

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Mayor and Council for the City of Gray, Georgia was held on Monday, April 20, 2026 immediately following the called council meeting 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, Ikea Simmons and David Tufts, City Attorney John D. Newberry, Police Chief Adam Lowe, Main Street Director Ashley Roberson and City Clerk Cindy Yancey.

Guests: Tom McEachern, Scott Jackson, Ava Dunlap, Chris Weidner and Debbie Lurie-Smith, *The Jones County News*.

Finance/Tax Committee:

- Financial Update
 - 96.53% of the 2025 property taxes have been collected.

Water/Sewer Committee:

- Executive Session – Real Estate
 - This item was moved to the end of the meeting.

Main Street/DDA:

- Hometown Spring Fest
 - Main Street's Hometown Spring Fest will be held April 25, 2026.
 - Ms. Roberson stated that there will be fifty vendors and six food trucks.
 - The festival will include the following:
 - Concert
 - 5k – 9:00 am
 - Dog show
 - Inflatables
 - Car Show
 - Corn hole tournament
- DDA Strategic Planning
 - Georgia Main Street will be at the Gray/Jones Business Development Office on Tuesday, April 28, 2026 to do a strategic planning session with the Downtown Development Authority.
 - Ms. Roberson invited Mayor and Council to attend the session.

Plan Committee:

- Ava Dunlap – Ava Kate's Confections
 - Ms. Dunlap shared her passion for baking and explained that she launched her business in the City of Gray in late 2025.
 - She also provided a selection of cookies and cupcakes for the Mayor and Council to sample.
- Temporary Businesses
 - Mayor Pro Tem Collins stated that he wanted to bring this topic back to mayor and council for discussion.
 - This item will be added to the May all committees meeting.

Personnel Committee:

- Employee of the Month
 - Mayor Pro Tem Collins announced that Brint Zimmerman is employee of the month for April.
- Executive Session
 - This item was moved to the end of the meeting.

Streets/Sanitation

- Office Park Drive
 - Councilman Tufts asked if speed signs were placed on Office Park Drive as requested.
 - Councilman Favors stated that the signs were on Office Park Drive.
- Krystal
 - Mayor Pro Tem Collins asked if Krystal had cleaned up the dumpster area behind the building.
 - Chief Adam Lowe stated that he would contact Krystal again about the issue.
 - It was the consensus of Mayor and Council to send a copy of the city ordinance regarding cleanliness of businesses located in the city.

City Property:

- No Report

Public Safety Police/Fire:

- Vehicles
 - Chief Adam Lowe stated he has ordered two Dodge Durangos for his department.
 - Chief Lowe stated that he has also looked at a Dodge truck for the Fire Department.
- Appreciation
 - Mayor Pro Tem Collins thanked Chief Lowe for everything that the Police Department does to keep the community safe.

Miscellaneous:

- Package Store
 - Mayor Barbee asked about putting package stores back on the ballot for the November election.
 - Mayor Pro Tem Collins stated that he was opposed to putting on the ballot in November. It is his opinion that the city should at least wait until there is another city election.
 - After discussion, it was decided not to place the item on the November ballot.

Councilman Favors made a motion, seconded by Councilman Fulford to close the regular meeting and go into executive session.

The open meeting resumed.

- Well #117
 - Scott Jackson spoke with Mayor and Council about options to purchase property where test well #117 is located.
 - Mr. Jackson proposed \$5,000 per month for 120 months.
 - Mayor Pro Tem Collins said they need to meet with City Superintendent Morgan to review the numbers, but the goal is to bring the matter to a vote so Mr. Jackson can have a resolution regarding the property.

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

City Clerk