Marshal Robin then informed Council that this grant funding would be allowed to be used on body-worn cameras, its accessories, communication technology, networking technology, and data storage technology. City Manager Kevin Carruth wanted to also point out that our existing body-worn cameras need to start being replace next fiscal year whether we get the grant or not. Councilmember Konidis asked if there is a reason for only asking for 21 cameras instead of 23 which is the number of current officers. Marshal Robin stated that the way the grant is worded, it

would be for those individuals that regularly complete traffic enforcement or primarily respond to calls for service. Councilmember Konidis suggested trying to get some for the fire department also because they also have licensed police officers that respond to calls. Mayor Borne stated that what Council needs to vote on today would be to allow you to submit the grant application or not. Marshal Robin stated that is correct. There were no questions and the motion passed unanimously.

DELIBERATE AND ACT ON A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF A FY 2025 CRIMINAL JUSTICE GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION TO PURCHASE HAND HELD RADIOS AND DESIGNATING THE INTERIM CITY MARSHAL AS THE AUTHORIZED OFFICER: Councilmember Konidis made a motion to deliberate and act on a resolution authorizing the submittal of a FY 2025 Criminal Justice Grant Program Application to purchase hand held radios and designating the Interim City Marshal as the authorized officer. Councilmember Rhonda Dugas seconded. Interim City Marshal Robin stated that they are trying to get five more radios and this grant has zero match. Marshal Robin informed Council that the Police Department needs eleven more total but he is unsure of how many other departments in the City are needing. There were no further questions and the motion passed unanimously.

INVOICES: City Manager Kevin Carruth presented invoices for payment totaling \$152,627.77 as follows:

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| 1. | Amber Estates, LLC | Amber Estates Sub divider refund for 2023. | \$6,405.35 |
| 2. | City of Port Arthur | Landfill Sludge disposal December. | \$5,200.00 |
| 3. | City of Port Arthur | Landfill fees for 11/27/23 – 12/22/23. | \$14,840.00 |
| 4. | Core & Main, L.P. | 5/8 meters with registers and 6ft antenna. | \$9,520.00 |
| 5. | DXI Industries, INC | CL2 and SO2 for Wastewater Plant. | \$12,861.60 |
| 6. | Epic Engineering | Flowline Ultrasonic Level Transmitter. | \$8,199.12 |
| 7. | Hach Company | Annual service contract. | \$5,911.00 |



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| 8. Lower Neches Valley Authority | Raw water purchased. | \$40,077.10 |
| 9. Motorola Solutions | New portable radios for Police. | \$26,785.65 |
| 10. Republic Services | Container service. | \$8,847.79 |
| 11. Republic Services | Sludge disposal for December 2023. | \$8,941.84 |
| 12. Vulcan Construction Materials, LP | A-1 limestone base for stock. | \$5,038.24 |

Mayor Pro Tem Mark McAdams moved to approve payment of the invoices totaling \$152,627.77 and Councilmember Konidis seconded. Mayor Borne asked how much longer we have for the Amber Estates sub divider rebate and Finance Director Lamar Ozley stated 16 years. Mayor Borne asked if the radios were budgeted for and they were. There were no further questions and the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Borne asked for Councilmember comments. Mayor Borne then thanked Mr. Lofton for all of his work with the VFW and his service to our country. There were no further comments.

There was no further business and Mayor Borne adjourned the meeting at 5:49 p.m.


Mayor

ATTEST:


City Clerk

