

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING

Pursuant to Section 2254.1036 of the Texas Government Code, Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the City Sandy Oaks (hereinafter City) will be held on Thursday September 24, 2020 at 6:30 PM for the purpose of considering and taking action on all matters on the agenda for the meeting, including approval of an agreement with the law firm of Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP as special counsel to perform all legal services necessary to collect delinquent property taxes and authorizing the execution of such agreement. The meeting will take place at Sandy Oaks City Hall located at 4451 Hickory Haven, Sandy Oaks, Texas 78112, which will be livestreamed and accessible to the public. In an effort to advance the public health goal of limiting face-to-face meetings (also called “social distancing) to slow the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19), there will be no in-person public access to the meeting. In accordance with the order of the Office of the Governor issued March 16, 2020, the City of Sandy Oaks will provide a livestream video and telephonic access of the meeting to the public. The public may participate in this meeting by using the link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6717793635> and Meeting ID 671 779 3635 or by dialing in to any the following phone numbers: (346) 248-7799, (669) 900-6833, (929) 205-6099, (253) 215-8782, (301) 715-8592 or (312) 616-6799. When requested, enter Meeting ID 671 779 3635.

The agreement to be considered is necessary for the delinquent taxes owed to the City to be collected in the most effective manner. The City desires that such delinquent tax, penalties and interest be collected as provided in the Texas Tax Code.

The Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP firm is fully qualified to provide this representation, being the largest delinquent tax collection law firm in the State of Texas, as well as the United States and having been engaged in this specialized legal service for more than five years. In addition, the Linebarger Goggan Blair and Sampson, LLP firm possesses infrastructure and technology, such as call center technology, that the City does not currently possess.

Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP has represented the City for the past thirty-nine years with competence and professionalism, in the collection of delinquent property taxes, beginning in 2015. The specialized legal services required by this agreement cannot be adequately performed by the attorneys and supporting personnel of the City due to the high cost of implementing the appropriate infrastructure and technology and employing sufficient in-house attorneys and staff with the level of experience and competence necessary to perform these activities.

Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP will be compensated on a contingent fee basis as provided in the Texas Tax Code Sections 6.30, 33.07, 33.08, 33.11, and 33.48. These Texas Tax Code sections specifically provide for an additional penalty on delinquent taxes to compensate collection attorneys. A contract to pay inside or outside attorneys on an hourly basis would represent an additional cost to the City.

Entering into the proposed agreement is in the best interests of the residents of the City because the delinquent taxes will be professionally and competently collected without the additional costs to City of implementing infrastructure and technology, and employing in-house personnel or paying outside counsel on an hourly fee basis which would otherwise be required.