

February 20, 2020

The Graham City Council met in REGULAR SESSION in the Council Chambers at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 20, 2020 with the following members present:

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

VISITORS: Thomas Wallner, Randall Dawson, Jeff Smith, Karibe Dixon, Joe Beruta, Tiffany Snow, Chance Condron, Krisa De La Cruz, Tony Ramirez, and Jimmy McLeroy.

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, February 6, 2020 were considered. Kyle Peavy made the first motion and Brint Albritton seconded. Regular session council meeting minutes were unanimously approved 4-0.

**CONSIDER AND ACT ON A REQUEST FROM LEIGHTON SHIFFLETT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FOR USE OF THE AG BARN FOR THEIR ANNUAL CRAWFISH BOIL ON MAY 9, 2020 (DETAILS IN REQUEST):**

Brandon said Dan De La Cruz had planned to inform Council of details but was unable to attend the meeting. Toby Reddell usually handles this event but was required to attend a court hearing this morning. Brandon mentioned this is an annual event that has occurred the past few years. The Ag Barn is not usually rented out but works well for their crawfish boil. Brandon said the event is a semi-private fundraiser for a scholarship. Those involved are respectful to the facility and Brandon recommended approval. Lee Boyd made the first motion and Darby Brockway seconded. The request was unanimously approved 4-0.

**CONSIDER AND ACT ON THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR JANUARY 2020 BY THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER OR HER DESIGNEE:**

Sharon explained the financial position of the General Fund, Garbage Fund, Water Fund, and Sewer Fund. Sharon informed council as of January 31, 2020 that sixty-nine (69) percent of annual ad valorem (property tax) has been received. Brint Albritton made the first motion. Kyle Peavy seconded and the financial report was accepted 4-0.

**DISCUSS THE SALES TAX REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2020 WHICH REFLECTS SALES RECEIPTS FROM DECEMBER 2019:**

Brandon reviewed the December 2019 receipts. Brandon said that tracking history, the recent previous months were 10 and 14 percent increase and receipts have progressed down to a 3.87 percent but is still a net increase. Kyle Peavy mentioned it could be that the 2018-2019 fiscal year was a really good year. Brandon said every three months is higher due to those who pay taxes quarterly. Lee Boyd questioned what is received through internet sales tax. Mayor Blanton mentioned sales tax is collected from the location of warehouse rather than the destination of product purchased. Mayor Blanton said that could change and would benefit City on tax receipts.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

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

ENTERED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 9:07 A.M.

TLGC Sec. 551.017 Consultation with Attorney

PUC Wholesale Water Grievance  
 Update from Mike Guevara via phone

EXIT FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 9:40 A.M.

Mayor Neal Blanton called the regular meeting back into session.

**REPORTS:**

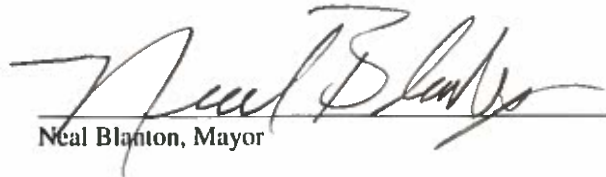
- City Secretary Sharon McFadden said there are no opposing candidates for Place One or Place Two and there will be an election held for Mayor. The drawing for the place on the ballot will occur in the City Secretary office on Monday, February 24, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. and is posted as required. Sharon mentioned the City Hall Monthly Activities Report and the Utility Representative Report for January 2020 were in the packet.
- City Manager Brandon Anderson mentioned at the next Council meeting on March 5, 2020 as long as date remains the same, will be asking the City Council to enact an emergency water conservation time frame. The reason for the request is due to a leak on 61 toward Country Club or Lake Graham. Brandon mentioned everyone has probably noticed leak in our main 24 inch line that comes to town. It has been leaking for

quite some time and needs to be repaired. Brandon said everything is in place and another crew is stepping in to assist. Weather permitting, the plan is to begin repair on Monday, March 9, 2020. Brandon said he will be asking Council to implement an emergency declaration of water conservation. We will be working with companies using water here locally and make them aware that week we are not selling any extra water. Brandon said they will have to nozzle the tanks down, be very diligent, and do this repair with an abundance of caution. Brandon estimated it will take approximately 24 hours to complete the repair. However, once the crew gets into the line, the repair may take more time. Brandon said in a perfect world, we would have the money to install an alternate line to town in order to get this fixed. Unfortunately, that is not a luxury we have at this time. Lee Boyd asked if the line was made of cast iron. Public Works Director Randall Dawson and Brandon stated in agreement that the line is cast iron. Mayor Blanton asked if there would be information available for Thomas Wallner (Representative of the Graham Leader) to share with the public. Brandon said he will have a statement together and start promoting that statement the first week in March. Brandon plans to reach the public through social media and will inform the newspaper. Brandon said we will encourage people to start conserving water at that time. Brandon said we will top all the tanks off that weekend and start that project on Monday, March 9, 2020. As of right now, that is the plan. Lee Boyd asked if the line will be replaced with poly. Randall Dawson responded that PVC C905 in 24 inch will be used for the repair. Brandon said the lake level report is in the packet and the lake is currently at 87.2 percent full. Brandon said staff continue to patch streets around town. Brandon informed Council he is still waiting on the completion of doors to the new City Hall. Brandon hopes that by the end of February 2020, we will get moved in but is confident it should happen in March 2020.

- Mayor Blanton said he would like to make notice of Sharon McFadden's graduation and completion of the Texas Municipal Clerks Certification Program and congratulated Sharon on the accomplishment.

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