

October 11, 2012

The Graham City Council met in REGULAR SESSION in the Council Chambers at City Hall at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, October 11, 2012 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-absent
City Secretary: David Maddy
Public Works Director: David Casteel
Police Chief: Tony Widner
Assistant Police Chief: Brent Bullock
Fire Chief: Dennie Covey

VISITORS: Charles Birdwell, Bonnie Blevins, Steve Hartgraves, Michael Neal, Wayne Widner, James Jones, Jessica James, Neal Blanton, Monica Johnston, Sandra Helvey and Cherry Rushin.

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

PUBLIC FORUM:
None

MINUTES APPROVED:

Minutes from the September 27, 2012 regular meeting were approved 4-0 on a motion from Greg Montgomery and a second from Pam Scott.

CONSIDER FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH REQUEST TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE CHERRY STREET FOR HALLOWEEN ACTIVITIES:

The request is for the 500 block of Cherry Street between the hours of 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Jack Graham made the motion to approve, Greg Montgomery made the second and motion passed 4-0.

CONSIDER REQUEST TO CLOSE NORTH SIDE OF COURT HOUSE SQUARE FOR BENEFIT EVENT:

Wayne Widner and Michael Neal are spearheading a benefit to raise funds for Will Proffitt's medical expenses on Saturday, October 27 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Widner and Neal were present and said that they had obtained permission from the County. Greg Montgomery made the motion to approve, Pam Scott made the second and motion passed 4-0.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF BUYBOARD MEMBERSHIP

This is an organization of government entities that allows cities to purchase products without having to advertise for bids as the prices have already been established by a bidding process that meets state regulations. Jack Graham made the motion to approve the membership renewal, Greg Montgomery made the second and motion passed 4-0.

CONSIDER RESOLUTION CREATING GEIC PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT PROJECT:

GEIC has agreed to contribute \$13,750.00 towards the Third Street renovation project. The expenditure has to be for a project created and identified by City Council action. The resolution requires two readings. Pam Scott made the motion to approve, Greg Montgomery made the second and motion passed 5-0 (Spencer Street arrived prior to the vote).

CONSIDER SELECTION OF WATER COST OF SERVICE AND RATE DESIGN STUDY:

As requested by Council, staff obtained proposals from two firms to perform a water cost of service and rate design study. Staff reviewed the proposals and recommend Council authorize staff to negotiate a contract with J. Stowe and Company. The proposal includes a survey of both wastewater and water with an estimated cost not to exceed \$24,500.00. Greg Montgomery made the motion to approve, Spencer Street made the second and motion passed 5-0.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE # 993 APPROVING THE GRAHAM MEDICAL CENTER BUDGET FOR FY 2012-13:

Steve Hartgraves presented the budget which calls for total operating expenses of \$24,863,820. Jack Graham made the motion to approve, Greg Montgomery made the second and motion passed 5-0.

CONSIDER ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE #990 APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND SETTING THE TAX RATE FOR FY 2012-13:

This action approves the 212-13 budget at a total of \$14,837,799 and sets the tax rate at \$0.608767 per \$100 valuation. The current tax rate is \$0.630527. Greg Montgomery made the motion to approve the ordinance, Spencer Street made the second and motion passed 5-0.

CONSIDER ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE #991 AMENDING THE FY 2011-12 BUDGETS:

The amendment approves the changes in the budget to match actual expenditures for various departments: increasing General Funds \$157,200, decreasing Water and Sewer Funds respectively \$89,000 and \$32,000 for a net budget of \$12,601,090. Greg Montgomery made the motion to approve the ordinance, Pam Scott made the second and motion passed 5-0.

CONSIDER ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE #992 ESTABLISHING SCHOOL ZONE SPEED LIMITS LOCATED ON FM 2179 WITHIN THE CORPORATE CITY LIMITS:

The CDC Head Start facility located on FM 2179 (4th Street) across from the Airport requested a School Zone be established at this location, speed to be reduced when the warning lights are flashing. Because this street is a part of the TxDOT highway system, the request had to be approved by them, which has now been done. Jack Graham made the motion to approve the ordinance, Greg Montgomery made the second and motion passed 5-0.

REPORTS:

Chief Widner reported that the Back the Badge fun run will be held Saturday, October 13. The refit on the old Plymouth police car is almost completed. Jessica reported that in spite of the weather there was a big turnout for Western heritage days. The Christmas open house will be November 3. And the Stroll will be on November 29. Casteel reported on activities of the Public Works departments and that 21 people volunteered to serve on the parks planning committee. The committee will plan the overall layout, pavilion and concert area, playgrounds, picnic area and fish pond and the hike and bike trails. Neal said that GEIC is looking at refinancing the remaining bonds for the 2007 Arena expansion to lower the rate from the current 4.25%. Larry reported the lake level at 1071.24 or 88% capacity. 1075' is full. Water revenues for 2012 were less than budgeted causing a deficit in that fund. The General Fund will close out close to break even. The combined funds for the year will reflect expenditures about 2% over revenues. Larry said that once the budget is approved the City Manager is authorized to sign lease agreements included in the budget. A formal resolution authorizing the City Manager and Finance Director to sign will be presented to Council on October 25.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Barry White, Mayor

ATTEST:

David Maddy, City Secretary