

January 12, 2017

The Graham City Council met in REGULAR SESSION in the Council Chambers at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, January 12, 2017 with the following members present:

MEMBERS: Mayor: Jack Graham
 Mayor Pro-Tem: Darby Brockway
 Council Member: Brint Albritton
 Lee Boyd
 Kyle Peavy
 City Manager: Brandon Anderson
 City Secretary: Sharon McFadden
 Police Chief: Tony Widner
 Assistant Police Chief: Brent Bullock
 Fire Chief: Jerry David

VISITORS: Thomas Wallner, Eddie Gellner, Jimmy McLeroy, Kirk Freeman, Jim Don Laurent, Jason Cottongame, Diana Theall, Neal Blanton, Municipal Judge Teresa Bishop, Teresa Freeman, Cathy Scitern, Mike Sateo, Rick Ferguson, Paula Ferguson, Bonnie Steliga, Cyndy Grubb, and Eve Brown.

ORDER: Mayor Jack Graham called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

PUBLIC FORUM: No comments were made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes of the December 15, 2016 Council meeting were approved unanimously with Brint Albritton making the motion and Kyle Peavy making the second.

SWEARING IN OF OLTON KIRK FREEMAN AND HOLLY FERGUSON AS NEW OFFICERS TO THE GRAHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Police Chief Tony Widner introduced the new police officers. Municipal Court Judge Teresa Bishop simultaneously conducted the Oath of office for the new police officers. Officers shook hands with the Mayor, Council Members, and the City Manager. Chief Widner informed Council there have been two more officers hired that already had their Peace Officer's certification. Mayor Jack Graham verbally welcomed Officers Olton Kirk Freeman and Holly Ferguson.

CONSIDER AND ACT ON A REQUEST FROM JIM SENKEL, CARNIVAL CHAIRPERSON WITH THE GRAHAM LIONS CLUB, FOR USE OF THE CITY SQUARE FOR THE ANNUAL GRAHAM LIONS CLUB CARNIVAL. CLOSURE IS REQUESTED FROM FRIDAY, MAY 5, 2017 TO MONDAY, MAY 15, 2017:

Brandon Anderson said this is for their annual event. Although they are requesting May 5, 2017 to May 15, 2017, the actual event will be from Wednesday, May 10, 2017 to Saturday, May 13, 2017. Brandon said the carnival brings lots of people into Graham and takes a while to set it up and get situated. Councilman Kyle Peavy informed the Mayor he is a member and director of the Lion's Club. Kyle said he was going to abstain. Darby Brockway made the motion to approve, Lee Boyd made the second, and motion passed 3-0.

CONSIDER AND ACT ON REQUEST FROM THE GRAHAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR USE OF THE SQUARE, THE AMERICAN LEGION BUILDING, AND VARIOUS OTHER ROAD CLOSURES DURING THE POSSUM PEDAL BIKE RIDE TO BE HELD ON JUNE 3, 2017:

Diana Theall, Manager of the Chamber of Commerce said this is a continuing annual event that continues to grow. Brandon Anderson said the Chamber and CVB received approval for the waiver on Ordinance #540 in the last Council meeting. Brandon said there is a chance there may be some changes made in the street closures. Kyle Peavy accepted the motion, Brint Albritton made the second, and the motion unanimously passed.

REPORTS:

- Police Chief Tony Widner briefly reviewed the Police Department's Monthly Activity Report. He said the animal shelter is now accepting animals again which provides some relief for the Animal Control Officer. Two new officers are now out patrolling on the streets.
- Assistant Fire Chief Jim Don Laurent described the drill conducted with Texas Emergency Management on Wednesday, January 11, 2017. The drill was for how to tie personnel, equipment, and expenditures together in a disaster event. Finance, Police, and Fire participated and Jim Don said it was successful drill. Brandon Anderson added it was a good training drill and it was conducted through State of Texas. Brandon said it is geared toward financial accountability for the Federal Emergency Management (FEMA) claims filed through the state after a disastrous event.
- Neal Blanton said the State Legislative Session began on Tuesday, January 10, 2017. Bills have already been filed on incentives to new businesses coming to town. Mayor Jack Graham asked Neal about the status of a prospect. Neal stated all looked good for that particular prospect. However, the railroad access needed could not be provided.

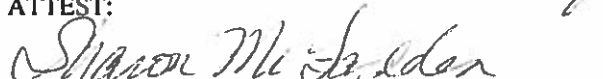
- Diana Theall, Chamber of Commerce Manager, said the Chamber Banquet is coming up on Tuesday, January 24, 2017 and anticipates the event to be sold out. Diana mentioned that Graham day in Austin on February 28, 2017. Diana thanked Jason Cottongame and his staff for their support and work during the Ice Slide event on the Square.
- Municipal Court Judge Teresa Bishop said the court was more profitable than the year before.
- Brandon Anderson asked Councilman Lee Boyd to give an update regarding the Salt Creek project. Lee said the Corp of Engineers has been decommissioned from the project and now it is between the Brazos River Authority and the City of Graham. Lee anticipates the City should be able to get started this year. Brandon Anderson said he would like to consider those committees previously involved with the project. Brandon mentioned discussions needing to occur on how funds can be spent and possibly adding additional amenities. Lee Boyd explained funds sitting in BRA account and property title to be transferred over to the City of Graham. Lee said he is excited to see the project move forward and will be a good addition to the City.
- Brandon Anderson said the County Stock Show starts today, January 12, 2017.

ADJOURNMENT:

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



John Chiles Graham, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sharon McFadden, City Secretary