

A meeting of all committees of the City of Gray, Georgia was held on Monday, January 27, 2025 in the Conference Room inside City Hall.

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

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

Mayor Barbee called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.

**Finance/Tax Committee:**

- Financial update
  - 91.16% of 2024 Property Taxes have been collected with an unpaid balance of \$115,785.20.

**Water/Sewer Committee:**

- Highway 18 East Property
  - City Attorney Newberry reported that they closed on the property last week. City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan reported that he has been getting quotes for Hydrogeologists, they will be going with Dan Harmon.
- Glover Lane Lift Station Generator Grant Bid Opening will be March 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am.

**Main Street/DDA:**

- Main Street Director Ashley Roberson reported that she is working on a calendar of events for Open Container Events for 2025, she stated that she needs to finalize a couple of dates and will have them ready for February Council Meeting.
- Roberson invited Mayor, Council and Department Heads to the Georgia Academy of Economic Development training August. She explained that Georgia EMC has adjusted the training and will tailor it to our community. This will count as required training hours for both Downtown Development Authority and Jones County Development Authority but welcome to all.
- Main Street Director Ashley Roberson reported that Chamber of Commerce is hosting “State of our Community” luncheon in May and they are asking for representatives from City, County and Board of Education to attend and report.

**Plan Committee:**

- Committee Branding Meeting
  - Mayor Pro Tem Collins asked for Mayor and Council to attend the Branding Meeting Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm in the Chamber of Commerce Board Room.
- Joint City/ County/ BOE Meetings
  - Mayor Pro Tem Collins expressed that he would like to start back the Joint Meetings whether Quarterly or even Bi-Annually.

**Personnel Committee:**

- No report.

**Streets/Sanitation Committee:**

- Councilman Tufts stated that Ryland is caught up on garbage pickup after the snow.
- Downtown District Street Signs
  - City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan presented new street signs for the Downtown District. He plans to purchase black decorative posts and new white street signs with black lettering. Morgan stated he has the money in his budget and plans to do the streets down East and West Clinton from Washburn Street to Pinewood Drive this year and will do the secondary streets next year.
- Downtown Streetlights are in, however the weather has slowed the process down, but they will be installed in the next couple of weeks.
- Councilman Tufts asked if signage for crosswalk at Jefferson Street could be reevaluated with something more distinct and noticeable.
- Councilman Tufts and Mayor Barbee are looking into Grant Funding for sidewalks on Dolly Street connecting to Downtown.

**City Property:**

- No report.

**Public Safety Police/Fire:**

- No report.

**Miscellaneous:**

- Shipping Container Ordinance
  - Main Street Director Ashley Roberson reported that it was brought up in the Design Review Commission Meeting due to complaints regarding them being used for long-term storage, specifically in the Downtown District. After discussion, City Attorney Newberry stated that the Design Guidelines needed to be reviewed as they may address the issue without creating an Ordinance.
- Truck Route Ordinance
  - The truck route ordinance was discussed, there were questions that they would like to discuss with Police Chief Adam Lowe before the Ordinance is ready for the First Reading. After questions get answered, the First Reading will likely be in March for it to be adopted in April.

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

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Minutes Clerk