

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Mayor and Council for the City of Gray, Georgia was held on Monday, May 18, 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 Terrell Fulford, Ikea Simmons and David Tufts, City Attorney John D. Newberry, Main Street Director Ashley Roberson, Fire Chief Keith Eisele, Public Works Manager Chris Neal, City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan and City Clerk Cindy Yancey.

Guests: Scott Jackson, Abbie Barton, and Debbie Lurie-Smith, *The Jones County News*.

Finance/Tax Committee:

- Financial Update
 - 97.20% of the 2025 property taxes have been collected.

Water/Sewer Committee:

- No Report

Main Street/DDA:

- Keep Jones Beautiful – Abbie Barton
 - Ms. Barton introduced herself to mayor and council.
 - Ms. Barton is serving as the Keep Jones Beautiful Director and administrative assistant to both the Chamber of Commerce and Main Street Gray.
 - Ms. Barton stated that she met several good contacts at a conference that she recently attended.

Plan Committee:

- Temporary Businesses
 - Mayor and council discussed implementing guidelines for temporary businesses/special events within the city limits. The following suggestions were discussed:
 - Requiring permits
 - Council approval of events.
 - Limiting number of times per year temporary businesses would be able to set up in the city.
 - City Attorney Newberry stated that he considers a special event and someone setting up a food truck in a parking lot for a weekend two separate things and asked for clarification on what issues mayor and council are trying to address.
 - Councilman Tufts requested that Main Street Director Ashley Roberson research what guidelines other cities have in place.
- Small Business Highlight
 - Mayor Pro Tem Collins said he would like to begin highlighting small businesses in the city at all-committees meetings when appropriate.
 - He noted that the owners of Cone Crazy on Main could not attend the meeting, but they dropped off ice cream for everyone.
 - Cone Crazy has been in business for two years.

Personnel Committee:

- Employee of the Month
 - Mayor Pro Tem Collins announced that Tabathia Brown is employee of the month for May.
 - Ms. Brown has been with the city for ten years as the billing clerk.

Streets/Sanitation

- Office Park Drive
 - Councilman Tufts stated that he will get with Police Chief Adam Lowe to address the speeding complaints on Office Park Drive.
- Supplemental LMIG
 - City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan stated that the city received supplemental LMIG funds in the amount of \$72,000.
 - Mr. Morgan noted the following streets were on the original list of streets to be resurfaced:
 - Dixie Street
 - Childs Street
 - Turnerwoods Rd.
 - Mr. Morgan's feels that Dixie Street is in the worst condition but wanted to discuss with mayor and council which street they wanted to add to the supplemental LMIG application.
 - It was the consensus of council to add Dixie Street.
- Mayor Barbee stated that he received an email from GDOT regarding a meeting to discuss the traffic signals at the railroad tracks.

City Property:

- No Report

Public Safety Police/Fire:

- Firefighter Graduation
 - Chief Keith Eisele invited mayor and council to the firefighter's graduation on May 31, 2026 at 3:00 pm at the Fine Arts Building at the high school.

Miscellaneous:

- District 6 Officers
 - Mayor Barbee presented the ballot for GMA's District 6 officer elections and asked whether the council supported the listed nominees.
 - The council agreed to support the nominees, and Mayor Barbee will cast the city's vote.
- Executive Session – Potential Litigation
- Executive Session – Real Estate

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

The open meeting resumed.

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

City Clerk