

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Mayor and Council for the City of Gray, Georgia was held on Monday, July 20, 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, David Tufts and Terry Favors, City Attorney John D. Newberry, Main Street Director Ashley Roberson, City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan, Police Chief Adam Lowe, Fire Chief Keith Eisele, Assistant City Clerk Kayleigh Faircloth and City Clerk Cindy Yancey.

Guests: Jacob lee, Joo Bae Lee and Debbie Lurie-Smith, *The Jones County News*.

Finance/Tax Committee:

- Financial update:
 - 98.36% of the 2025 property taxes have been collected.

Water/Sewer Committee:

- Well #120 Update:
 - City Superintendent Morgan stated that the drilling stopped at 525 feet, they are estimating to be getting over 100 gallons per minute.
 - Metals and capacity testing still need to be completed.
 - Attorney Newberry stated that the property contract has been extended for 30 days, beginning July 21, 2026.
- Sludge Disposal:
 - City Attorney Newberry stated that he has drafted a contract for Laurens County Solid Waste Management authority regarding taking the city's sludge.
 - Mr. Newberry will send a copy for the other party to review and hopes to have it placed on the August council meeting agenda for a vote.
- Cedar Creek property purchase:
 - City Attorney Newberry mentioned that the closing on the Cedar Creek property is scheduled for the week of July 27, 2026.

Main Street/DDA:

- DDA Property Update
 - Ms. Roberson stated that DDA is currently working on the property located at 104 Eatonton Highway.
 - They have had several people interested in renting out the building for business.
- Main Street
 - Started allowing vendors to sign up for the Christmas Market.
 - Working on planning out the rest of the year's calendar of events.

Plan Committee:

- Temporary Businesses
 - Item removed from the agenda.

Personnel Committee:

- Executive Session- Personnel
 - Moved to the End of Meeting.
- Employee of the month:
 - Mayor Pro-Tem Colins announced Dylan Joiner (Police Department) as the employee of the month.
 - Dylan has been with the city for three years.

Streets/Sanitation Committee:

- Trash Carts:
 - Councilman Favors expressed concerns about trash carts not being brought back in after being emptied.
 - City Hall has already placed notice on water bills asking for cans to be pulled away from the street.
 - City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan was asked to check on how other cities are addressing this issue.
- LMIG Bid Openings
 - City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan opened the bids for Ross Street, North Street and Dixie Street.
 - Garrett Paving Company: \$104,934.50
 - McLeroy: \$107,700.40
 - Houston Assault: \$116,050.00
 - Allstar: \$58,500.00
 - Reeves: \$100,188.00
 - ASA Paving: \$82,472.00
 - This item will be placed on the August Council meeting agenda.

City Property:

- No Report

Public Safety Police/Fire:

- Police Chief Adam Lowe
 - Chief Lowe stated that he will be purchasing an additional police vehicle using SPLOST funds.

Miscellaneous:

- Jacob Lee (Gray Hospitality Group) spoke with Mayor and Council about purchasing the Gray Motel located at 112 E. Clinton Street.

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

- Executive Session- Real Estate
- Executive Session – Personnel

The open meeting resumed.

- Mayor Barbee discussed upcoming training opportunities with Council.

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

City Clerk