

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Mayor and Council for the City of Gray, Georgia was held on Monday, March 16, 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 and David Tufts, City Attorney John D. Newberry, City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan, Public Works Manager Chris Neal, Police Chief Adam Lowe, Fire Chief Keith Eisele, Main Street Director Ashley Roberson, Assistant City Clerk Kayleigh Faircloth and City Clerk Cindy Yancey.

Guests: Chuck Richardson, Wesley Casteel, Missy Tanner, Candice Pharr, Jackie Tserpelis, and Debbie Lurie-Smith, *The Jones County News*.

Finance/Tax Committee:

- Financial Update
 - 93.84% of the 2025 property taxes have been collected.
- Wesley Casteel – Cadence/Huntington
 - Mr. Casteel stated that he wanted to update mayor and council on Huntington Bank’s acquisition of Cadence Bank.
 - The acquisition became legal on February 1, 2026.
 - Mr. Casteel explained that Huntington Bank has a government banking department.
 - Mr. Casteel has been named the government banker for the State of Georgia and has appointed Missy Tanner as his service specialist.
 - Mr. Casteel introduced Candice Pharr as the new branch manager for the location in Gray.

Water/Sewer Committee:

- Stone Creek Subdivision
 - City Superintendent Morgan stated that Stone Creek Subdivision has requested a water/sewer capacity letter.
 - It was the consensus of mayor and council to approve for Mr. Morgan to issue the water/sewer capacity letter for Stone Creek Subdivision.
 - This item will be added to the April 6, 2026 agenda for ratification.
- Georgia EPD
 - NGina Porch with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division contacted Mr. Morgan about well # 117 which is located on Scott Jackson’s property.
 - Mr. Morgan stated that he is not sure how much longer the city will be able to keep the project on well # 117 open before the EPD requires it to be abandoned.
 - Attorney Newberry will set up a meeting with Scott Jackson to discuss the city’s options.
- Storm Drainage Issue
 - Mr. Morgan explained that a problem with the storm drainage system in Natures Walk has resulted in storm water overflowing and passing through a resident’s yard.
 - Mr. Morgan will work with the City Attorney to gain permission/easement from the property owner to address the problem.
- Arnold Road – Sewer system
 - Councilman Favors asked City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan if the cars parked on the side of Arnold Road would damage the sewer system.
 - Mr. Morgan does not believe that it would affect the sewer system.

Main Street/DDA:

- Hometown Spring Fest
 - Main Street’s Hometown Spring Fest will be held April 25, 2026.
 - Vendors will be set up from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm with music to be performed that night.
 - Ms. Roberson is collaborating with a committee on the planning of the festival.

Plan Committee:

- No Report

Personnel Committee:

- Employee of the Month
 - Mayor Pro Tem Collins announced that Thaxton Pennamon is employee of the month for March.
 - Police Chief Adam Lowe stated that Mr. Pennamon has been with the city for 15 years and plans on retiring April 1, 2026.

Streets/Sanitation

- Street Patching
 - Street patching will continue once weather permits.

City Property:

- No Report

Public Safety Police/Fire:

- No Report

Miscellaneous:

- Uncovered well
 - Chuck Richardson stated that there is an uncovered well located on private property off of Dixie Street.
 - Members of the community are currently trying to locate the property owner.
- DCA Housing Class
 - Mayor Barbee stated that he attended a workforce housing class in Warner Robins and encouraged council members to take the class if they had the opportunity to.

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

City Clerk