

April 30, 2020

The Graham City Council met in REGULAR SESSION in the Council Chambers at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 30, 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
	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.

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, March 19, 2020, minutes from the Special Emergency Called meeting on Monday, March 30, 2020, and the Special Called meeting minutes for Thursday, April 9, 2020 were considered. Brandon said the first set of minutes was the regular scheduled meeting, the second set were for the order (referring to Ordinance #1095 shelter in place order), and third set of minutes was for the postponement of the May 2020 election. Kyle Peavy made the first motion and Lee Boyd seconded. The three sets of minutes were unanimously approved 4-0.

CONSIDER AND ACT ON MARCH 2020 FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE GENERAL FUND, GARBAGE FUND, WATER FUND, AND SEWER FUND AS PRESENTED BY THE CFO OR HER DESIGNEE:

Sharon McFadden briefly reviewed the financial reports and the potential effects COVID 19 may pose on the Water and Sewer Funds. Brandon added that we are right at \$100,000 behind due to non-payments for the past two months (referring to utility bills). Brandon said we typically average on a regular month 30 to 50 cut offs. Today (April 30, 2020) is the last day of this month. We currently have approximately \$90,000 in outstanding utility bills due. After close of business today (April 30, 2020), we should have a more accurate amount outstanding. Brint Albritton made the first motion and Darby Brockway seconded. The financial reports were unanimously approved 4-0.

DISCUSS SALES TAX REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2020 RECEIVED IN APRIL 2020:

Brandon said the sales tax remains positive and Mayor Blanton said he agreed.

CONSIDER AND ACT ON THE QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT FOR FIRST QUARTER 2020 (JANUARY TO MARCH 2020) AS PRESENTED BY THE CFO OR HER DESIGNEE:

Sharon reviewed the investment report for the first quarter of 2020. Sharon mentioned the Graham Savings Certificate of Deposit was renewed and the CDARS account with Interbank was also renewed. Mayor Blanton said the Arena Bond will be paid off in 2021. Mayor Blanton requested status on the Airport project. Brandon said the project is slowly progressing. Kyle Peavy made the first motion, Lee Boyd seconded, and the investment report was accepted 4-0.

CONSIDER AND ACT ON ORDINANCE # 1098 DENYING THE PROPOSED CHANGE IN RATES OF ONCOR ELECTRIC DELIVERY COMPANY LLC, FINDING AND DETERMINING THAT THE MEETING AT WHICH THIS ORDINANCE IS PASSED IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AS REQUIRED BY LAW, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY:

Brandon said this is a rate review mechanism all utility companies are required to do. Oncor is proposing an increase in electric fees. Mayor Blanton said this is standard and most cities that do not participate with groups that dispute these actions. Lee Boyd made the first motion. Brint Albritton provided the second. Ordinance # 1098 was unanimously approved 4-0.

CONSIDER AND ACT ON AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN YOUNG COUNTY AND THE CITY OF GRAHAM, TEXAS FOR FIRE PROTECTION/SUPPRESSION SERVICES:

Brandon said Young County Commissioners requested an update and the most recent update was about six (6) years ago. Brandon said the agreement was presented to Commissioners Court but was tabled. Thomas Wallner of the Graham Leader stated the agreement was tabled. Brandon said this agreement basically states Young County will pay the City of Graham \$24,000 each year. In return, the City of Graham Fire Department will assist on structure fires in Young County and also respond to any and all accidents with emergency equipment. Brandon said he did take a look at this service the past six (6) months. Jim Don Laurent, Assistant Fire Chief, assisted with analyzing costs to determine if the City is covered financially. Brandon said it was determined the City is financially covered in the agreement. Brandon recommended approval today. Darby Brockway made the first motion and Lee Boyd seconded. The Interlocal Agreement was approved unanimously 4-0.

REPORTS:


- City Manager Brandon Anderson mentioned the City Hall Monthly Activities Report and the Utility Clerk Report for March 2020. City Hall has officially moved to 612 Elm Street. We are currently monitoring to determine when to open the front foyer to the public. He is excited to show off our new facility. Lake level is at 98 percent full. We have been conducting Corona Virus update by local officials including Mayor

Neal Blanton; Public Health Official Dr. Pat Martin; Shane Kernell of Graham Regional Medical Center; Young County Judge John Bullock; and myself (Brandon Anderson). We have been providing weekly Facebook Live updates for the public. The City of Graham's order expired last night (April 29, 2020). The Young County order expires today (April 30, 2020). We are all following the Governor's lead and instructions. The Governor has issued an Open Texas policy book. His strike force is compiling the policy book and it is available online. The City of Graham is authorized to open restaurants and retail at a 50 percent level because of our test numbers. Five (5) were stated but a positive test does not count against us (City of Graham) if the individual recovered. Young County actually had seven (7) positive tests reported. Our (Young County) active case count is currently at zero (0). That is why we are following the 50 percent occupancy. We hope the Governor will address businesses such as hair salons, gyms, and other businesses considered nonessential on May 18, 2020. He and the other officials are seeking to get everyone in Young County safely back to work when possible.

- Sharon McFadden offered to answer any questions for the City Hall Activities Report or the Utility Clerk Report for March 2020. The staff of City Hall worked with me (Sharon McFadden) to submit a packet to the Texas Municipal Clerk's Association, Inc. (TCMA). Of 595 cities that submitted, only 18 were selected. The City of Graham was notified as being selected to receive the Texas Municipal Clerk's Achievement of Excellence Award. Mayor Blanton congratulated staff.
- Mayor Blanton said the Governor sets his standards based on what the fire code states for the capacity of the establishment. Brandon agreed that capacity is based on fire code. Mayor Blanton complimented the Governor on the extensive Open Texas policies and the group (referring to Governor's strike force). He said that on May 18, 2020, if no additional cases are reported, then we (City of Graham) can move to Phase 2 (of Governor's Open Texas policy). Mayor Blanton said he hopes salons and gyms will be included in Phase 2. The new City Hall is a great facility. Council Member Lee Boyd asked Brandon if he plans to open City Hall next week (May 4, 2020). Brandon replied "Probably" to Lee Boyd.

ADJOURNMENT:

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


Neal Blanton, Mayor

ATTEST: 
Sharon McFadden, City Secretary