

A meeting of all committees of the City of Gray, Georgia was held on Monday, March 18, 2019 in the Conference Room inside City Hall.

Present: Mayor Ed Barbee, Mayor Pro Tem James Collins, Council Members David Tufts, Terry Favors and Benny Gray, City Attorney John Newberry, Police Chief Adam Lowe, Fire Chief Keith Eisele, City Clerk Cindy Yancey, Assistant City Clerk Ashley Roberson and Water Treatment Plant Operator Cheyenne Morgan.

Guests: JCBOC Chairman Chris Weidner, Glenda Wood, Kathleen Mathews, Bruce Gerwig, Christopher Crowder, Debbie Lurie-Smith, *The Jones County News*.

Mayor Barbee called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Finance/Tax Committee:

- Financial update
 - 98.07% of 2018 Property Taxes have been collected, leaving an unpaid balance of \$16,876.83.
- Georgia Power Franchise Tax – increased 7.54% over last year
 - The City received the Georgia Power Franchise Tax check in the amount of \$164,503.22.

Water/Sewer Committee:

- 3987 Gray Highway (Water Tap)
 - Councilman Gray suggested that a Water/Sewer Committee Meeting be called to further discuss this matter.
- Piedmont Water Authority
 - City Clerk Cindy Yancey said that Tommy Arthur has emailed her several times and would like to know where the City stands on the possibility of them tapping on to City water to service Jones Mill Circle. This will be further discussed at the upcoming Water/Sewer Committee Meeting.
- Chairman Chris Weidner – Hudson Plantation (Water Tap)
 - Chairman Weidner said that he and the County Board of Commissioners wanted to reach out and offer support for providing Piedmont Water Authority water for Jones Mill Circle. He stated that if the City is unable to, the County would be willing to assist however they can.
- Residential Inside City – water rates
 - City Clerk Cindy Yancey reported that in the last Water/Sewer Committee Meeting, Engineer Charlie Bridges brought up the fact that the City pays the County \$3.76 per gallon for water and charges the customer \$3.66 per gallon after 2000 gallons. It was recommended that the City raise the rate for inside residential customers to be equal to the amount that the County charges.
 - This will be added to the April Council Meeting for the First Reading of the Ordinance.
- Sewer capacity commitments
 - Water Treatment Plant Operator Cheyenne Morgan spoke with Planning & Zoning regarding permits for several subdivisions that the City had promised sewer capacity for. He explained that P&Z permitting expires after one year, therefore, if construction has not started, the applicant must reapply. Mr. Morgan suggested that the City use this same timeline when promising sewer capacity to developers.
 - City Attorney Newberry advised that this would not need to be a resolution but just an amendment to the City's policy when it comes to requests from developers.

Plan Committee:

- James Street Village – letter affirming GICH Support
 - Mayor Barbee received a request from In-Fill Housing for the City to write a letter supporting the GICH Committee's decision to support the James Street Village Apartment project. This will be added to the April Council Meeting for approval.

Personnel Committee:

- Executive Session – Personnel
 - This will be held at the end of the meeting.

Streets/Sanitation Committee:

- Forest Avenue – 1-inch overlay
 - The Library Board has requested for the City and County to split the cost of the resurfacing of Forest Avenue. The total cost is \$8400.00, therefore, it would be \$4200.00 from each the County and City. The board is asking to have this done before the Library reopening in April. Council was in agreement to move forward and pay half of the cost. This will be brought to Jones County Board of Commissioners for approval at their meeting, Tuesday, March 19th.
- Christopher Crowder – speed bumps
 - Mr. Crowder lives in Big Creek Preserve and he is requesting speed bumps be placed on Allen Greene Drive. He said that kids walk that street to get to the recreation complex and he feels that it is a safety concern.
 - There was question as to whether Allen Greene Drive is a City street or County street. Mr. Crowder's neighborhood is in the City but Allen Greene Drive leads to the recreation complex which is not in the City. Mr. Crowder was asked to get a petition signed by neighbors and research will be done to determine who maintains Allen Greene Drive.
- Easements – Jackson Heights
 - City Attorney Newberry explained that he would be setting up a meeting with the three homeowners and Engineer Charlie Bridges to further explain what would be done to fix the drainage issues and discuss the easements that would need to be given by the homeowners.

City Property:

- Councilman Favors reported that the sidewalk by the Fire Department had been repaired and City Hall Parking Lot had been restriped.

Public Safety Police/Fire:

- No report.

Miscellaneous:

- Dixie Street Bid - Jerrold Pitts - \$2525.00
 - This will be added to April Council Meeting for acceptance.
- General Topics – Terry Favors
 - Councilman Favors has received complaints regarding construction of a large shop in his neighborhood and wanted to know if anything can be done about it.
 - He was advised to check with Planning and Zoning to be sure that the homeowner has the proper permitting for the building.

Mayor Pro Tem Collins made a motion, seconded by Councilman Tufts to close the open meeting and go into Executive Session regarding Personnel.

The open meeting resumed.

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