

A meeting of all committees of the City of Gray, Georgia was held on Monday, October 18, 2021 in the D.V. Childs Civic Center.

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

Guests: Sara & Vernon Tidwell, and Debbie Lurie-Smith, *The Jones County News*.

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

Finance/Tax Committee:

- Financial update
 - 99.26% of 2020 Property Taxes have been collected. The unpaid balance is \$7,262.41.
- 2021 Property Tax bills to be mailed October 27th & will be due December 29th.

Water/Sewer Committee:

- Sara Tidwell – sewer spills
 - Mrs. Tidwell of Turnerwoods Road expressed her concern with the City sewer line that runs through her property. There was a sewer overflow on her property the day of the recent heavy rain. She stated that she contacted an attorney who recommended her going through the government agency which is Environmental Protection Division (EPD). It was explained that the City contacted EPD to report the overflow, as well as puts a notice in the newspaper. Mrs. Tidwell asked what was being done to fix this problem. Mayor Pro Tem Collins explained that a lot of work has been done in the past year and work is continuing to be done to help with the inflow and infiltration that is getting into the system. Mrs. Tidwell questioned whether the line leading to the WWTP needed to be upgraded. Assistant City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan explained that line in question leads everything from the whole City into the Wastewater Treatment Plant, so they are focusing on finding the problem areas throughout the whole system where rainwater is getting in and causing overflows. Mr. Morgan also stated that on normal weather days, the line in question is only at 15-20% capacity.
- GEFA Loan Agreement
 - The agreement for the GEFA loan for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion will be on the agenda for the special called meeting immediately following tonight's All Committees Meeting.
- 2022 Budget
 - The proposed 2022 Water/Sewer budget was presented to Mayor and Council.
- Water/Sewer rate increase effective 2022
 - City Clerk Cindy Yancey reported that the planned rate increase for 2022 needs to have its first reading in November and voted on in December to be effective January 2022. City Attorney Newberry will prepare the Ordinance change.
- 4161 Gray Highway – water service
 - City Attorney Newberry explained that Tractor Supply will be building at 4161 Gray Highway. Tractor Supply will be using the meters for the old car wash and old Bug House building. Currently, the road and water lines located in the development are privately owned. When Tractor Supply begins construction Gray-8 Skate and Councilman Fulford will have to run their own lines to tap onto the City main in order to access water. City Attorney Newberry asked if the City was interested in installing an 8-inch waterline down the access road in the case of future development. He stated that

the developer would be interested in deeding the access road to the City in the future. Newberry also stated that the City could do nothing and Gray-8 Skate and Councilman Fulford would have to run their own lines. Assistant City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan stated that the development currently has access to water and sewer. Council asked Mr. Morgan to get prices on an 8-inch water line.

Plan Committee:

- Mayor Pro Tem Collins reported that early voting began last week and there have been 40 voters so far.
- Mayor Barbee reported that the City's designated Opportunity Zone expires end of the year and the MGRC has reviewed and there are no other areas that need to be designated at this time. If one comes up in the future, then we can add it if necessary.

Personnel Committee:

- No report.

Streets/Sanitation Committee:

- 2022 LMIG
 - City Clerk Cindy Yancey reported that the LMIG streets needed to be decided by November's All Committees Meeting and approved at the December All Committees Meeting so that the application can be submitted.
- Sanitation Contract
 - Councilman Tufts stated that the garbage contract needed to be reviewed and updated accordingly since the contract is with Advanced Disposal and they were bought out by Waste Management.

City Property:

- No report.

Public Safety Police/Fire:

- Fire Chief Keith Eisele reported that the 1986 Fire Engine that the City declared surplus only received one bid and it was under value. He asked if there was any issue with sending it to auction. City Attorney Newberry stated that he did not believe that would be a problem, he will review the policy to be sure.

Miscellaneous:

- Councilman Favors – Building on Autumn Ridge
 - Councilman Favors asked City Attorney Newberry if he had any information regarding building height requirements. Newberry explained that code allows for up to two stories. Councilman Favors asked if the City could send a letter to the property owners regarding the halfway built shop in his neighborhood. Newberry explained that he could review the nuisance ordinance to see if it applies in this case.

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