

**MINUTES  
GROVES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER  
GROVES CITY HALL  
JULY 29, 2024**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

**Rhonda Dugas, Mark McAdams, Pete Konidis, Sidney Badon, Letha Knaus,  
Paul Oliver.**

**Absent:**

**Derek Theall**

**President Rhonda Dugas called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.**

**Prayer and Pledge was given by Rhonda Dugas**

**Roll call was taken by Rhonda Dugas.**

**Rhonda Dugas welcomed all guest and news media.**

**ITEM V:**

**President Rhonda Dugas called for a motion and a second to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2024 Groves Economic Development Corporation. Take a record vote. A motion was made by Mark McAdams and a second was made by Sidney Badon. Rhonda Dugas asked if there were any questions or discussion. None. A record vote was taken. Motion passed. All in favor, none opposed.**

**ITEM VI:**

**President Dugas called for citizen comments. There were none.**

**ITEM VII:**

**Rhonda Dugas called for a discussion on new business, any new information, and existing structures. Mr. Carruth stated a vacant lot was purchased on the corner of Jefferson and 39<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Reyes has purchased it and is in the process of landscaping the lot. Rhonda Dugas asked about the hospital structure, Mr. Smith is the owner, there are high weeds and high grass. Mr. Carruth has not spoken to him recently. Letha Knaus said that beside home care there is a lot a parking area has shrubbery that needs to be cut down. Letha Knaus asked if whoever owns that please contact Ms. Olivia. Rhonda Dugas asked Mr. Carruth to please take care of it. Rhonda Dugas asked if there were any other comments and there were none.**

**ITEM VIII:**

**Budget Report Sales Tax Report.** Rhonda Dugas asked Mr. Ozley to speak about them. Mr. Ozley had passed out all the reports to each board member. We had another good month in a row with a good increase. We are 9% ahead over where we were last year. We had one grant for Classic Finds last month. Rhonda Dugas asked if there were any questions or a discussion. There was None.

**ITEM IX:**

**Brandon Monks Contract.** Rhonda Dugas called for a motion and a second to deliberate on Mr. Monks contract. A motion was made by Sidney Badon and a second was made by Paul Oliver. Rhonda Dugas stated this was discussed last month as it was an item on the agenda. A copy of the contract was sent in email to all board members Friday. The contract had not changed and all concerns that was previously discussed had been met. Rhonda Dugas asked Mr. Monk if anything had changed. Mr. Monk stated nothing had changed. Rhonda Dugas called for a record vote. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

**ITEM X:**

**Honey and Luna Boutique.** Rhonda Dugas asked for a motion and a second. Pete Konidis made the motion and Letha Knous made the second. Linda Moore is the owner and the store is located in the Merle Norman store. Rhonda Dugas explained that on Mrs. Moore's sales tax certificate the address is in Orange and she figures her sales tax manually and all the sales tax is reported as Groves. Rhonda Dugas called for any questions. There were none. Take a record vote. Motion passed. None opposed.

**ITEM XI:**

**Maison D' Amis.** Rhonda Dugas asked for a motion and a second. A motion was made by Letha Knaus and a second by Paul Oliver. Mrs. Reyes addressed the board. Mrs. Reyes said the amount was incorrect and should be \$2,240. Sidney Badon wanted to know when the EDC paid for landscaping. Rhonda Dugas said landscaping is in the guidelines and has been in the guidelines. It is the beautification of the outside of the property. Letha Knaus asked if there is additional landscaping could Mrs. Reyes come back to EDC for additional reimbursement. Sidney Badon said he wanted Mrs. Reyes to get additional receipts before receiving a grant reimbursement. Mrs. Reyes asked if Sidney Badon had seen the improvement she made. Sidney Badon said yes. Rhonda Dugas said she does not require the business owners to hold their receipts and send all of them in at one time. Sidney Badon wanted to know why Ms. Dugas always corrects any misinformation. Mr. Badon said why do you always do this to me. Rhonda Dugas said you have no reason to do this as she was explaining how the applications are handled and that they had always been handled this way. (not requiring a business owner to hand in all

receipts at one time. They can hand them in as per the work is done.) Rhonda Dugas said if they have additional invoices the business owner fills out an additional application and file it. There is no reason for her to have to wait. Ms. Dugas asked if Sidney Badon needed a tissue. To which Sidney Badon enlisted the Port Arthur news to “put this in the news. Mary said she is recording. Rhonda Dugas said Sidney Badon is causing chaos where there is none. Rhonda Dugas told Mrs. Reyes that when she gets her additional invoices to file another application. Rhonda Dugas called for Letha Knaus to amend the motion to include the amount of \$2,240. Rhonda Dugas informed the EDC Board that this had been done repeatedly throughout since she had been on Council in 2020. If anything came up with EDC to change there was never a problem we just amend the motion for the amount. Mr. Monk was asked how he would like the motion be presented. Mr. Monk said we can amend the amount, item is correct. Letha Knaus made the motion to amend and Paul Oliver seconded. Sidney Badon voted no on the grant. Motion passed. Sidney Badon wanted someone removed Rhonda Dugas said we are still on our agenda.

**ITEM XII:**

**Comments.**

Letha Knaus stated there is a ribbon cutting for Gulf Credit Union in Nederland August 7.

August 8 a ribbon cutting for Doxie Coffee and Chamber breakfast at 8 a.m. at 9 a.m. Sidney Badon complained he wanted to speak without getting interrupted. Rhonda Dugas stated she takes charge of the meetings as President and she does it in the right way. Sidney Badon always creates chaos and mischief and interrupts her. Sidney Badon called Rhonda Dugas ignorant.

**XIII:**

Adjourn at 6:03 p.m.

