

January 17, 2013

The Graham City Council met in REGULAR SESSION in the Council Chambers at City Hall at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, January 17, 2013 with the following members present:

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

VISITORS: Chris Denney, Zac Denney (Troop 92), Jimmy McLeroy, Jabe Underwood, Chastide Underwood, Eddie Gellner, Jennifer Conway, Neal Blanton, Jessica James, Sandra Helvey, Jason Cottongame, Dennis Fellows, Gina Brown and Cherry Rushin.

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

PUBLIC FORUM:

None. Mayor White recognized Zac Denney with Scout Troop 92 who was visiting as part of working on a merit badge.

Judge Gina Brown swore in new Police officer Jabe Underwood.

MINUTES APPROVED:

Minutes from the January 03, 2013 regular meeting were approved 5-0 on a motion from Greg Montgomery and a second from Pam Scott.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF BUILDING PLANS FOR 739 ELM STREET:

This property is in P.D. #1 which requires that any new structure must have both P & Z and City Council approval. Kyle Peavy, property owner, is requesting a permit to build a new garage with an upstairs apartment. The P.D. #1 regulations require new construction must comply with the architectural aesthetics of the neighborhood. P & Z has approved the project and recommends Council approval. Spencer Street made the motion to approve the plans, Jack Graham made the second and motion passed 5-0.

CONSIDER REGULATING THE PARKING OF VEHICLES IN FRONT AND SIDE YARDS:

Staff drafted an ordinance that restricts parking to improved surfaces and does not allow parking in front or side yards on unimproved surfaces. The intent of this proposed regulation is to improve and protect the esthetics of residential neighborhoods. Enclosed with the Council packet was a proposed ordinance with the consideration of suggestions made by Council at the last session. Discussion included item #3 which allows current properties to be grandfathered until improvements of 50% or more of the property's assessed value are made. It was felt that it would be hard to track in the future. Larry Fields supports the ordinance without #3. Barry White felt that the City could not make people put in driveways and there is not always enough street parking available. Jack Graham thought that future improvements could be tracked through building permits. Jason Cottongame said that two or three houses a year are remodeled at a cost over 50% of assessed value. Pam Scott said that what she saw driving around was that houses had enough driveway but residents were choosing to park in the yards. She also asked about waivers and Larry said it would lead to a lot of confusion. Barry White asked to see what other town's ordinances said and how they were implemented.

CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION FOR STOP SIGNS AT RANDY DRIVE AND RODGERS DRIVE:

There are currently stop signs for traffic on Rodgers Drive at the Randy Drive intersection. The purpose is to break the speed of traffic on Rodgers Drive. The development of the east side of Randy Drive has caused this intersection to have more unstopped east-west traffic. In the interest of safety staff is recommending this become a 4-way stop intersection. Council decided at the last session to have the Police Department conduct a traffic study to be reviewed at today's Council meeting. The Police Department did investigate the intersection and recommends the placement of stop signs on Randy Drive. This is east of the Presbyterian Church. Jack Graham made the motion to approve the signs, Pam Scott made the second and motion passed 5-0.

CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION FOR STOP SIGNS AT CLIFF AND THOMPSON DRIVES:

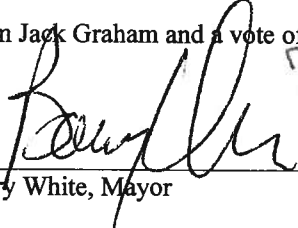
Stop signs at this intersection were not included at the prior Council meeting. The decision for the signs at this intersection was made by the police department and school administration. Traffic regulations must have council approval. Chief Widner has recommended the signs at this intersection and requested council authorization. Pam Scott made the motion to approve the signs, Spencer Street made the second and motion passed 5-0.

REPORTS:

Chief Widner said the Police department report is being reformatted. Jessica said that Main Street gave a \$500 exterior appearance grant to Creations. David Casteel said that the highway 380 entry way upgrades were being studied and he is talking to TxDOT about Hwy 16 S. and Shawnee Springs work. He will have a water development project update for the next meeting. He met with the Corp of Engineers on the new park. The remaining structures are being demolished. Larry reported the lake level at 1070.05 or 74.6% capacity. 1075' is full. Sale tax receipts this month were flat compared to the prior month although the City's receipts are still up 10.7% over this time last year.

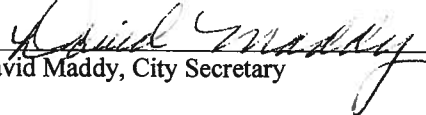
ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Greg Montgomery, a second from Jack Graham and a vote of 5-0 the Council meeting was adjourned.



Barry White, Mayor

ATTEST:



David Maddy, City Secretary