

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Mayor and Council for the City of Gray, Georgia was held on Monday, January 9, 2023, at 6:00pm in the D.V. Childs Civic Center.

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

Guests: Lonnie & Amy Ford, Pat & Bill Boyd, Heather Johnson, and Chuck Thompson, *The Jones County News*.

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

Councilman Tufts gave the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Pro Tem Collins made a motion, seconded by Councilman Favors, and unanimously voted to amend the January 9, 2023, agenda to remove items 7 & 8.

APPROVED 4-0

Mayor Pro Tem Collins made a motion, seconded by Councilman Fulford, and unanimously voted to approve the December minutes.

APPROVED 4-0

Councilman Fulford made a motion, seconded by Councilman Favors, and unanimously voted to approve the December accounts payable.

APPROVED 4-0

Mayor's Report:

- Mayor Barbee reported that 2022 was a good year for the city. Mayor Barbee stated that the city had increased revenue, see new events begin and new businesses developed. Mayor Barbee thanked City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan and the water department for all their hard work with the issues the city experienced during the winter storm. Mayor Barbee stated he looks forward to another great year in 2023.

Old Business:

1. **Second Reading:** An Ordinance by the City of Gray to amend and restate the Retirement Plan for the Employees of the City of Gray, Georgia in accordance with and subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the attached adoption agreement.

Mayor Pro Tem Collins made a motion, seconded by Councilman Tufts, and unanimously voted to adopt **Ordinance 23-O-001**.

APPROVED 4-0

New Business:

Councilman Favors made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Collins, and unanimously voted to close the Council meeting and go into a P&Z Hearing.

APPROVED 4-0

1. **P&Z Hearing:** Item A: Lonnie Ford: Requests a variance to allow an accessory building in the front yard. Property is located at 109 Cedarline Dr, and consists of 1.4 +/- acres, zoned R-2 (Two Family Residential).

Mayor Barbee asked Mr. Lonnie Ford to come up and speak.

- Mr. Ford stated that he would like to build a garage for extra parking space.
- Councilman Favors asked if there was any other structure in that area. Mr. Ford stated No.
- Mayor Pro Tem Collins asked if he planned to use it as a mechanic shop. Mr. Ford stated he only planned to work on family cars.
- Mr. Ford stated he was looking to make it 30x40 which a little bit larger than a two-car garage. Mr. Ford stated he hasn't purchased anything and it maybe another year or so before he begins any construction. Mr. Ford stated due to the pool in the backyard and the other side of the yard containing the leech field for the septic system that is the only place he can place it in his yard.
- City Attorney John Newberry asked how far the front left corner of the proposed building be from Hwy 18. Mr. Ford stated this is well over 100' feet.
- Councilman Fulford asked if there were any previous structures in that area. Mr. Ford stated no.

Mayor Barbee asked for anyone in opposition to come up and speak:

- Bill Boyd said his concern was if the building would be in tune with the rest of the neighborhood. His main concern was the type of materials and look of the building.
- Mr. Ford responded that he has been looking into pricing of a white metal building and he hopes to plant some evergreens in front of the building.

Councilman Favors made a motion, seconded by Councilman Tufts, and unanimously voted to close the P& Z hearing and reopen the Council meeting.

APPROVED 4-0

Mayor Barbee asked for a motion to approve the request for the variance.

Councilman Tufts made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Collins, and voted to approve the variance. Councilman Favors voted in favor of the variance Councilman Fulford voted in opposition.

APPROVED 3-1

2. Authorization for Mayor Barbee to sign an engagement letter with McNair McLemore Middlebrooks & Co. regarding the 2022 audit.

Councilman Fulford made a motion, seconded by Councilman Tufts, and unanimously voted to authorize signing of the engagement letter for the 2022 audit.

APPROVED 4-0

3. A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Gray, Georgia to supplement the General Appropriations Resolution passed by Mayor and Council the 4th day of October 2021, for fiscal year 2022; and for other purposes.
 - Fire Department grant

Mayor Pro Tem Collins made a motion, seconded by Councilman Fulford, and unanimously voted to approve **Resolution 23-R-001**

APPROVED 4-0

4. A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Gray, Georgia to supplement the General Appropriations Resolution passed by Mayor and Council the 4th day of October 2021, for fiscal year 2022; and for other purposes.
 - Beer/Wine Tax

Councilman Tufts made a motion, seconded by Councilman Fulford, and unanimously voted to approve **Resolution 23-R-002**

APPROVED 4-0

5. A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Gray, Georgia to supplement the General Appropriations Resolution passed by Mayor and Council the 3rd day of October 2022, for fiscal year 2023; and for other purposes.
 - LMIG

Councilman Tufts made a motion, seconded by Councilman Favors, and unanimously voted to approve **Resolution 23-R-003**

APPROVED 4-0

6. A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Gray, Georgia authorizing the Mayor to execute a rental agreement between the City of Gray and Storage at Crossway; and for other purposes.

Mayor Pro Tem Collins made a motion, seconded by Councilman Fulford, and unanimously voted to approve **Resolution 23-R-004**.

APPROVED 4-0

Public Comments:

- No comments.

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

Assistant City Clerk