

A meeting of all committees of the City of Gray, Georgia was held on Monday, January 26, 2026 at 6:00 pm at the Gray/Jones Business Development Office located at 102 East Clinton Street.

Present: Mayor Ed Barbee, Mayor Pro Tem James Collins, Council Members Terry Favors, Terrell Fulford, David Tufts and Ikea Simmons, City Attorney John Newberry, Police Chief Adam Lowe, Main Street Director Ashley Roberson, City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan, , Assistant City Clerk Kayleigh Faircloth, and City Clerk Cindy Yancey.

Guests: Don Johnson and Debbie Lurie-Smith, *The Jones County News*.

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

Finance/Tax Committee:

- Financial update
 - 91.72% of taxes collected for 2025/ \$113,168.69 unpaid as of 1/26/2026.

Water/Sewer Committee:

- Test Well Update
 - City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan explained that recent weather conditions have caused delays in the progress of the test well.
 - Mr. Morgan stated that the smaller part of the parcel was unfavorable to drill on, but the larger part was favorable. Mr. Morgan hopes to have more to update in the next couple of weeks.
- Training/Employment Agreement
 - Mr. Morgan would like to send employees for CDL training and wants to implement a training/employment contract due to the cost of the training.
 - Mr. Morgan stated that most employers have a term of 12 or 24 months on this type of agreement.
 - Police Chief Adam Lowe stated that the law enforcement contract goes for 24 months for mandate training and at 15 months it is pro-rated to half by state law.
 - Mr. Morgan stated that the cost of the training is \$4200 per employee.
 - Mr. Morgan currently has two employees who want to attend the training. Which will bring the city to three employees holding CDL's after they complete the course.
 - City Attorney Newberry will work on a draft contract for review.
- City Lease to Own – Excavator
 - Mr. Morgan stated that the city currently must outsource work due to not having the necessary equipment to complete projects.
 - Mr. Morgan believes the city would benefit from acquiring the necessary equipment and provided mayor and council with quotes on the following equipment:
 - CAT
 - John Deere
 - Kubota
 - Mr. Morgan considers the Yancey Bros. CAT quote the best offer.
 - This item will be added to the February agenda.
- Dolly St. Storm Drainage
 - The storm drainage project on Dolly St. is expected to be finished in the next couple of days.

Main Street/DDA:

- Events
 - Main Street will kick off the events for the year with their Galentine's February 7th.

- The public consumption of alcohol at this event will be added to the February council meeting agenda for approval.
- They have not planned out the full year yet; Ashley is hoping to consult with the business owners in the next week or two to schedule the events for the year.
- Receptionist
 - The receptionist at the Gray/Jones Business Development office has put in her two-week notice so they are currently taking resumes.
- Council – New Head Shots
 - If any of the Council is wanting to get head shots done, Ashley's work base student who is a photographer will be available in her office Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday between 10:00 am & 1:00 pm.
- Accreditation
 - January 15th: Submitted accreditation and information to Georgia Main Street and Main Street America.
 - Ms. Roberson will go in February to present to Georgia Main Street. (Main Street is required to do a presentation every three years.)

Plan Committee:

- Training Classes – Mayor Barbee
 - Winter training classes are coming up next month in Griffin, GA February 12th -13th, two 6 hr. classes each day.
 - DCA classes/ Warner Robins on March the 11th - Home grown housing.

Personnel Committee:

- Employee of the Month
 - Mayor Pro Tem Collins announced Ivan Jordan as the employee of the month.
 - Mr. Jordan has been with the city since August of 2024 as a water and sewer maintenance worker. He is excelling with storm water management and has obtained his erosion and sediment certification. He is an exceptional heavy equipment operator. He is a very driven young man.
- Committee Assignments
 - Mayor Pro Tem Collins reviewed the following committee assignments with Mayor and Council.
 - Finance/tax committee: Terrell Fulford; Chairman/ James Collins/ Terry Favors
 - Water/sewer committee: Terry Favors; Chairman/ David Tufts/ Terrell Fulford
 - Streets/sanitation committee: David Tufts; Chairman/ Ikea Simmons/ Terry Favors
 - Plan committee: James Collins; Chairman/ David Tufts/ Terry Favors
 - Personnel Committee: James Collins; Chairman/ Terrell Fulford/ David Tufts
 - Public Safety Committee: Terrell Fulford; Chairman/ James Collins/ Ikea Simmons
 - City Property: Ikea Simmons; Chairman/ David Tufts/ Terry Favors
 - This item will be added to the February council agenda.
- Executive Session
 - Moved to the end of the meeting.

Streets/Sanitation Committee:

- GDOT – Safety Equipment Grant
 - Mr. Morgan explained that the grant is intended for safety equipment, including crosswalk devices. The grant covers the cost of the equipment, while the city is responsible for installing it.
 - Mr. Morgan said that if Mayor and Council are interested in the grant that the application needs to be submitted by March.

- Nuisance
 - Police chief Adam Lowe was approached about areas in the city that needed to be cleaned up.
 - Chief Lowe went and looked at Peachtree/Eastview where someone has placed items on the curb.
 - Mr. Lowe told the concerned citizens that he could not do anything unless someone came in and made a written complaint and explained the process regarding nuisances.
- Trash Service
 - The sanitation company's rate increase means the city now pays more for trash pick-up than it earns in revenue from the service.
 - Councilman Favors stated that trash carts are being left at the road week after week.
 - Mayor Pro Tem Collins proposed including a water bill note asking residents to remove trash carts from the roadside after collection.

City Property:

- City Hall Roof
 - Fire Chief Eisele is currently getting quotes for replacing the roof on City Hall.

Public Safety Police/Fire:

- Surplus Vehicles
 - Chief Lowe will have a list of vehicles for the City Clerk to declare as surplus.
- GOHS
 - The Police Department applied for a grant from the Government Office of Highway Safety.
 - GOHS has approved the application.

Miscellaneous:

- Nick Rafael – Scintilla Homes wasn't present for the second time after being placed on the agenda.

Executive session:

- Councilman favors made a motion, seconded by Councilman Fulford and unanimously voted to close the regular meeting and go into an executive session.

The regular meeting resumed.

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

City Clerk