

September 27, 2012

The Graham City Council met in REGULAR SESSION in the Council Chambers at City Hall at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 27, 2012 with the following members present:

MEMBERS: Mayor: Barry White
Mayor Pro-Tem: Jack Graham
Council Member: Spencer Street III -absent
Pam Scott
Greg Montgomery
City Manager: Larry Fields-absent
City Secretary: David Maddy
Public Works Director: David Casteel
Police Chief: Tony Widner
Assistant Police Chief: Brent Bullock
Fire Chief: Dennie Covey

VISITORS: J. McLeroy, Roy Robinson, Jerry Schultz, Darrel Dodson, Michael Mclendon, Jess Amon, James Jones, Jennifer Conway, Eddie Gellner, Jason Cottongame, Jim Helvey, Sandra Helvey and Cherry Rushin.

ORDER: Mayor Barry White called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

PUBLIC FORUM:
None

MINUTES APPROVED:

Minutes from the September 13, 2012 regular meeting were approved 4-0 on a motion from Greg Montgomery and a second from Pam Scott.

DISCUSSION OF STATUS OF BRAZOS RIVER AUTHORITY/CORPS OF ENGINEERS FLOOD BUYOUT AND PARK PROJECT:

David Casteel reported on the progress of the buyout. Properties in the flood zone have been bought in BRA's name with about fourteen properties left to demolish and clear. The land will be donated back to the City for development of a park. The cost is currently estimated in excess of 2 million dollars for recreation and environmental restoration. Michael Mclendon and Jess Amon were present to provide an update from the BRA. There has been some question as to whether or not the area was to be mowed or to remove the non native plant species and allow the area return to a natural state. The City has been mowing because of concerns about vermin and mosquitoes. The City is to develop a park plan and submit it to the Corp. as soon as possible. A committee is being formed to do so.

CONSIDER REQUEST FOR VARIANCE FROM SIDE YARD SETBACK AT 736 ELM:

The property owner, Kyle Peavy, has requested a variance from the five foot side yard setback to 2.5 feet to build a two car garage to replace the carport that is currently setback 2.5 feet. P & Z approved the request. Greg Montgomery made the motion to approve the variance, Pam Scott made the second and motion passed 4-0.

CONSIDER ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE #990 APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND SETTING THE TAX RATE FOR FY 2012-13:

This action approves the 212-13 budget at a total of \$14,837,799 and sets the tax rate at \$0.608767 per \$100 valuation. The current tax rate is \$0.630527. Greg Montgomery made the motion to approve the ordinance, Jack Graham made the second and motion passed 4-0. This was the first reading.

CONSIDER ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE #991 AMENDING THE FY 2011-12 BUDGET:

The amendment approves the changes in the budget to match actual expenditures for various departments: increasing General Funds \$157,200, decreasing Water and Sewer Funds respectively \$89,000 and \$32,000 for a net budget of \$12,601,090. This constituted the first reading. Jack

Graham made the motion to approve the ordinance, Greg Montgomery made the second and motion passed 4-0.

CONSIDER ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE #992 ESTABLISHING SCHOOL ZONE SPEED LIMITS LOCATED ON FM 2179 WITHIN THE CORPORATE CITY LIMITS:

The CDC Head Start facility located on FM 2179 (4th Street) across from the Airport requested a School Zone be established at this location. Because this street is a part of the TxDOT highway system, the request had to be approved by them, which has now been done. Staff recommends approval. This constituted a first reading. Pam Scott made the motion to approve the ordinance, Jack Graham made the second and motion passed 4-0.

REPORTS:

Chief Widner reported that traffic enforcement is up which has resulted in some drug arrests. Chief Covey reported on the Police and Fire Departments golf tournament at the course in Olney. The Fire Department won. David Casteel updated Council on the Keep Graham Beautiful Brush Up campaign October 6-14. There will be dumpsters provided by IESI at five locations around town. There was a main break in the waste line near Salt Creek and 2 pumps failed at the Dry Creek facility. It will cost \$18,000 to replace one of the pumps. Street work is being done around the hospital. Crews are repairing/replacing water taps along Third Street. Casteel reported the lake level at 1071.41 or 81.35% capacity. 1075' is full.

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Greg Montgomery, a second from Jack Graham and a vote of 4-0 the Council meeting was adjourned.

Barry White, Mayor

ATTEST:

David Maddy, City Secretary