

May 14, 2020

The Graham City Council met in REGULAR SESSION in the Council Chambers at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 14, 2020 with the following members present:

MEMBERS: Mayor: Neal Blanton
 Mayor Pro-Tem: Darby Brockway
 Council Member: Brini Albritton
 Lee Boyd (absent)
 Kyle Peavy
 City Manager: Brandon Anderson
 City Secretary: Sharon McFadden
 City Attorney: Dan De La Cruz
 Municipal Judge: Teresa Bishop (absent)
 Police Chief: Brent Bullock (absent)
 Fire Chief: Jerry David (absent)
 Assistant Fire Chief: Jim Don Laurent (absent)

VISITORS: Thomas Wallner, Randall Dawson, and Tony Ramirez.

ORDER: Mayor Neal Blanton called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

PUBLIC FORUM: No comments were made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes from the Regular Session Council meeting held on Thursday, April 30, 2020 were considered. Brini Albritton made the first motion and Kyle Peavy seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved 3-0.

DISCUSS SALES TAX REPORT FOR MARCH 2020 RECEIVED IN MAY 2020:

Brandon said we had a positive of 1.47 percent over last year (March 2019). Last year (2019) we saw consistency develop in sales tax. April 2020 will likely be more affected. Brandon is concerned with small businesses and what numbers will be reflected on April 2020 sales tax. CVB will likely be most impacted (from COVID 19) with the hotel tax dollars.

CONSIDER AND ACT ON ORDINANCE # 1099 AMENDING ORDINANCE # 1090 TO REFLECT NEEDED BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS TO SHOW DONATIONS FOR BUILDING OF CITY HALL, DONATIONS TOWARDS LIGHT UPGRADE AT AUDITORIUM, DONATION TOWARD TECHNOLOGY UPGRADE AT THE LIBRARY:

Brandon said the City of Graham Charter requires a unanimous vote from full Council or have three separate readings. Brandon said Council Member Lee Boyd had not said whether or not he planned to attend this meeting. Ordinance # 1099 was tabled. No action was taken.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Neal Blanton requested all attending to exit the Council Chamber for the Executive Session.

ENTERED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 9:06 A.M.

TLGC Sec. 551.074 Personnel Matters

Discussion and Review of Contract with City Manager.

EXIT FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 9:26 A.M.

CONSIDER AND ACT ON RENEWAL OF CONTRACT WITH CITY MANAGER, BRANDON ANDERSON:

Darby Brockway made the first motion to extend the contract with Brandon Anderson for a two year term. Darby said the decision is based on the discussions had and with the recommended changes by the City Attorney. Kyle Peavy seconded and the contract was approved 3-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Neal Blanton requested all attending to exit the Council Chamber for the Executive Session.

ENTERED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 9:27 A.M.

TLGC Sec. 551.072 Deliberations Regarding Real Property

Discussion on moving forward with Sale of Old City Hall Building at 429 4th Street.

Discussion on Proposed Changes to Commercial Lake Lease on Lake Eddleman with Owner of the Crappie House.

EXIT FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 10:02 A.M.

CONSIDER AND ACT (IF NEEDED) ON ANY ITEM PERTAINING TO THE EXECUTIVE SESSION ON DELIBERATIONS REGARDING REAL PROPERTY:

Brandon said a commercial lake lot at Lake Eddleman, the Crappie House lease holder, has requested change to the lease. The other items is the former City Hall building (429 Fourth Street) recently vacated.

Kyle Peavy requested the amendment to the lake lot lease be tabled until Council Members have an opportunity to visit the area. Brint Albritton provided the second motion. The Lake Eddleman commercial lease change request was tabled with a unanimous vote of 3-0.

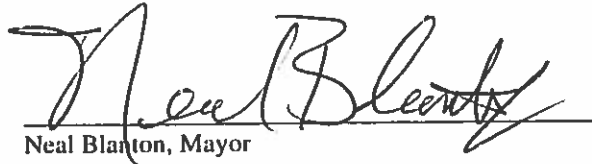
Kyle Peavy made the motion to allow City Manager Brandon Anderson to obtain an appraisal on the property. Brandon said we will put the RFP (Request for Proposal) together for bids to be returned mid-summer. Brandon suggested obtaining the appraisal, preparing the RFP, putting it out for bids, and return to Council in July 2020. The Old City Hall Building was approved with Kyle Peavy making the first motion and Darby Brockway providing the second. The motion was unanimously approved 3-0.

REPORTS:

- Public Works Director Randall Dawson informed Council of the leak on the 24 inch line which was repaired yesterday (May 13, 2020). The repair went smooth and was completed quickly. At the 1100 block of Remington, a line was replaced and resulted in a boost to pressure in the area. Brandon said good progress is being made to replace failing lines as the failures occur.
- City Manager Brandon Anderson said the lake level is at 97.4 percent full and we had an inch of rain last night which may increase the lake level. The City Hall Monthly Activities Report and the Utility Clerk Report for April 2020, the Library Report for April 2020, and the Bond Officer Report (submitted by Police Sergeant Richard Ferguson with Municipal Court) were in the back of the packet. Brandon provided an update on the Corona Virus situation. He said there was a text sent out to the group that was previously meeting (included Judge Bullock, Shane Kernell, Dr. Pat Martin, Mayor Blanton, and Brandon Anderson). Things have gotten quiet on the Corona Virus. The Fire Department received a request from the Governor's office requesting them to do all the testing at our nursing homes, including staff and nursing home residents. We are not sure if our Fire Department staff are the proper authority in this community to do that but we will get with the Fire Chief and read the proposal. We will visit with Dr. Martin to see how to move forward and how he recommends to do that. More businesses have opened. Last Friday (May 8, 2020) our hair salons, barber shops, and tanning salons were able to open. We are making good progress. Businesses deemed as non-essential were allowed to reopen. We are back to business as normal at a 50 percent capacity as recommended by the Governor. The move to City Hall is complete. Not totally done with moving everything but staff is really enjoying the new office. Brandon encouraged everyone to visit and take a look.
- Mayor Neal Blanton said he continues to recommend citizens continue with their social distancing. Things are looking good right now.

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Kyle Peavy, a second from Darby Brockway, the Council meeting was unanimously adjourned.


Neal Blanton, Mayor

ATTEST:


Sharon McFadden, City Secretary