

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Mayor and Council for the City of Gray, Georgia was held on Monday, September 15 immediately following the public hearing in the Conference Room at City Hall.

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

Guests: Ikea Simmons, Natalie Lurie, Missy Tanner, Jamaal Price and Debbie Lurie-Smith, *The Jones County News*.

Due to the recent events, Mayor Pro Tem Collins asked that Councilman Tufts open the meeting with prayer followed by a moment of silence for Charlie Kirk and his family, Iryna Zarutsky and all those that lost their lives on 09/11.

Finance/Tax Committee:

- Financial Update
 - Council Member Fulford gave an update on the 2024 property taxes.
- Cadence Bank- Bank@work
 - Jamaal Price & Missy Tanner presented a Bank@Work program for employees of the city. A deposit of \$50.00 is required to open an account. First order of checks is free. After it is open and active for 90 days you receive \$150.00 credit. Employees must sign up by September 30, 2025 to receive the credit.

Water/Sewer Committee:

- Test Well Update
 - City Superintendent Morgan stated that he will be meeting with Christopher Soltis w/ the Environmental Protection Division on September 17, 2025 at 11:00am to look at the potential well #19 site.
 - If Mr. Soltis gives his approval, we will get permission to drill and should be able to start drilling by the end of October.

Main Street/DDA:

- Branding
 - Main Street Director Ashley Roberson presented the county's final logo.
 - Ms. Roberson stated that they are currently working on the drafts for the city and she will present them to mayor and council when she receives them.
- Fall Festival
 - October 17th, 2025 5pm-9pm
 - Ms. Roberson stated that she will be requesting approval for open containers for the event. This item will be added to the October council meeting.
- Christmas Market
 - Vendors have started signing up for the Christmas Market Event.
 - Ms. Roberson stated that she is currently working on ordering new Christmas décor for the light poles.

Plan Committee:

- Temporary Businesses
 - Mayor and Council discussed guidelines for temporary and mobile businesses.
 - City Attorney Newberry will compile the mayor and council's suggestions on temporary/mobile businesses for their review.
- Retreat
 - Mayor Barbee stated that he spoke with Laura Mathis at the Middle Georgia Regional Commission about holding a retreat for incoming new council.
- Candidate Forum
 - A Candidate Forum hosted by the Chamber of Commerce will be held at Butler Hall on September 30, 2025 at 6:30 pm.

Personnel Committee:

- Evaluation -Meeting
 - Meeting scheduled for September 23, 2025 at 9:00am.
- Employee of the month
 - Mayor Pro Tem Collins announced Denise Pennamon – Deputy Court Clerk as the September employee of the month.

Streets/Sanitation

- LMIG- Bids
 - The following bids were received:
 - Reeves - \$97,601.55
 - Houston Asphalt and paving - \$78,096.96
 - Allstar Concrete - \$82,003.38
 - McLeroy - \$99,763.05
 - City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan will review the bids and place his recommendation on the October Council meeting agenda.

City Property:

- No Report

Public Safety Police/Fire:

- No Report

Miscellaneous:

- Councilman Tufts announced the city has the street sign for Mr. Gray's dedication and will coordinate with Mr. Gray's family to set a date and time.

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

City Clerk