

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Mayor and Council for the City of Gray, Georgia was held on Monday, January 6, 2025 at 6:00 PM in the D.V. Childs Civic Center.

Present: Mayor Ed Barbee, Mayor Pro Tem James Collins, Council Members Terry Favors, Terrell Fulford, and David Tufts, Police Chief Adam Lowe, City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan, Public Works Manager Chris Neal, Main Street Director Ashley Roberson, Clerk Cindy Yancey and Assistant City Clerk Kayleigh Faircloth.

Guests: John Nail w/ Ryland Environmental, Jay Smith w/ Ryland Environmental, Darrell Burns, Benjamin Cook, Sherri Rollins, Don Johnson and Debbie Lurie-Smith, *The Jones County News*.

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

Darrell Burns gave the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilman Favors made a motion, seconded by Councilman Tufts, and unanimously voted to approve the January 6, 2025 agenda.

APPROVED 4-0

Councilman Favors 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 he looks forward to 2025 being a great year.

New Business:

1. John Nail & Jay Smith – Ryland Environmental
 - Mr. Nail & Mr. Smith introduced themselves and gave out their contact info. They stated to contact them if we need anything at all.
2. Reschedule January’s All Committee Meeting

Mayor Pro Tem Collins made a motion, seconded by Councilman Favors, and unanimously voted to reschedule the January All Committees Meeting to Monday, January 27th at 6:00pm.

APPROVED 4-0

3. Motion to set qualifying fees for the 2025 City of Gray General Election to be held November 4, 2025 as follows:
 - Mayor \$216.00
 - Mayor Pro Tem \$198.00
 - Council Member \$162.00

Mayor Pro Tem Collins made a motion, seconded by Councilman Favors, and unanimously voted to set the Qualifying Fees for the 2025 City of Gray General Election.

APPROVED 4-0

4. Applicant Benjamin Cook requests a beer and wine pouring and liquor pouring license for Ben's Bent Axle, LLC located at 125 West Clinton Street Suite A Gray, Georgia 31032.

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

APPROVED 4-0

5. A Resolution of the Mayor and Council to approve closing documents and the purchase agreement with Paige Batchelor Clark and authorizing the Mayor to execute said agreement; and for other purposes.

Councilman Fulford made a motion, seconded by Councilman Favors, Councilman Tufts voted in favor of the motion and Mayor Pro Tem Collins voted in opposition of Resolution **25-R-001**.

APPROVED 3-1

6. A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Gray, Georgia authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement the Jones County/Gray Chamber of Commerce, Inc. regarding the 2025 hotel/motel tax funds.; and for other purposes.

Councilman Fulford made a motion, seconded by Councilman Tufts, and unanimously voted to approve Resolution **25-R-002**.

APPROVED 4-0

7. 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 2nd day of October 2023, for fiscal year 2024; and for other purposes.

Councilman Favors made a motion, seconded by Councilman Tufts, and unanimously voted to approve Resolution **25-R-003**.

APPROVED 4-0

8. Authorization for Mayor Barbee to sign a letter to GEFA requesting an extension to the current grant for lead service line inventory.

Councilman Favors made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Collins, and unanimously voted to authorize Mayor Barbee to sign the letter to GEFA.

APPROVED 4-0

9. Authorization for Mayor Barbee to sign an engagement letter with McNair McLemore Middlebrooks & Co. regarding the 2024 audit.

Councilman Fulford made a motion, seconded by Councilman Tufts, and unanimously voted to authorize Mayor Barbee to sign the engagement letter.

APPROVED 4-0

Public Comments: *(Three minutes per speaker and no more than two speakers per topic)*

- Don Johnson inquired about the purchase of property for the test well. City Superintendent Morgan stated that the property is 5.61 acres and they can drill in multiple places on the property.

- Mayor Pro Tem Collins reported that there would be Public Hearings regarding House Bill 581 on January 16th at 10:00am, January 27th at 6:00pm and February 3rd at 6:00pm. He also stated that the County Commissioners will be sworn in tomorrow at 3:30pm and the Board of Assessors hearing will follow that at 4:00pm.

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

Minutes Clerk