

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Mayor and Council for the City of Gray, Georgia was held on Monday, June 15, 2026 following the Special 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 Terrell Fulford, Terry Favors and Ikea Simmons, City Attorney John D. Newberry, Main Street Director Ashley Roberson, Public Works Manager Chris Neal, City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan, Assistant City Clerk Kayleigh Faircloth and City Clerk Cindy Yancey.

Guests: Wesley Casteel, Jessica Tyler, and Debbie Lurie-Smith, *The Jones County News*.

Finance/Tax Committee:

- Financial update:
 - 99.6% of the 2025 property taxes have been collected.
- Wesley Casteel – Huntington Bank:
 - Mr. Casteel updated mayor and council on the Huntington Bank transition.
 - Mr. Casteel stated that Huntington Bank is devoted to giving back to the community.

Water/Sewer Committee:

- Glover Lane Generator:
 - Mr. Morgan stated that the start-up for Glover Lane generator was today, June 15, 2026.
- Water Treatment Plant Generator:
 - Middle Ga Electric started coring the walls at the water treatment plant in order to install a generator.
- Sludge Disposal:
 - Mr. Morgan stated that City Attorney Newberry and Matt Smith w/ Carter & Sloope are currently working to develop an intergovernmental agreement between the City of Gray and Laurens County Solid Waste Authority regarding the City of Gray's sludge disposal.
 - If an agreement can be reached the cost per ton will be significantly lower than the city is currently paying.
- Well #120 Update:
 - The EPD is scheduled to do a site visit on Wednesday June 17th, 2026.
 - Once the site visit is complete the EPD should issue the permission to drill and drilling can begin.

Main Street/DDA:

- DDA Property Update
 - Ms. Roberson stated that DDA is currently working on the crossing building. It now has a new roof, a garage door installed, paint and electrical work as well as plumbing work is scheduled to start soon.

Plan Committee:

- Temporary Businesses:
 - Mayor Pro Tem Collins along with Attorney Newberry are in the process of reviewing temporary business ordinances that other entities have in place.

Personnel Committee:

- Employee of the month:
 - Mayor Pro-Tem Colins announced Mark Robinson (Police Department) as the employee of the month.
 - Mark has been with the city for four years.

Streets/Sanitation Committee:

- Howard Court: (Mayor Pro Tem James Collins)
 - Howard Court was left out of the City's no thru truck ordinance.
 - City Attorney Newberry will amend the ordinance adding Howard Court.
 - This item will be added to the July agenda.

City Property:

- Update Number #117 property:
 - Attorney Newberry noted that he is waiting for an appraisal on well #117 property.

Public Safety Police/Fire:

- Heather Johnson- firework stands inspections:
 - Ms. Johnson stated that the state no longer does inspections on firework stands and the inspections are now required to be done by the local entity.
 - Ms. Johnson provided sample ordinances to mayor and council since the city's code of ordinance does not address these types of inspections.
 - The Fire Department recommends that the city adopt state codes and regulations regarding the inspections which would prevent having to update the ordinance when state code changes.
 - A \$500 fee up to \$1500 annually has been set by the state for the inspection and the fee will be used for fire prevention purposes.
- EMA Director – Jessica Tyler:
 - Ms. Tyler introduced herself as the EMA Director for the county and the city.
 - They have eliminated code-red for mass notification and switched to hypo reach in its place.
 - Ms. Tyler stated that she wanted to take this opportunity to meet mayor and council.
- Police Chief Adam Lowe Accreditation:
 - Chief Lowe stated that the Police Department recently went through re-accreditation for the state certification. They had zero findings, good for another three years.

Miscellaneous:

- Web Development Proposal:
 - A proposal submitted by Goebel Media to get the City's website ADA compliant as required by Department of Justice requirements was presented by the City Clerk.
 - The city has until April of 2027 to have it in compliance.
 - Mayor and Council agreed to accept the quote because Goebel Media developed the City's current website and continues to assist City staff with issues as they arise.
 - This item will be added to the July agenda for a vote.

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

City Clerk