

## 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 September 24, 2018 to discuss the following:

**Council Members in Attendance:**

Councilman Stephen Casper  
Mayor Pro-Tem Ralph Bennett  
Councilman Tommy Walton  
Councilman Joe Don Kennedy  
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 Walton to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting August 27, 2018 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 were present for the meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Melissa Kemper was present for the meeting. She was representing the Groveton Ex-Student Committee and was requesting City Council to approve to have the City's Square closed for a street dance on October 26, 2018 for the Homecoming Dance. Also Mrs. Kemper would like the City to provide police officers at this event. A motion was made by Councilman Walton to approve the closing of the City's Square for the Groveton Ex-Student Homecoming Event on October 26, 2018 for a street dance. Also approved is to waive the City's Ordinance #15 Open Container for this event and provide City Police Officers for patrol. A second to the motion was heard from Council Bennett. Motion carried with 5 ayes and 0 nays from Council.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:** Police Chief Raiford informed Council of the National Night Out scheduled for October 2, 2018 at Groveton Fire Department Building. He stated hot dogs and baked potatoes will be serviced. Chief Raiford presented a written report of the citations and arrest, call for service, crash, DWI, incident for Council to review.

**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 there was no excursion at the sewer plant for the month. The total purchased water was 1,415,000

and total gallons from the water well was 1, 482,000. There were several extra work orders for water and sewer taps installed, inspections, general maintenance and repairs at the water and sewer plant. Mr. Brown was questioned, if Inframark is still flushing down on Rainey Street. He stated that they were and Council may consider putting an automated flusher on Rainey Street that would have a schedule to come on at 1:00am. He will get more information and the cost to the City to install this device. A motion was made by Councilman Casper to approve the invoicing of \$6,322.58 for Inframark. A second to the motion was heard from Councilman Kennedy. Motion carried with 5 ayes and 0 nays from Council.

**NEW BUSINESS:** The first item listed on the new business was for the Groveton Volunteer Fire Department. They were requesting an increase in fire calls from \$6.00 to \$10.00. Jack Paschetag, the City's Accountant stated he reviewed the information on meetings and incidents from the last two years this would be an increase of \$1450.00 a year with \$10.00 incident calls. It was stated that some of the calls are outside the city and Trinity County funds GVFD each year. There was discussion on this matter. A motion was made by Councilman Casper to approve to increase the amount of the meeting from \$10.00 to \$15.00 per member with a limit of two meetings per month and the incident will remain at \$6.00 a call. The City of Groveton also encourages the GVFD to update their training and an increase will be considered at a later date when additional training is undertaken by members. Council would like the Department to keep track of all the calls stating which ones were outside or inside the City of Groveton. A second to the motion was heard from Councilman Bennett. Motion carried with 5 ayes and 0 nays from Council. Mayor Richards will sending a letter to Groveton Volunteer Fire Department on this issue.

Mr. Charles Lee addressed Council on the Groveton Senior Citizens Center's cooler. He stated that two years ago the compressor on the cooler had to be replaced. On August 12, 2018, he had come back to the Center and found the cooler not working. He is requesting assistance on the expense from the City of Groveton to repair the cooler. The total cost was \$1,565.00. A motion was made by Councilman Bennett to approve the amount of \$1,565.00 for the repair of the cooler at the Groveton Senior Citizens Center. A second to the motion was heard from Councilman Casper. Motion carried with 5 ayes and 0 nays from Council.

Mayor Richards informed Council that four Resolutions were to be considered for the fiscal year 2018-2019. The first was to adopt Groveton Newspaper as the official newspaper for the City of Groveton. A motion was made by Councilman Kennedy to approve to adopt Groveton Newspaper as the Official Newspaper for was 2018-2019. A second to the motion was heard from Councilman Walton. Motion carried with 5 ayes and 0 nays from Council.

The next item was to adopt the Citizens State Bank as the official bank depository. A motion was made by Councilman Kennedy to approve to adopt Citizens State Bank as the Official Bank Depository for 2018-2019. A second to the motion was heard from Councilman Walton. Motion carried with 5 ayes and 0 nays from Council.

The third item was the tax rate. Mayor Richards stated that last year's tax rate was \$0.966200 per \$100.00 valuation. A motion was made by Councilman Kennedy to approve to adopt the effective tax rate of \$0.959700 per \$100.00 valuation for the fiscal year 2018-2019. A second to the motion was heard from Councilman Walton. Motion carried with 5 ayes and 0 nays from Council.

Mayor Richards stated the final Resolution to consider was to adopt the Budget for 2018-2019. A motion was made by Councilman Kennedy to approve to adopt the Budget for \$1,332,820 for the fiscal year 2018-2019. A second to the motion was heard from Councilman Walton. Motion carried with 5 ayes and 0 nays from Council.

Jack Paschetag informed Council on the Texas Water Development Board's application is due on October 5, 2018. There will be a conference call, then the application is submitted and reviewed by the TWDB staff. The next step is to send to the TWD Board and the City will know mid-November on the results.

Mayor Richards state the construction at the Trinity County Groveton Airport is underway.

**ADJOURN:** 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 Smith. Motion carried with 5 ayes and 0 nays from Council. Meeting adjourned at 7:20pm.

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Byron Richards, Mayor

ATTEST:

Donna Dial  
City Secretary