

A meeting of all committees of the City of Gray, Georgia was held on Monday, July 15, 2019 in the Conference Room at City Hall.

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

Guests: Glenda Wood, James Colquitt, and Debbie Lurie-Smith, *The Jones County News*.

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

**Finance/Tax Committee:**

- Financial update
  - 99.13% of 2018 Property Taxes have been collected, leaving an unpaid balance of \$7,622.34.
- 2020 Budget
  - City Clerk Cindy Yancey reported that Department Heads would need to have budgets prepared August Committee Meeting

**Water/Sewer Committee:**

- Plant – Weekend Hours
  - The current Resolution regarding weekend hours only addresses the Water Treatment Plant. It needs to be amended to address weekend checks for the Wastewater Treatment Plant also. Operators currently check the WWTP each weekend and the policy need to reflect the same.
- Test Well – Quote
  - City Clerk Cindy Yancey reported that Water Treatment Plant Operator Cheyenne Morgan has been trying to obtain quotes for the Test Well Project but only one quote was submitted. It was from Greene's Water Wells for total cost of \$19,700.00. This will be on the August agenda for approval.

**Plan Committee:**

- No report.

**Personnel Committee:**

- No report.

**Streets/Sanitation Committee:**

- Councilman Tufts reported that the LMIG resurfacing will begin this week.

**City Property:**

- Quotes for painting City Hall and Water Department Buildings
  - Jay's Painting, LLC – City Hall \$7,555.00/ Water Department Building \$5,675.00
  - Mitch Morrison – City Hall \$6,767.00/ Water Department Building \$8,172.00
  - Washburn Brothers Painting – City Hall \$6,435.00/ Water Department Building \$2,850.00
  - This will be added to the August Council Meeting for approval.

**Public Safety Police/Fire:**

- Radar Certification
  - Police Chief Lowe reported that his radar certification will need to be updated due to the fact that Georgia Department of Transportation is making changes to roads that are currently considered state routes and making them City streets due to an agreement that was signed in 2007 by Mayor Briley. City Clerk Cindy Yancey and Assistant City Clerk Ashley Roberson have searched for the resolution and/or minutes where this was discussed but cannot find any record of this being discussed. Chief Lowe explained that he has spoken with contacts with GDOT, Representative Susan Holmes and the Governor's office. He has requested for a meeting to be scheduled with GDOT and Mayor and Council to discuss the changes.
- Nuisance Complaints
  - Chief Lowe has received several of the Nuisance complaint forms regarding uncut grass and some of which he has received more than once. He explained that they have been addressing the issues but has two cases where the homeowners are deceased, and he cannot locate a responsible party. Chief Lowe would like some direction on how to handle these. City Attorney Newberry explained that if there is not a responsible party to bring to Court then that would just need to be explained to the person who filed the complaint. Councilman Favors asked if the City could have it mowed and put a lien on the property for that amount. City Attorney Newberry stated that the City cannot go onto private property.
- Alcohol Pouring License
  - Chief Lowe reported that there have been issues with a restaurant not following the Ordinance regarding their Alcohol Pouring Licenses. He has had complaints regarding staying open past 12am and selling alcohol after the kitchen closes at night, therefore operating a bar, which is not allowed. He has spoken with the owner, but the problem has not been corrected. The City Ordinance allows for the Police Chief to revoke the license, in which case the owner would have to come before Mayor and Council in order to have it reinstated. Chief Lowe also has spoken with Georgia Department of Revenue Alcohol Division and they have also been in contact with the owner regarding their State Alcohol License because the license holder is now deceased, and the license needs to be put in someone else's name. City Attorney Newberry advised for the City to send a letter regarding the license needing to be updated. Assistant City Clerk Ashley Roberson will send a letter stating they must have a new application submitted before the August Council Meeting. However, Chief Lowe may revoke the current license if he deems necessary due to them not following the alcohol ordinance.
- Aerial Truck
  - Chief Eisele discussed possibility of purchasing a new Aerial Truck with Mayor and Council. There is a used truck that is in good condition that is for sale for \$556,600.00 in Pennsylvania.
  - Chief Eisele is working to get finance information together. Councilman Fulford asked for him to have it ready for the Finance Committee Meeting that will be scheduled for last week of the month.

**Miscellaneous:**

- Councilman Favors spoke regarding an ongoing issue in his neighborhood. He has received several complaints regarding the look of a neighbor's yard. He has spoken with Chief Lowe and Tim Pitrowski with Planning & Zoning regarding issues and neither have found anything that could be addressed by them. City Attorney Newberry suggested that Councilman Favors check the neighborhood covenants, because they may address the issues. It was also suggested that they have a Homeowners Association that can address these issues.
- Mayor Barbee met with a representative today from the Georgia Lottery Corporation regarding the HOPE Scholarship and how it helps students within Jones County.
- James Colquitt a Scout from Troop 222 which is the Central Georgia Council was in attendance in order to obtain his Citizenship Merit Badge.

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

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Assistant City Clerk