

January 22, 2009

The Graham City Council met in REGULAR SESSION in the Council Chambers at City Hall at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, January 22, 2009 with the following members present:

MEMBERS: Mayor: Wayne Christian
Mayor Pro-Tem: Barry White
Council Member: Jack Graham
Jeff Dickinson
Lydia Schupbach
City Manager: Larry Fields
Assistant City Mgr: Tim James
City Secretary: David Maddy
Police Chief: Tony Widner
Assistant Police Chief: Brent Bullock- absent
Fire Chief: Dennie Covey
Assistant Fire Chief: Jerry David- absent

VISITORS: Rex Steadham, Gaye Steadham, Jimmy McLeroy, Anita McLeroy, Flo Crawford, Flora Ross, Rich Brooks, Thomas Brooks, James Shifflett, Jason Cottongame, Sandra Helvey, Ken Walls, John & Deanna Warrick, Neal Blanton, Jim Jones and Cherry Young.

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

PUBLIC FORUM:

Mayor Christian recognized Thomas Brooks with Boy Scout Troop 92 who was present observing the Council meeting.

MINUTES APPROVED:

Minutes from the January 08, 2009 regular meeting were approved 5-0 on a motion by Lydia Schupbach and a second by Jack Graham.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF DEMOLITION ORDER FOR 123 CANDLESTICK:

The Building Permit issued 7-11-08 to Deanna Warrick for 123 Candlestick has expired. The property was inspected on 01-15-09 and found to remain in non compliance with the Housing Code. City Council had the option of :(1) Approval of an order to demolish and/or remove the structure from the lot. The owner will be notified and given notice to demolish and/or remove the structure within 60 days. If the order is not complied with in the 60 days, then the City will bid out the demolition and/or removal to a private contractor; (2) Allow the project to continue by approving the issuance of a Building Permit that will allow an additional 180 days; (3) Allow the project to continue under a Compliance Schedule Agreement that will specify what has to be done to bring the structure into compliance and a specific timeline to complete the work.

Additional information was provided to Council in their agenda packets. Mr. Warrick started bricking the house on 01-15-09 with the possibility that it would be completed by the date of this Council Meeting. This does improve the appearance of the structure but does not address the code violations. Jason Cottongame, the City's building inspector, was present and told Council the house was still not secured to the foundation. The Warricks, who were also present, said they did not realize the house was still not in compliance. Jason said his conversations with them were very specific about what was not in compliance and what it would take to bring the house into compliance. He also said that some of the ledger wood used is rotten and had pictures showing examples. It was also reported that the Warricks had not been calling for inspections when parts of the job were completed. Deanna Warrick claimed she had not seen the schedule of work that accompanied the Building Permit. Council told the Warricks they were familiar with the City codes as they had done work locally in the past and that there was no excuse for both of them to be unaware of the permit schedules and compliance issues. Jack Graham made the motion to approve a demolition order to be issued for 123 Candlestick in 60 days. The house is to be occupant ready within that time or demolition/ removal will begin on the 61st day. Barry White made the second and motion passed 5-0.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FEMA FLOOD PROGRAM AGREEMENT:

FEMA will be updating the National Flood Plain Maps and is requesting an Agreement of Cooperation for the project. Jeff Dickinson made the motion to approve the agreement, Lydia Schupbach made the second and motion passed 5-0.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF TCEQ SSO AGREEMENT:

The TCEQ has approved the Sanitary System Overflow (SSO) Initiative Plan submitted by the City. Council reviewed the agreement and City staff recommended approval. Jeff Dickinson made the motion to approve the agreement, Lydia Schupbach made the second and motion passed 5-0.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF NO PARKING IN THE 900 BLOCK OF VIRGINIA STREET:

A resident of the 900 block of Virginia requested that on street parking be prohibited between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. The resident claimed that high school students parking on the street caused problems for residents backing out of their driveways. The McLeroys were present and said they lived several houses down from the high school and the problem started this school year. Council discussed where the "No Parking" and "20 MPH" signs should be placed with the suggestion that just the south half of the block is affected. Construction on the school was thought to be the reason for so many students to be parking on the side streets and the situation may change when construction is completed. Suggestions will be brought before Council at the next meeting.

CONSIDER BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

The following Board Members were eligible for reappointment:

GEIC Board – Jay Gober, Ed Hinson and Tom Hunnewell

Airport Board – Bruce Street

Cemetery Board – Cheryl Groves, Sandra Boedecker and Ken Haggart

Arena Board – Ronald Eddleman, Eva Hoffman and Jim McCain

Jeff Dickinson made the motion to approve the reappointments of the above members, Lydia Schupbach made the second and motion passed 5-0.

CONSIDER TWD SRF APPLICATION FOR WATER AND WASTEWATER PROJECT:

The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) provides loans for water and wastewater projects through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) program. Recently the TWDB has notified all cities that the Federal Government is going to provide additional funding for projects on which applications are submitted by January 23rd. City staff recommended the City of Graham submit an application for funding for the following Council approved projects:

1. Spivey Hill elevated tank
2. Timber Ridge Booster Station storage tank
3. Additional water supply line into town
4. Wastewater Treatment Plant improvements

The City should be notified by September 2009 if the application is approved. If approval is gained, City Council can then make a final decision to accept the funding. There is no obligation to accept the funding if approved. Barry White made the motion to approve the submission of the application, Lydia Schupbach made the second and motion passed 5-0.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF POLICE DATA BASE:

\$20,250 was approved in this year's budget for the purchase of a new data base computer system. The Police Department has a bid from Cardinal Tracking, Inc. of \$26,267.93 with a maintenance fee of \$3,000 a year beginning in 2010. Annual support for the current Indigo Data Base is \$4,800 a year. The new system's purchase will be over budget, but using the savings of the \$4,800 and the savings of \$1,314 from the police cars, that can be reduced. Chief Widner has agreed that the department will seek grants and/or donations to make up the deficit. The current Indigo system has never worked correctly and the support has never been what the Police Department could rely on. Barry White made the motion to approve the purchase, Jack Graham made the second and motion passed 5-0.

REPORTS:

Chief Covey presented the December 2008 monthly Fire Department report. Jeff Dickinson suggested traffic caution signs around the Fire Station. Chief Widner reported that the department

is doing a traffic study on 4th Street from the Airport to the Dairy Queen Drive In and that an officer has resigned leaving the department 2 short. Larry reported the lake level at 1073.06' or 90% capacity. 1075' is full. December's Court report was given to Council. Comprehensive Plan RFPs have been sent out. Larry reported he met with a structural engineer on the auditorium roof. A metal roof is possible and they are talking to the architect.

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Jeff Dickinson, a second from Lydia Schupbach and a vote of 5-0 the meeting was adjourned.

Wayne Christian, Mayor

ATTEST:

David Maddy, City Secretary