

CITY OF GROVETON MINUTES

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT, the City Council of the City of Groveton, Texas met in a Special Called Meeting for a 2018-2019 Budget Workshop on Monday, August 20, 2018. Discussions were held as follows.

**Council Members in Attendance: Councilman Joe Don Kennedy
Councilman Tommy Walton
Councilman Stephen Casper**

**Council Members Not in Attendance: Councilman Robert Smith
Mayor Pro-Tem Ralph Bennett**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Mayor Byron Richards. The Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were given.

FINANCE: Jack Paschetag, the accountant was present for the meeting to address Council on the Budget information. He stated he met with Mayor Richards and Donna Dial to review last year's budget and compare the figures of each department expenses and revenue. Mr. Paschetag stated he had completed an analysis thru July 2018 and the City had more revenue than expenses. He informed Council on the categories of the General Fund, which are divided into Fire & Health, General Administration, Library, Non-Departmental, Streets & Bridges, Total unclassified and Police & Courts. He reviewed each category on the comparison of which ones went over last year's budget.

On the property tax rate he stated the City always collects more taxes than Trinity County Appraisal District predict. The new effective rate for 2018 Property Tax Rates is 0.959700/\$100 and if the City adopts this rate tax it would increase compared to 2017 taxes by \$1,341.00 due to property value increase.

He stated the City needed to have Retail Businesses come in to increase the sales tax for the City. Mayor Richards informed Council on the street material we had received it from TXDOT and we will occasionally purchase some rock.

On the Utility Fund we have three categories, water, sewer and the sanitation. Mr. Paschetag informed Council the Trinity River Authority will decrease in the amount of \$4,500.00 per month starting in their new budget year December 2018. He also stated the City charges \$300.00 per water or sewer tap. The City might consider an increase on this charge due to cost of the meter and contractor. There was discussion on this issue and it would be consider at the Regular Meeting on August 27, 2018. There was a recommendation to increase the taps to \$500.00 each for the water or sewer tap.

Mayor Richards stated the Elevated Storage Tank needed repairs and he was going to submit an application to Temple. The cost for this rehabilitation is approximately \$35,000.00. On the Ground Storage Tank for the corrosion problems and to extend the life of this structure repairs will be performed. Mayor Richards states this cost will be \$20,000 and this has been included in the 2018-2019 budget.

Mr. Paschetag informed Council at the end of July the Utility Fund owes the General Fund around \$32,000.00 and this transfer goes into the Street Maintenance Department each month. He also informed Council on employee's raises to consider. The increase will be \$.25 an hour for four employees and one employee that is on month salary will be \$25.00 a month. There was discussion on these raises and it was suggested that these increases be added to the budget. One recommendation was for the Budget to include the amount \$1,500.00 for a Merit Raise.

Mr. Paschetag will revise the Budget and present it in the Regular Meeting for approval.

NEW BUSINESS: Mayor Richards informed Council there was an item for GEDC for approval and for the first reading. It was a GEDC Grant 4B for Jillian's Dance Studio and Deli Counter in the amount \$12,500.00. A motion was made by Councilman Casper to approve the 4B Grant for Jillian's Dance Studio and Deli Counter in the amount of \$12,500.00 GEDC- First Reading. A second to the motion was heard from Councilman Walton. Motion carried with 3 ayes and 0 nays from Council.

ADJOURN: A motion was made by Councilman Walton to adjourn the meeting. A second to the motion was heard from Councilman Kennedy. Motion carried with 3 ayes and 0 nays from Council. Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.

Byron Richards, Mayor

ATTEST:

**Donna Dial
City Secretary**