

A regular meeting of the Groves City Council was held October 21, 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. A representative from VFW 4820 then led the prayer and pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Borne asked for reports and City Manager Kevin Carruth informed Council that two trucks from Enterprise were delivered today. There were no further reports.

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

RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 30, 2024, AND OCTOBER 14, 2024 PLANNING AND ZONING METINGS: Mayor Borne asked if everyone received a copy in their packet and everyone had.

DELIBERATE AND ACT TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 30, 2024, SPECIAL MEETING: Councilmember Oliver made a motion to deliberate and act to approve the minutes of the September 30, 2024, Special Meeting and Mayor Pro Tem McAdams seconded. There were no questions and the motion passed unanimously.

DELIBERATE AND ACT ON A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH TOTALENERGIES FOR THE USE OF CERTAIN CITY FACILITIES AS A BACKUP EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER FOR TOTALENERGIES AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, CITY MANAGER, AND FIRE CHIEF TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS: Councilmember Dugas made a motion to deliberate and act on a Memorandum of Understanding with TotalEnergies for the use of certain city facilities as a backup Emergency Operations Center for TotalEnergies and authorizing the Mayor, City Manager, and Fire Chief to negotiate and execute all necessary documents. Councilmember Oliver seconded. Fire Chief Lance Billeaud informed Council that three years ago Total came to the City of Groves asking if a catastrophe knocked out their EOC if they could use some of our buildings. Chief Billeaud then stated that it was approved then but they did not get the agreement spelled out, but they now have an agreement in writing. Chief Billeaud then informed Council that if need be Total would use the training room at the Fire Station and the City of Groves command center for EOC is the Court Room. Councilmember Oliver asked if that would interfere with our operations and Chief Billeaud assured him it would not. There were no further questions and the motion passed unanimously.

DELIBERATE AND ACT ON ESTABLISHING A DATE FOR A JOINT PUBLIC HEARING WITH THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION FOR SPECIFIC USE PERMITS FOR GAME ROOMS LOCATED AT 5011 MONROE BLVD. AND 5170 TWIN CITY HIGHWAY: Councilmember Dugas made a motion to deliberate and act on establishing a date for a Joint Public Hearing with the Planning and Zoning Commission for specific use permits for game rooms located at 5011 Monroe Blvd. and 5170 Twin City Highway. Councilmember Konidis seconded. Councilmember Oliver stated that he is concerned about the game rooms that are close to apartment complexes or playgrounds. City Attorney Brandon P. Monk stated that the state already restricts distances from schools and things like that but there are no state restrictions from apartment complexes or playgrounds. Mr. Monk then stated that the concern would be having something that is more restrictive than the state. Mr. Monk also stated that would need to be its own discussion. City Manger Kevin Carruth stated that staff is looking into what the other cities around us are doing with their ordinances to see if there is anything we can bring to council. Councilmember Dugas asked if any of the State laws have changed concerning game rooms and Mr. Monk stated that not as far as he knows. Mayor Borne stated that staff's recommendation for the Joint Public Hearing is November 18, 2024. Councilmember Dugas amended her previous motion to include the date of November 18, 2024, and Councilmember Konidis seconded. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

DELIBERATE AND ACT ON AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE PAY GRADE FOR THE CITY MANAGER POSITION: Mayor Pro Tem McAdams made a motion to deliberate and act on an ordinance approving the pay grade for the City Manager Position and Councilmember Oliver seconded. Mayor Pro Tem McAdams amended his previous motion to include Ordinance number 2024-25 and Councilmember Oliver seconded. There were no questions and the motion passed unanimously.

INVOICES: City Manager Kevin Carruth presented invoices for payment totaling \$99,245.98 as follows:

1. Chemtex Environmental	August lab charges.	\$5,590.00
2. City of Port Arthur	Landfill sludge disposal September 2024.	\$5,720.00

3. City of Port Arthur	Landfill fees 7/26/24 – 8/22/24.	\$15,900.00
4. Fuelman	Gas and diesel for September 2024.	\$16,138.90
5. Hach Company	Hach annual service partnership.	\$6,331.00
6. Industrial & Commercial Mechanical, LLC	AC coil for activity building air conditioner.	\$13,970.00
7. Lower Neches Valley Authority	Raw water purchased.	\$24,750.00
8. Republic Services	Sludge disposal September 2024.	\$10,846.08

Councilmember Pete Konidis moved to approve payment of the invoices totaling \$99,245.98 and Councilmember Oliver seconded. Mayor Borne asked about the AC coils for the activity building and City Manager Kevin Carruth stated that is the third repair to that particular unit in the last 12 months. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Borne asked for Councilmember comments. Councilmember Konidis stated that there was a great turnout at the Pecan Festival. There was no further business and Mayor Borne adjourned the meeting at 5:18 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

