

A Water/Sewer Committee Meeting of the City of Gray, Georgia was held on Thursday, December 16, 2021 in the conference room at City Hall.

Present: Mayor Ed Barbee, Mayor Pro Tem James Collins, Council Members Terrell Fulford, Terry Favors and David Tufts, City Superintendent Frank Ross, Assistant City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan, Police Chief Adam Lowe, City Clerk Cindy Yancey, Assistant City Clerk Ashley Roberson, Waste Water Treatment Plant Operators Jason Farmer and Matthew Scroggins.

Guests: Matt Smith and Brittany Bradley, *Carter & Sloope*.

Water/Sewer Committee:

Councilman David Tufts called the meeting to order at 9:00am.

- Matt Smith – Carter & Sloope – WWTP
 - Matt Smith & Brittany Bradley with Carter & Sloope discussed the bids that were received for the WWTP expansion project. The lowest bid was from Heren Construction with a base bid of \$10,932,000.00. The next lowest was \$11,068,000.00 and then \$11,325,000.00.
 - The approved GEFA loan amount was \$9,000,000.00. Mr. Smith explained that there are some items that can be cut from the current plans, which he is going to discuss these with WWTP Operators Jason Farmer and Matthew Scroggins and Assistant City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan. He also explained that the City can go back to GEFA and request up to 10% more without going through the underwriting process again. There are other potential areas that the additional funds can come from such as SPLOST, ARPA funding and adding on one more scheduled increase to the water and sewer rates in 2024.
 - After discussion, the consensus would be to request additional 10% from GEFA and use other funding available from SPLOST and ARPA.
- Sewer Capacity
 - Assistant City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan stated that he is getting calls regarding sewer capacity for duplexes, a potential housing development and even another carwash. He has concerns regarding the current WWTP being able to handle any additional capacity. Mayor Pro Tem Collins suggested that the City look into putting a sewer moratorium in place until the WWTP expansion is complete. Councilman Tufts suggested having City Attorney Newberry looking into options regarding the moratorium and bringing it back to Council to decide on the limitations that will be set.
- Water Protection Plan
 - The City already has a Water Protection Plan in place, however, EPD wants proof that it was officially adopted. City Clerk Cindy Yancey stated that she cannot find anything showing the City “officially” adopted it, therefore, it will be on the Special Called Council Meeting that will follow this meeting for adoption.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Assistant City Clerk