

February 9, 2017

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

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

VISITORS: Thomas Wallner, Jimmy McLeroy, Roy Pitcock, Jr., Krisa De La Cruz, Sandra Helvey, Robert San Miguel, and Neal Blanton.

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 January 26, 2017 Council meeting were approved unanimously with Brint Albritton making the motion and Kyle Peavy making the second.

CONSIDER AND ACT ON PROPOSAL FOR SERVICES FROM LA COSTA ENVIRONMENTAL, LLC TO CONDUCT A WATER RATE STUDY:

Brandon Anderson referred to a previous Council meeting suggesting review of water rates now that we are accurately monitoring. Brandon said Scott Swanson and Teresa Rogers with La Costa Environmental, LLC are offering a proposal to conduct the water rate study. The cost of proposal is estimated at 160 hours not to exceed the amount of \$12,000. Brandon suggested moving forward to see where we are at with new system and funds are set aside in contract services to cover the costs. Council Member Kyle Peavy questioned unpredictable rainfall, unreliable historic rates, and the reliability of our data to conduct the survey. Mayor Jack Graham said other towns' reliable data compared with our data should determine if the City is overcharging or undercharging. Mayor Graham said the survey would be valuable in making an informed decision on the water rate structure. Brandon said there is a need to have a better plan in place and there currently is no differential between industrial, commercial and residential. Brandon said La Costa will look at this and advise the City. Darby Brockway made the motion to approve the proposed rate study. Brint Albritton made the second and motion passed 3-0.

CONSIDER AND ACT ON REQUEST FROM CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, SHARON MCFADDEN, TO GET A CITY OF GRAHAM CREDIT CARD TO BE UTILIZED FOR PURCHASING AND FOR REGISTRATION OF SCHOOLS, RESERVATION OF MOTELS AND TRAVEL:

Brandon said the City has a need for a credit card and has been working with Sharon to safeguard the use. Brandon mentioned the credit card will be used for specific uses such as booking motel rooms, registration fees for training courses, and certain online purchases. Brandon said currently employees are expected to use their own credit card and then submit for reimbursement. Brandon mentioned the City, like other cities he is aware of, could benefit from a cash-back type of state-issued credit card. Mayor Graham recommended an audit trail that included the person making the reservation not also be the one to reconcile. The Mayor expressed his concern that a credit card is not already in use by the City for these specific purposes. Brandon agreed there is a need for preliminary procedures for audit purposes. Council Member Kyle Peavy explained his business experience and reconciling issues with credit cards. Mayor Graham stated that based on the fact that employee do not always have their own credit card, he suggested to move forward with obtaining the credit card, and get a policy in place. Brandon said he appreciated Kyle's input and stressed there will be a policy in place to cover and use will be revoked if any abuse occurs. Brint Albritton made the motion to approve obtaining the credit card, Kyle Peavy made the second, and motion unanimously passed.

CONSIDER AND ACT ON ABANDONING THE RIGHT OF WAY FOR 7TH STREET BETWEEN HIGHWAY 380 AND HIGHWAY 16, FOR THE PURPOSES OF EVENTUALLY ATTACHING THIS LAND TO THE EXISTING CITY OF GRAHAM PROPERTY:

Brandon recommended this item be tabled at this time for further discussion.

CONSIDER AND ACT ON REQUEST FROM THE YOUNG COUNTY NEW CENTURY VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE TO CLOSE OFF AND UTILIZE THE INTERIOR VEHICLE SPACES ON THE NORTH HALF OF THE SQUARE ON APRIL 22, 2017 FROM 10 A.M. TO 2P.M. FOR THE FORMAL KICK-OFF EVENT FOR THEIR CAMPAIGN TO FUND THE EXPANSION OF THE YOUNG COUNTY VETERANS MEMORIAL:

Brandon said Knox Bishop wants to expand, include present Veterans, and is attempting to raise \$125,000.00 for the venture. Mr. Bishop is requesting use for April 22, 2017 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Kyle Peavy made the motion to approve the request, Darby Brockway made the second, and motion passed 3-0.

REPORTS:

- Assistant Fire Chief Jim Don Laurent reported the brush truck is now complete with funds from a Forestry Service grant. The brush truck carries 300 gallons of water and has an alternated use of pulling the Mobile Command trailer.
- Code Enforcement Officer Robert San Miguel said he has submitted a proposal for physical fitness. Mayor Graham said it has been reviewed, is a good idea, and is in the works.
- Krisa De La Cruz, CEO of the Chamber and CVB, mentioned that the You Lead class will traveling to Austin for "Graham Day" on Tuesday, February 28, 2017.
- Brandon Anderson informed Council the lake level is full.

ADJOURNMENT:

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



John Chiles Graham, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sharon McFadden, City Secretary