

A meeting of all committees of the City of Gray, Georgia was held on Monday, April 15, 2024, in the conference room of City Hall located at 109 James Street.

Present: Mayor Ed Barbee, Mayor Pro Tem James Collins, Council Member David Tufts, Council Member Terrell Fulford, City Attorney John Newberry, City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan, Public Works Manager Chris Neal, Police Chief Adam Lowe, Fire Chief Keith Eisele, Main Street Director Ashley Roberson, Assistant City Clerk Christina Morgan, and City Clerk Cindy Yancey

Guests: Debbie Lurie-Smith, *The Jones County News*, Greg Singleton

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

**Finance/Tax Committee:**

- Financial Update
  - 89.73% of 2023 Property taxes have been collected.
- WWTP Upgrade - payment
  - City Clerk Cindy Yancey stated that she is currently transferring \$15,000 to the WWTP account for repayment of the GEFA loan and stated that due to the project nearing completion she would like to start transferring the estimated monthly payment of \$33,000. It was the consensus of council to start transferring the full estimated payment.

**Water/Sewer Committee:**

- WWTP - update
  - Council Member David Tufts asked if there were any updates on the WWTP.
  - Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan stated that they are still doing site prep, fine tuning and close to creating a punch list.
  - Mr. Morgan stated that he will have more information for mayor and council after the next progress meeting which is scheduled for April 18, 2024.

**Plan Committee:**

- Hometown Spring Festival
  - Mayor Pro Tem James Collins stated that he wanted to commend Ashley Roberson and Madison Banks for all the work they did to put together the Hometown Spring Festival.
  - Main Street Director Ashley Roberson stated that the vendors and the local businesses had great things to say about the festival and that she feels like everything went well.
  - Mrs. Roberson stated that she appreciated the help that she received from the public works staff and police department staff while preparing for the festival.
  - Councilman Tufts suggested having detour signs put out during the events to help with traffic.
  - City Superintendent Morgan stated the public works department have some detour signs available.

**Personnel Committee:**

- Executive Session
  - Mayor Pro Tem James Collins requested that the executive session be moved to the end of the All-Committees Meeting.

**Streets/Sanitation:**

- Sanitation
  - Council Member David Tufts asked how sanitation services were going since the city entered into a contract with Ryland Environmental.
  - City Clerk Cindy Yancey stated that issues were being worked out.
- Streetscape Lights - Funding
  - Ms. Yancey stated that she and Mr. Morgan discussed the funding for the streetscape lighting project that Main Street is trying to implement.
  - Mr. Morgan stated that there is \$331,000 left in the Arpa fund, with \$163,000 obligated to the WWTP upgrade. Mr. Morgan stated that the remaining funds could be used to fund the streetscape lighting project.
  - Mr. Morgan stated that he spoke with Scott McNalley w/ Georgia Power and the purchase of the lights would come with a year of free maintenance.
  - Mr. Morgan stated that after the one year of free maintenance, the city will need to sign a maintenance agreement for \$20.00 per month per light, \$3,800.00 year.
  - Mr. Morgan also stated that he spoke with Mr. McNalley about having a light put up where Bill Conn connects to Hwy 18 as Mayor Barbee requested. The additional light/lights could be added to the city's current street light power bills if council chooses to move forward with the installation of the light/lights.
- West Clinton/Atlanta Rd.
  - Main Street Director Ashley Roberson stated that there are now ferns and new planters along West Clinton and the old planters on Atlanta Rd have been repainted and new ferns planted as well. Ms. Roberson thanked the Public Works Manager Chris Neal and the public work employees for helping.

**City Property:**

- None

**Public Safety Police/Fire:**

- None

**Main Street:**

- None

**Miscellaneous:**

- Called Meeting – property/liability insurance renewal.
  - City Clerk Cindy Yancey stated that Tom McEachern sent out an email requesting a meeting with council between 04/22 – 04/25 to discuss the property/liability insurance renewal.
  - A meeting will be held on 04/22/24 @ 9:00 am.
- Request for preliminary plat extension for Piedmont Lakes Phase 2.
  - Mayor Pro Tem Collins stated that Councilman Favors (not at the meeting) had concerns about the water issue between Piedmont Lakes and the Pines.
  - City Attorney John Newberry stated that was an issue with Phase 1, that has been resolved.
  - City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan stated that he does have approval from the water and soil conservation approving the ENS plan for phase 2.
  - Mr. Newberry stated that John Comer also went out and a clog was found and cleared out as well.
  - Mr. Newberry stated that there have not been any complaints in reference to the issue in the past 9-12 months.
  - This item will be added to the next council meeting for a vote.

- Jones County Republican Party
  - Mayor Pro Tem Collins announced that the county and the BOE has several positions open and has a forum scheduled for April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 at Butler Hall. There will be a meet & greet at 6:30PM with the forum starting at 7:00PM.
  - This forum is being held for the district 2 & 3 commissioners, coroner and the BOE district 2.
- GMEBS Restated Agreement
  - City Attorney John Newberry stated that the restated adoption agreement to the defined benefits retirement plan needs to be approved by June.
  - This item will be added to the May agenda.
- City of Ethics/Civility
  - Mayor Ed Barbee stated he spoke with Joy Carr mayor and council adopting a resolution of ethics and civility.
  - Mayor Pro Tem Collins stated that he will do more research on this item and bring it back to council.

Mayor Pro Tem Collins made a motion, seconded by Councilman Fulford, and unanimously voted to close the All-Committees Meeting and go into Executive Session regarding personnel.

The All-Committees Meeting resumed.

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

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Assistant City Clerk