June 19, 2013

The Graham City Council met in REGULAR SESSION in the Council Chambers at City Hall at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 19, 2013 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
	City Secretary:	David Maddy
	Public Works Director:	David Casteel
	Police Chief:	Tony Widner
	Assistant Police Chief:	Brent Bullock
	Fire Chief:	Dennie Covey-absent

VISITORS: Eddie Gellner, Chris Ekrut, Charles Birdwell, Brock Gibson, Robert San Miguel, Neal Blanton, Jack Edwards, Dennis Fellows, Frank Herpeche and Joe Todd.

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

PUBLIC FORUM:

None. Chief Widner reported on Monday's major accident on Hwy 16 when a man was pinned under the front of a tractor-trailer. He commended the street department crew of Todd, Herpeche and Edwards for responding with the equipment to lift the truck off the accident victim.

MINUTES APPROVED:

Minutes from the June 6, 2013 regular meeting were approved 4-0 on a motion from Greg Montgomery and a second from Pam Scott (One council member was late arriving).

DISCUSSION OF WATER TREATMENT AND DISTRIBUTION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT INCLUDING PRESENTATION OF WATER RATE ANALYSIS:

Staff and consultants had a development schedule and associated financing options for discussion for the Water Treatment and Distribution System Improvement Project. Chris Ekrut and David Casteel updated Council on the engineering, funding and rate study. Mr. Ekrut explained the rate setting process and said the new rate structure is recommended to be based on the size of the customer meter. Rates, estimated volume usage and revenues were projected and given to Council for review. Included was the discussion that Fort Belknap would be treated as a wholesale customer as they are a taxable entity. If they were a nontaxable entity they would be charged the lower retail rate. The average Graham resident would see an increase of $7 to $9 a month on the retail rate. No action was requested at this time.

CONSIDER AMENDING SECTIONS 14-14 AND 16-16, HEALTH AND SANITATION NOTICE TO OWNERS, GRAHAM CODE OF ORDINANCES:

The existing code allows 10 days after notice of a code violation for removal of the condition by the owner. The existing code allows 10 days after posting a notice for the owner to be considered officially notified. Practice generally allows 3 days of unofficial notice before official notice is given. The timeline between first contact and the City going in to correct the violation when the owner fails to do so can then be more than 20 days. For some violations such as stagnant water, carrion, grass and weeds or unwholesome matter, 20 plus days can lead to larger scale issues with mosquitoes and vermin.

It was proposed to amend the code for matters related to health and safety issues as listed above to read as follows:

- Notice shall be considered given three (3) days after posting a notice on the property advising of the condition and the action requested to eliminate the violation, or three days after letter is postmarked to the owner.
- The City shall have the right to enter the property and remove the condition on the eighth (8^{th}) day after the posting is made if not corrected by the owner.

This will allow the owner at least to have a weekend to correct the condition before the City does so and assess a lien for the cost of doing such.
No action was requested at this time. Council was in favor of the change. An ordinance will be prepared and presented at the next meeting.

CONSIDER BIDS FOR ROADWAY GUTTER AT PIONEER CEMETERY:

Bids were received June 14 for construction of a concrete gutter on the roadway extension in Pioneer Cemetery. The request for bids was published in the Graham Leader in two issues. One bid was received, from Randy's Concrete in Graham, for $17,500 which was below estimate. Greg Montgomery made the motion to approve the bid, Jack Graham made the second and motion passed 5-0.

CONSIDER BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

Kyle Peavey, Muriel Stephens and Glenn McGee have been nominated for re-appointment to the Planning and Zoning Committee. Pam Scott made the motion to approve, Jack Graham made the second and motion passed 5-0.

CONSIDER ORDINANCE # 1007 ADOPTING A WATER CONSERVATION & CONTINGENCY PLAN:

This ordinance adopted the plan as presented to Council the prior meeting. This constituted the first reading as one of the Council members had to leave. Jack Graham made the motion to approve the ordinance, Pam Scott made the second and motion passed 4-0.

REPORTS:

Larry reported the lake level at 1068.38. 1075' is full. The July 4 parade will require one side of the Square to be blocked off. Larry approved the closure. The establishment of the new hospital district will require the City to transfer assets and debt to the hospital at the end of the fiscal year. Larry said he met with boat dock builders and will have the plans for one to be built at Lake Eddleman/Lake Graham. June sales taxes were up 14% and collections will exceed the budgeted amount. Council will skip the next meeting date of July 3 unless there are matters that need to be addressed.

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Greg Montgomery, a second from Pam Scott and a vote of 4-0 the Council meeting was adjourned.

Barry White, Mayor

ATTEST:

David Maddy, City Secretary