

A meeting of all committees of the City of Gray, Georgia was held on Monday, March 15, 2021 in the D.V. Childs Civic Center.

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

Guests: Sara & Vernon Collins, Roya & Jay Collins, Jordan Bland, TJ Heath, Sherri Rollins, Glenda Wood, John Wood, and Debbie Lurie-Smith, *The Jones County News*.

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

Finance/Tax Committee:

- Financial update
 - 97.75% of 2020 Property Taxes have been collected. The unpaid balance is \$22,087.86.
- DDA
 - City Attorney Newberry reported that Downtown Development Authority has the bus lot under contract with a purchase price of \$325,000.00. He stated that the reason it is on the agenda is discussing payment options, the City can pay outright or bid out the financing to banks.
 - Councilman Fulford made a motion to add this to the April agenda for approval to pay for the purchase out of fund balance.

Water/Sewer Committee:

- Sara Tidwell – 273 Turnerwoods Road
 - Mrs. Tidwell asked what the City's plans were to fix the sewer lines on the two sewage easements on her property. She stated she is aware that there have been sewer spills and wants to know what the plan to correct this problem is. She requested a written reply from the City with a plan of action.
- Sewer discussion with County
 - Mayor Pro Tem Collins stated that he would like City Superintendent Frank Ross and Assistant City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan to speak with representatives with the County to discuss options and possibilities working together moving forward. Assistant City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan explained that he is fine with discussing with the county however he feels it is a little premature due to the current issues the City is having with sewer. Councilman Tufts stated that he feels eventually this could happen, but we needed to see where we stand with the new plant before any decisions are made.
- Camera system
 - Assistant City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan would like to purchase a camera system and side by side to give the City the capability to handle most of the videoing of the sewer lines in house.
- EPD meeting
 - Assistant City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan explained that he along with Engineer Matt Smith and WWTP Operator Jason Farmer met with EPD regarding a proposed consent order given by EPD.
- Dulles Park – Updated sewer capacity letter
 - Roya & Jay Collins are requesting an updated sewer capacity letter for the expansion of Dulles Park Apartments.

- Dolly Street – Pipe bursting
 - Carter & Sloope has obtained bids for pipe bursting on Dolly Street. Due to the City being under Consent Order by EPD, Assistant City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan will contact the lowest bidder RDJE who has done work for the City in the past and have them move forward with this project.
- WWTP Expansion
 - Assistant City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan stated that bids are expected to begin in July. Estimated Completion Date of June/July 2023.

Plan Committee:

- Mayor Pro Tem Collins reminded everyone of the upcoming Turkey Fest.
- Chief Lowe reported that the Pastor of First Baptist and Main Street Director Haley Watson met with him and requested to have the street closed on October 23rd for City Lights Hallow Nights event. Chief Lowe stated that unless Council objects, he does not think this would be a problem.
- Mayor Barbee reported that Networking Night for the Chamber of Commerce is scheduled for March 25th at 5:30pm.

Personnel Committee:

- Jordan Bland – Liberty National
 - Mr. Bland presented information regarding supplemental insurance for employees through Liberty National.
- Employee Appreciation
 - Mayor Pro Tem Collins reported that Assistant City Clerk Ashley Roberson has been working on employee appreciation ideas such as certificates for years of service for milestone years such as 5, 10, 15, etc., and doing something for employee's birthdays. Assistant City Clerk Ashley Roberson explained that the idea originated at the Retreat Council had at the beginning of their term and due to Covid, last year she and City Clerk Cindy Yancey were unable to start. Their idea is to give employee's a \$25 gift card and a card for their birthdays each year. City Clerk Yancey stated that they would like to do monthly breakfasts for the staff coinciding with the birthdays for the month. Mayor Pro Tem Collins stated that he thinks this is a great idea. Councilman Fulford and Tufts both agreed as well.

Streets/Sanitation Committee:

- Street Light Arnold Road
 - Assistant City Clerk Ashley Roberson explained that she contacted Georgia Power regarding the street light request on Arnold Road and is waiting for cost information to be sent. She stated that she would let Council know as soon as she receives the information.

City Property:

- No report.

Public Safety Police/Fire:

- Fire Chief Eisele reported that the new fire truck should be delivered mid to late April. He also stated that the current Firefighter One class is set to graduate in May.

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

Assistant City Clerk