

December 26, 2019

The Graham City Council met in REGULAR SESSION in the Council Chambers at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 26, 2019 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, Joe Beruta, Randall Dawson, Karibe Dixon, and Grant Ingram.

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, December 12, 2019 were considered. Kyle Peavy made the first motion and Darby Brockway seconded. Regular session council meeting minutes were unanimously approved 4-0.

CONSIDER AND ACT ON NOVEMBER 2019 FINANCIAL REPORTS AND DECEMBER 2019 SALES TAX REPORT AS PRESENTED:

Sharon McFadden explained the new format for the income statement and balance sheet for the general fund, garbage fund, water fund and sewer fund. Council Member Kyle Peavy questioned expenses of the auditorium. Brandon and Mayor Blanton agreed it is likely the new lighting causing the over-budgeted expenses. Brandon said there are some annual fees for various departments that adversely affect expenses. Sharon said she will research and follow up with Council on the auditorium expenses. Brandon said lighting installation at the auditorium will begin on January 2, 2020 and should be completed by January 6, 2020. Brandon mentioned the necessity of a budget amendment for special funds on the auditorium lighting. Brandon responded to Councilman Lee Boyd's inquiry on where the special funds were obtained and Brandon said the recent remodel had funds remaining. Mayor Blanton asked about the excess amount available in the street department. Public Works Director Randall Dawson said no major street projects have started yet. Brandon said sales tax is on track to remain in the black. Lee Boyd made the motion to accept and Brint Albritton seconded. The reports were unanimously accepted 4-0.

CONSIDER AND ACT ON RESOLUTION # 118 PROCLAIMING THAT THE GRAHAM PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD IN COOPERATION WITH THE CITY OF GRAHAM INTEND TO ENACT CONSERVATION MEASURES TO PRESERVE NATURAL AREAS WITHIN THE NEW PARKS PLAN:

Brandon said the draft was presented in the application packet and recommended approving it due to the sensitivity (flood way/ flood plain in places). Brandon said including the resolution for conservation measures will provide proof that the City of Graham is committed to the project. Mayor Blanton asked if there was a timeline on a response to the grant application. Council Member Lee Boyd and Brandon were not aware of a specific timeline. Brint Albritton made the first motion. Lee Boyd seconded and Resolution # 118 was unanimously approved 4-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION SCHEDULED ON THE AGENDA DID NOT OCCUR.

CONSIDER AND ACT ON OPTION AND LAND LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF GRAHAM AND NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS, LLC FOR CONSTRUCTION OF AN AT&T CELLULAR TOWER:

Brandon said he has been working on this project the past 18 months. Brandon stated that City Attorney Dan De La Cruz has spent the past six months finalizing the agreement with AT&T attorneys. The small tower will be located near the baseball field near Young County Arena. Brandon said the arena is a City asset but the land is owned by Young County. Brandon and the City Attorney attended the County Commissioners Court. Brandon recommended the revenue from the lease should be returned to the City. Brandon mentioned that legal details could be answered by the City Attorney. Brandon said the new cell tower will benefit the community and AT & T customers in the area. Brandon stated the anticipated revenue will be \$1,500 each month (\$18,000 each year). Mayor Blanton said the revenue could assist 4H and the FFA programs. Council Member Lee Boyd stated the Arena Board will allocate where the revenue is to be spent. Brandon mentioned GEIC and the Arena Board being aware of status and in agreement with the project. Kyle Peavy expressed his concerns for safety if the tower were to fall. Brandon said all safety measures have been addressed. Lee Boyd made the first motion. Kyle Peavy made the second. The agreement was unanimously approved 4-0.

AUTHORIZATION FOR THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN THE LEASE AGREEMENT FOR THE CELLULAR TOWER:

Brint Albritton made the motion to authorize City Manager Brandon Anderson to sign the lease agreement. Darby Brockway seconded and the authorization was unanimously approved 4-0.

REPORTS:

- Brandon Anderson mentioned that Police Chief Brent Bullock was not attending today due to an annual family vacation. December 24, 2019 an accident occurred on Elm Street. A lady was making a turn by the college onto Elm Street and went into the creek. It was reported that a Bible slid down her dash and jammed into the steering wheel. The driver was not able to correct and plummeted into the creek. It is a 6-8

foot drop but the vehicle landed on all four wheels. No injuries were reported from the incident. Public Works Director Randall Dawson said a tow truck was able to remove the vehicle.

- Mayor Neal Blanton said the next Council meeting will occur on Thursday, January 9, 2020.

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