

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Mayor and Council for the City of Gray, Georgia was held on Monday, May 5, 2025 at 6:00 PM in the D.V. Childs Civic Center.

Present: Mayor Ed Barbee, Mayor Pro Tem James Collins, Council Members Terry Favors, Terrell Fulford, David Tufts, City Attorney John D. Newberry, Public Works Manager Chris Neal, Main Street Director Ashley Roberson, City Police Chief Adam Lowe, Fire Chief Keith Eisele, Police Officer Dylan Joiner, Assistant City Clerk Kayleigh Faircloth and Clerk Cindy Yancey.

Guests: Harley Adams-Valier, Tom McEachern, Tiffany G. Andrews, Ikea Simmons

Mayor Barbee called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

A moment of silence was observed in honor former Councilman Benny Gray Jr.

Councilman Tufts gave the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Councilman David Tufts made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem James Collins, and unanimously voted to approve the May 5, 2025 agenda.

**APPROVED 4-0**

Councilman Terry Favors made a motion, seconded by Councilman Terrell Fulford, and unanimously voted to approve the April minutes.

**APPROVED 4-0**

Councilman Terrell Fulford made a motion, seconded by Councilman Terry Favors, and unanimously voted to approve the April accounts payable.

**APPROVED 4-0**

**Mayor's Report:**

- Mayor Barbee stated that he received a letter from the GA Department of Natural Resources Environment Protection & Division, officially authorizing the city to operate the upgraded wastewater plant.

**Old Business:**

1. **Second Reading:** An Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the City of Gray Georgia to amend Chapter 66, Article I, Section 1 of the code of the City of Gray, Georgia, so as to provide for additional restricted streets for motor vehicles weighing in excess of 18,000 pounds: and for other purposes.

Mayor Pro Tem James Collins made a motion, seconded by Councilman Terry Favors, and unanimously voted to approve **Ordinance 25-O-002**.

**APPROVED 4-0**

**New Business:**

1. Resolution to update the Jones County Service Delivery Strategy.

Councilman Fulford made a motion, seconded by Councilman Favors, and unanimously voted to approve **Resolution 25-R-009**.

**APPROVED 4-0**

2. MGRC – Sidewalks

- Tiffany Andrews with the Middle Georgia Regional Commission discussed the sidewalk for safety grant with Mayor and Council.
- Ms. Andrews stated that the grant can be done jointly with the county, or the city could do it independently.
- Ms. Andrews stated that based on what Greg Boike with the Middle Georgia Regional Commission has proposed for the sidewalk improvements the match for the city would be about \$30,000 to \$40,000.
- Ms. Andrews stated that this grant could be done in conjunction with the TAP grant (transportation grant) which will not be available until the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2026.
- Greg Boike will be giving a presentation regarding the sidewalk project on May 6, 2025 at the Jones County Board of Commissioners meeting.
- Mayor Pro Tem James Collins Plans to attend the county meeting to gain more knowledge and give the city's input as well.

3. Tom McEachern – Property/Liability insurance renewal.

- Zurich renewal premium – \$125,219.

Councilman Fulford made a motion, seconded by Councilman Favors, and unanimously voted to approve the property/liability insurance renewal provided by Zurich at an annual premium of \$125,219.

**APPROVED 4-0**

4. Authorization for the City Clerk to close out the ARPA fund bank account.

Councilman Fulford made a motion, seconded by Councilman Tufts, and unanimously voted to authorize the City Clerk to close out the ARPA fund bank account.

**APPROVED 4-0**

5. A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Gray Georgia to certify an estimated roll-back tax millage rate for the calendar year 2025; and for other purposes.

Mayor Pro Tem James Collins made a motion, seconded by Councilman Tufts, and unanimously voted to approve **Resolution 25-R-010**.

**APPROVED 4-0**

6. Deem the Folds Drive drainage Project an emergency and accept the quote provided by Appling Brothers Company in the amount of \$136,000 authorizing them to proceed with construction.

Councilman Favors made a motion, seconded by Councilman Tufts, and unanimously voted to deem the Folds Drive drainage Project an emergency and accept the quote provided by Appling Brothers Company in the amount of \$136,000 authorizing them to proceed with construction.

**APPROVED 4-0**

7. City Acceptance of an Easement for the drainage project located on Folds Drive from RAC, LLC. For the purchase price of \$15,000. Permanent Easement shall be approximately 10 feet wide, being 5 feet on either side of the drainpipe location. The easement will be executed and payment made upon the completion of the survey.

Mayor Pro Tem made a motion, seconded by Councilman Fulford, and unanimously voted to approve the City Acceptance of an Easement for the drainage project located on Folds Drive from RAC, LLC. For the purchase price of \$15,000.

**APPROVED 4-0**

**Public Comments:** *(Three minutes per speaker and no more than two speakers per topic. No speaker shall be allowed to speak more than once on any one topic)*

- Main Street Director Ashley Roberson gave out 850 wristbands last Friday night at the Spring Festival concert.
- The young entrepreneurs' gathering will be at the Knox Center Thursday, May 8, 2025 at 6:30pm.
- The Second Saturday event will be held on Saturday May 10, 2025.
- Harley Adams-Valier asked questions about the bid process and handling of city projects.
  - City Attorney Newberry stated the council meeting was not a question-and-answer session and asked that Ms. Adam Valier attend one of the committee meetings stating that the committee meetings were more for discussion.

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

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City Clerk