

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 November 27, 2017 to discuss the following:

Council Members in Attendance: Councilman Stephen Casper
Councilman Joe Don Kennedy
Mayor Pro-Tem Ralph Bennett

Council Member not in Attendance:

Councilman Tommy Walton
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 Kennedy to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting October 23, 2017 as presented. A second to the motion was heard from Councilman Casper. Motion carried with 3 ayes and 0 nays from Council.

PUBLIC FORUM: No Citizens present for Public Forum.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Police Chief John Raiford informed Council that it has been a busy month. He has the reserve officers working more. Police Chief Raiford stated that forty one (41) citations were issued for the month of October. He also presented an arrest, call for service, crash, offense, incident and DWI report to Council. He introduced Victor Miles for a reserve officer position. He has been employed for thirty five (35) years with Houston Police Department and has interest to work for the City.

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

WATER & SEWER: Mike Brown with STE 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 1,299,000 and total gallons from the well was 1,529,000. The flushing amount for the month was 209,250. The extra invoicing was a general repair of a sewer treatment plant asset-troubleshoot water in rotameter. Also at the water plant the transducer was not working which was overflowing the ground storage tank.

A motion was made by Councilman Bennett to approve the invoicing of \$8,777.82 for Severn Trent Services. A second to the motion was heard from Councilman Kennedy. Motion carried with 3 ayes and 0 nays from Council.

Allen Jenkins informed Council on the STE contract, that they could reduce the basic service fee \$1,200.00 a month. This would have STE check the plants seven days a week and if we have any work orders for the day we would be charged regular time for the work orders. A motion was made by Councilman Casper to approve an amendment to the contract for the basic service fee. The new monthly basic service fee will be \$4,500.00 with the possible start date to be January 1, 2018. A second to the motion was heard from Councilman Bennett. Motion carried with 3 ayes and 0 nays from Council.

NEW BUSINESS: Mayor Richards presented to Council the 2018 Holiday Schedule for the City. A motion was made by Councilman Kennedy to approve the 2018 Holiday Schedule as presented. A second to the motion was heard from Councilman Casper. Motion carried with 3 ayes and 0 nays from Council.

The next items for Council to consider were for the GEDC 4A and 4B. First was to approve a Loan/Grant for Connie Due,dba County Seat Café in the amount of \$16,500.00 for the installation of a new metal roof. A motion was made by Councilman Casper to approve a GEDC 4A Loan to Connie Due,dba County Seat Café in the total amount of \$16,500.00 for the installation of new metal roof. A second to the motion was heard from Councilman Kennedy. Motion carried with 3 ayes and 0 nays from Council.

Mayor Richards informed Council that GEDC would like to help promote the Economic Development Corporations by hiring a part time employee. This person will attend training and research outside businesses to come to Groveton. This person will be hired by the City of Groveton with the payroll and related expenses incurred by the City of Groveton to be reimbursed by the GED's equally. The part time employee shall be employed for 20 hours a week, at \$10.00 an hour and will not have any other benefits. A motion was made by Councilman Bennett to approve to hire a part time employee for the Groveton GEDs 4A and 4B that shall be employed for 20 hours a week, at \$10.00 an hour, to promote the GEDs. The training and reimbursement for travel expenses to attend training will be paid by the GEDs and they will split the cost of any such training. GEDC and the City of Groveton will try this pilot project for six (6) months. A second to the motion was heard from Councilman Casper. Motion carried with 3 ayes and 0 nays from Council.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Richards informed Council that the City had finally been awarded the TXDOT Set Aside Program for the Downtown Sidewalks. The city's match will be \$111,000 in which the City of Groveton has \$75,000 in a CD from the old Groveton Nursing Home and Mayor Richards will be asking GEDC to cover the balance of \$36,000 for this project.

The TXDOT Aviation Division Grant for the Trinity County Groveton Airport for improvements has increased. The total amount originally was \$345,000 but has increased to \$484,000. The total match for the County and City is 10%. The City's 5% match will increase to 7,000 more.

With there being no further business on the agenda, a motion was made by Councilman Casper 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 7:10pm.

Byron Richards, Mayor

ATTEST:

**Donna Dial
City Secretary**