

GROVETON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the City Council of the City of Groveton, Texas met in a Regular Session Meeting on Monday January 22, 2018 to discuss the following:

Council Members in Attendance:

Councilman Stephen Casper

Councilman Tommy Walton

Councilman Joe Don Kennedy

Mayor Pro-Tem Ralph Bennett

Councilman Robert Smith

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

APPROVE MINUTES: A motion was made by Councilman Bennett to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting December 18, 2017 as presented. A second to the motion was heard from Councilman Casper. Motion carried with 5 ayes and 0 nays from Council.

PUBLIC FORUM: No Citizens present for the Public Forum.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Mayor Richards informed Council that Police Chief Raiford was unable to attend the meeting due to an illness in the family.

STREET & BRIDGES: A written report was submitted to Council to review of the street maintenance performed throughout the City.

WATER & SEWER: Mike Brown with Inframark presented to Council the monthly report and invoicing for the water and sewer operations. He stated that there were no excursions for the month at the sewer plant. The total purchased water was 1,180,000 and total gallons from the well was 1,379,000. The flushing amount for the month was 142,750. The extra invoicing was for the investigation of a sewer problem, the pickup and general repair on the generator for the sewer plant. Also at the water plant on MLK there was an annual CL2 system inspection for the chlorination. Mr. Brown stated that there was a problem at the water plant on the booster pump. Mayor Richards informed Mr. Brown to have the pump checked out.

A motion was made by Councilman Kennedy to approve the invoicing of \$12,278.72 for Inframark. A second to the motion was heard from Councilman Walton. Motion carried with 5 ayes and 0 nays from Council.

NEW BUSINESS: Kim Johnson with Todd, Hamaker & Johnson LLP presented the audit report for 2016-2017 for the City of Groveton. She stated in their opinion that all the financial statements present fairly in all material respects and the year ended in accordance with accounting principles. As of September 30, 2017, the City's assets exceeded its liabilities by \$5,583,669. Over time, net position serves as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. The City has a large investment in capital assets and the City uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens therefore, these assets are not available for future spending. Ms. Johnson stated that Court Fines revenue were down by 15,000 from prior year on the revenue statement. During the year, the fund balance in the City's governmental funds increased by \$38,335 as a result of operations. There was construction of a dog kennel for the animal control department at the sewer plant and also a purchase of a front-end loader for the maintenance department.

Ms. Johnson reviewed the statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances for the governmental and utility funds with Council. The financial statement stated the long-term debt for the two note payable to Citizens State Bank and also Series 2009 bond for the sewer project and the Series 2013 bond for the water project. She also informed Council on the report of the combining statement of net position component units for Economic Development Corporation Committee 4A & 4B. Ms. Johnson stated that the City of Groveton was in compliance with all matters.

Joseph Walker, the site manager for Pro-Star was present for the meeting. He stated that in 2015 Waste Connection had purchased Pro-Star Waste. They have made a lot of changes since that time. The Company have changed drivers, managers, and will be purchasing new trucks. Mr. Walker presented a renewal Contract and the City of Groveton's Contract will expire on May 31, 2018. Pro-Star desires to extend the term of the Contract on June 1, 2018 for an additional five (5) year period. He stated that Pro-Star Waste has not increased the fees to the City of Groveton with the CPI increasing each year for five (5) years. Mr. Walker was asked if they do any recycling and he stated not at this time. Mayor Richards informed Mr. Walker and Council that we will review the contract and consider the information presented.

Next on the agenda was approval of a General Election for May 5, 2018. A motion was made by Councilman Casper to approve the General Election on May 5, 2018. A second to the motion was heard from Councilman Walton. Motion carried with 5 ayes and 0 nays from Council.

On the agenda next was to approve two weekdays for early voting 12 hours for the Election May 5, 2018. A motion was made by Councilman Casper to approve April 24, 2018 and April 25, 2018 for the two weekdays for early voting 12 hours for the Election May 5, 2018. A second to the motion was heard from Councilman Walton. Motion carried with 5 ayes and 0 nays from Council.

Mayor Richards informed Council on the agenda were three different items from GEDC-4A for approval. The first was a grant application for the 2018 Civil War Reenactment in the amount of \$2,500. A motion was made by Councilman Bennett to approve the grant application to the 2018 Civil War "Battle of BlackJack Grove" reenactment in the amount of \$2,500 GEDC-4A. A second to the motion was heard from Councilman Kennedy. Motion carried with 5 ayes and 0 nays from Council.

The next item was a grant application for partial matching fund for the downtown improvement project. A motion was made by Councilman Bennett to approve the grant application for partial matching funds of approximately \$37,000 required under the downtown improvement project grant GEDC-4A. A second to the motion was heard from Councilman Kennedy. Motion carried with 5 ayes and 0 nays from Council.

The final approval was a grant application for additional funding for the matching for projected cost of runway lighting system at the airport. A motion was made by Councilman Bennett to approve a grant application for additional funding for the City of Groveton's five (5%) percent matching for projected cost of runway lighting system of \$7,000 at the Trinity Groveton Airport GEDC-4A. A second to the motion was made by Councilman Kennedy. Motion carried with 5 ayes and 0 nays from Council.

It was suggested by Councilman Kennedy to consider a proposal to present to the different garbage companies from the City of Groveton. Mayor Richards stated that we have on the agenda in February, Piney Woods Sanitation to present a proposal. Mayor Richards and Mr. Kennedy will meet and work on this proposal.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Richards informed Council that he had met with several people from the City of Trinity and Trinity River Authority to discuss the Trinity River Authority billing and the Contract that expires in 2020. The City of Groveton and the City of Trinity are 80% active of all the entities. They will be scheduling a meeting with all the entities and see which one will be active when the Contract expires 2020. It was suggested that the City look for an alternative for a water source and contact State Representative Trent Ashby. Mayor Richards has been working on another water well source.

With there being no further business on the agenda, a motion was made by Councilman Walton to adjourn the meeting. A second to the motion was heard from Councilman Casper. Motion carried with 5 ayes and 0 nays from Council. Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

Byron Richards, Mayor

ATTEST:

Donna Dial
City Secretary

