

June 13, 2019

The Graham City Council met in REGULAR SESSION in the Council Chambers at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 19, 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
	Municipal Judge:	Teresa Bishop
	Interim Police Chief:	Brent Bullock (absent)
	Fire Chief:	Jerry David
	Assistant Fire Chief:	Jim Don Laurent

VISITORS: Jeff Smith, Nathan Lawson, Jimmy McLeroy, Sandra Helvey, Krisa De La Cruz, Jason Cottongame, Sarah Lundgren, Rita Herpeche, Madilyn Lindley, Paxton Whitaker, Keeston Whitaker, Crystal Whitaker, Julie Rainwater, Misty Little, Kaylee Little, Lynsey Little, Tanya Bell, Scott Smith, Jack Graham, Mandy Logan, Jim Helvey, Frank Herpeche, Jerry McDowell, Randall Dawson, BJ Cook, Jessica McDowell, David Miller, employees of the Street Department, and employees of the Parks & Cemeteries departments.

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, May 30, 2019 were considered. Darby Brockway made the first motion. Kyle Peavy seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved 4-0.

VIEW THE YOUNG COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT (YCAD) ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018:

Brandon said a copy of the YCAD financial report was in the packet. Brandon received the report by email last week. Darby sits on the YCAD committee and recommended contacting him if there are any concerns. Brandon said the YCAD proposed budget will be presented at the next Council meeting. No action was taken.

PRESENTATION AND RECOGNITION OF RETIRING EMPLOYEES:

Mayor Neal Blanton said this is an emotional event and thanked the retirees for their dedication. Brandon recognized each retiree. Jerry McDowell with 27 years of service. Mandy Logan has spent the past four years training to assume the Auditorium Manager position. Jerry will work as a consultant for the City. Jim Helvey with 15 years of service and Coby Leach will be assuming the Parks and Cemeteries Superintendent position. Frank Herpeche with 29 years and one month of service as the Street Superintendent.

CONSIDER AND ACT ON A REQUEST FROM THE CHURCH OF GOD OF THE FIRSTBORN FOR CLOSURE OF FIRST STREET BETWEEN VIRGINIA AND TENNESSEE FROM 4:00 P.M. TO 8 P.M. ON JUNE 22, 2019 FOR CELEBRATION OF THEIR 19TH ANNIVERSARY:

Brandon stated this item should be tabled at this time due to the church considering a change to the date. The request will be resubmitted at a later date. The request was tabled.

REPORTS:


- Municipal Court Judge Teresa Bishop said the Official Municipal Court Monthly Report for May 2019 was in the Council packet. Judge Bishop dismissed herself due to a scheduled appointment.
- Krisa De La Cruz, CEO of the Chamber and CVB, said the food truck event was a huge success. The concert was sold out. Both events had the largest attendance recorded so far. Krisa thanked employees of the City, the City Manager, and the Mayor for assisting with the events. Retailers reported increased traffic during the events.
- Investigations Lieutenant Jeff Smith reviewed the April 2019 Monthly Police Report. He mentioned increased drug activity and said there was no specific reason for the increase. Jeff said police officers are getting further into traffic stops.
- City Manager Brandon Anderson said David Miller has been the Assistant for Economic Development the past year and will remain during the transition until end of June. Brandon thanked David for his contributions to the EDC and the City of Graham. Brandon introduced Joe Beruda, the new CVB Manager. Joe mentioned he wants to bring jobs and industry to Graham. Brandon said Jay Joyce of Expergy has completed the water rate study and forwarded the utility rate recommendations this morning. Brandon mentioned considering a budget workshop scheduled early to discuss utility rates and possible changes. The previously discussed changes with Waste Connections involving the transfer station is off the table. Waste Connections has decided to move forward with the City of Jacksboro who is already licensed for an existing section of land. Brandon recommended considering a session on water rates and include a discussion on water line replacement programs that are available. Brandon said there is no update on wholesale water rate grievance that was filed by the wholesale customers. The Arena Board will meet at 4:00 p.m. today (June 13, 2019) at the Arena. The lake level as of today (June 13, 2019) is 100 percent full.

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