

A meeting of all committees of the City of Gray, Georgia was held on Monday, February 18, 2025 in the Conference Room inside City Hall.

Present: Mayor 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, Public Works Manager Chris Neal, Assistant City Clerk Kayleigh Faircloth, and City Clerk Cindy Yancey.

Guests: Jane Peacock, Bob Peacock, Joann Lyde, Carla Gibson, Chuck Gibson and Debbie Lurie-Smith, *The Jones County News*.

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

Finance/Tax Committee:

- Financial update
 - 94% of 2024 Property Taxes have been collected with an unpaid balance of \$80,409.14.

Water/Sewer Committee:

- Executive Session – Real Estate
 - Councilman Tufts asked that this item be moved to the end of the meeting.
- Piedmont Lakes (phase 2) – capacity letter
 - City Superintendent stated that construction has started on phase 2 at Piedmont Lakes and the developer needs an approval letter for water and sewer.
 - Mr. Morgan asked if the letter needed to be on the March agenda for approval.
 - It was the consensus of council that since the matter had been previously discussed it was not necessary to add this item to the agenda. Council directed Mr. Morgan to proceed with issuing the letters to the developer.
- Storm Drainage
 - Jane Peacock expressed concern over storm drainage issues in Jackson Heights. Mrs. Peacock stated that it is affecting three houses of which she is aware.
 - Mrs. Carla Gibson stated that she believes that it is affecting six houses.
 - The Peacocks, Gibsons and Ms. Lyde presented video and pictures to council.
 - Ms. Peacock stated storm water run-off is a huge problem and is costing the homeowners thousands of dollars.
 - Mrs. Peacock stated that she is not sure where the water comes from but said that it needs to be diverted.
 - Councilman Tufts stated that most of the water is coming from the main highway due to GDOT putting in large pipes several years ago.
 - Ms. Peacock stated that the drainage issue is now flooding houses and yards and suggested that the water be diverted behind Mr. and Mrs. Gibon's house.
 - Mr. Bob Peacock stated that the problem just keeps growing and agreed that the water should be diverted to the property behind Mr. and Mrs. Gibson's home.
 - Council stated that they would have City Superintendent Cheyenne Morgan look at the issue and see if the problem can be resolved.

Main Street/DDA:

- No Report

Plan Committee:

- Mayor Pro Tem James Collins stated that Main Street Director Ashley Roberson was in training, but he wanted to say that the Galentine's Event was successful.
- Mr. Collins stated that he also spoke with John Trussell and the Lafayette Event is scheduled for March 27, 2025 @ 3:00 PM.
- Mr. Collins said that for different reasons the county commissioners were unable to attend the last branding meeting. The Commissioners would like to set up another meeting.

Personnel Committee:

- No report.

Streets/Sanitation Committee:

- Truck Ordinance
 - City Attorney John Newberry wanted to clarify if exemptions would be made for businesses located in the city.
 - It was the consensus of council that the ordinance should apply to through traffic.
 - City Attorney Newberry will make some changes to the ordinance and bring it back to mayor and council.

City Property:

- No report.

Public Safety Police/Fire:

- No report.

Miscellaneous:

- Councilman Tufts asked if Mayor Barbee had spoke with the Middle Georgia Regional Commission about the grant for a project on Dolly Street.
- City Clerk Cindy Yancey stated that she had received the letter that the MGRC requires but was unsure of the deadline for returning it. Ms. Yancey stated that she will contact the MGRC to inquire about the deadlines.
- City Attorney Newberry spoke of Mr. Benny Gray Jr.'s resignation and stated that the City Charter requires the city to call a special election within fifteen days. Mr. Newberry stated that since the election is going to be in November of 2025, he is unsure if the special election is necessary. He will check into the matter and bring it back to mayor and council.

Water/Sewer – Executive Session

- Councilman Tufts made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Collins and unanimously voted to close the regular meeting and go into an executive session.

The regular meeting resumed.

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

City Clerk