

September 19, 2019

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

VISITORS: Jimmy McLeroy, Mike Scitem, Cathy Scitem, Frank Tomblin, Michelle Tomblin, Janessa Ramos Freeman, Olton Freeman, Amanda Alexander, Joyce Kimbro, Gary Elrod, Sally Stacy, Mandy Hearne, Elton "Monty" Montgomery, Janice Snow, Wayne Christian, Jack Graham, Sherrie Gibson, Misty Little, Kaylee Little, Lynsey Little, Jim Helvey, Sandra Helvey, Andy Heath, Thomas Wallner, Tommie R Shawver, Jr., William DeLong, Tanya Bell, Justin Howard, Randall Dawson, Joe Beruda, Sara Lundgren, Jack Edwards, Tracey Terasas, and BJ Cook.

ORDER: Mayor Neal Blanton called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

PUBLIC FORUM: Monty Montgomery expressed his concerns regarding the American Legion Building (ALB) remodel. Mr. Montgomery stated the building is valued at \$250,000 and the land is invaluable. He said the cost of nothing to citizens for destroying the ALB and making it a City Hall seems to him that you (referring to City Council) missed the mark. Mr. Montgomery requested that Council continue to try to reconsider it and business as usual should not be the case. He continued with, "If awarding a contract to change, there will be regrets."

Jack Graham said he represents those who have contributed to the new facility and think it is good for the community and supports it.

Sally Stacy said she disagrees with the changes and has been here (referring to residing in Graham) 32 years. Ms. Stacy said she finds it sad the community has been removed from the ALB. She said the facility is wonderful and a perfect place for a Community Center rather than a City Hall. Ms. Stacy mentioned that the Senior Citizen Center name has changed and so have the services. She suggested to Council that they reconsider changing the ALB and find another place for a new City Hall.

Monty Montgomery provided Sharon McFadden, City Secretary with a hard copy of an email and requested it be submitted for permanent record.

PRESENTATION BY POLICE CHIEF BRENT BULLOCK:

Chief Bullock presented Police Officer Kirk Freeman and Graham citizen Amanda Alexander the highest honor available from the police department. The Award of Valor was presented to them for assisting in the attempt to save the life of a crime victim. Officer John Mahan submitted the request to Chief Bullock. Police Sergeant Austin Lawrence was presented an Award of Valor for his courage and initiative in a violent crime by going above and beyond the call of duty. Sergeant Chris Denny recommended the award to Chief Bullock.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes from the Regular Session Council meeting held on Thursday, September 5, 2019 were considered. Darby Brockway made the first motion and Kyle Peavy seconded. Regular session council meeting minutes were unanimously approved 4-0.

Minutes from the Special Called meeting held on Tuesday, September 10, 2019 were considered. Brint Albritton made the first motion to approve. Kyle Peavy seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved 4-0.

CONSIDER AND ACT ON ORDINANCE #1090 APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR THE 2019-2020 FISCAL YEAR, ADOPTING A BUDGET ESTIMATE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2020:

Brandon stated the budget was filed as required to the City Secretary on August 22, 2019 and the required public hearings have occurred. The only change reflected is in the capital items. Brandon presented Council the budgets of the General Fund, Water Enterprise Fund, and the Sewer Enterprise Fund. Kyle Peavy said, "I am FOR." Lee Boyd said, "I am FOR." Darby Brockway said, "I am FOR." Lee Boyd said, "I am FOR." Ordinance #1090 for the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year Budget was unanimously adopted as required by Local Government Code §102.007.

CONSIDER AND ACT ON ORDINANCE #1091 SETTING THE TAX LEVY FOR THE 2019-2020 FISCAL YEAR, FIXING THE TAX LEVY FOR THE CITY OF GRAHAM FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2020:

Brandon stated two required public hearings for the proposed tax rate increase have occurred. Council needs to adopt a two and a half percent increase. Darby Brockway made the required Tax Code §26.05 statement of "I move that the property tax rate be adopted for 0.667216, which is an increase to the tax rate. This budget will raise more revenue from property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of \$52,551.83, which is a two and a half percent increase from last year's budget. The property tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year is \$17,887.79." Brint Albritton said, "I am FOR." Lee Boyd said, "I am FOR." Kyle Peavy said, "I am FOR." Ordinance #1091 for the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Tax Levy was approved according to the requirements of Tax Code §26.05.

CONSIDER AND ACT ON THE AUGUST 2019 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT AND THE SEPTEMBER 2019 SALES TAX REPORT:

Mayor Blanton said the Sales Tax Report closed strong with \$234,000 over budget. Kyle Peavy mentioned the water fund is where it should be. Kyle Peavy made the first motion, Lee Boyd seconded. The reports were unanimously accepted 4-0.

CONSIDER AND ACT ON ACCEPTING OR REJECTING ANY AND ALL BIDS RECEIVED FOR THE REMODEL OF THE AMERICAN LEGION BUILDING FOR THE NEW CITY HALL:

Brandon referred to the bid numbers in the Council packet. There were only two bids the first time and it is recommended there be at least three bids to consider. The second time Brandon received four additional bids. The bids varied from \$229,000 to \$350,000 and all six bids are qualified. The lowest bid of \$229,000 was submitted by Inman Construction. Mayor Blanton mentioned that Inman did the previous remodel on the ALB building. Brandon said Inman Construction is located in Wichita Falls. Kyle Peavy said he is familiar with Inman Construction. Brent Albritton made the motion to approve. Lee Boyd made the second and the bid for Inman Construction was unanimously accepted 4-0.

REPORTS:

- Brandon Anderson said the lake level is 90.6 percent full. He referred to the reports in the Council packet that included: August 2019 Code Enforcement Report, August 2019 Municipal Court, September 2019 Utility Clerk Report and September 2019 City Hall Report. Kyle Peavy questioned the illegal parking citations issued in the Code Enforcement Report. Code Enforcement Officer BJ Cook explained citations issued were for violating ordinances by parking in yard areas and in the streets. Mayor Blanton informed Council of Sandra Helvey's retirement with 17 years of service to the City of Graham as City Manager's Secretary from 2002-2019. Brandon thanked Sandra for her dedication to the City and presented her a watch in appreciation of her service. Brandon invited everyone attending to join for snacks in the foyer.
- Sandra Helvey thanked everyone for supporting her over the past 17 years.

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