

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Alex Heartfield, Mayor
Shana Weatherbee-Wolfe, Mayor Pro-Tem
Jeff Dickinson
Jack Little
Randy Cantin

STAFF PRESENT

Eric Garretty, City Manager
Marci Bueno, City Secretary/Financial Officer
Grant Ingram, Assistant City Manager
Sandra Helvey, Executive Assistant
Randall Dawson, Director of Public Works/Building Official
Brent Bullock, Chief of Police
Jim Don Laurent, Fire Chief
David Aleshire, Assistant Fire Chief
James Reeves, Municipal Judge
B.J. Cook, Code Enforcement Officer
Kelly LaFarge, Library Director
Jack Edwards, Street Supervisor

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Heartfield convened the Council into the Regular Session on Thursday, March 30, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. in the Council Chambers of Graham City Hall, 608 Elm Street. A quorum was present.

2. OPENING PRAYER

Mayor Alex Heartfield led the invocation.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

Sonya Ramos voiced her concern about speeding vehicles in residential areas while citizens are walking. She requested that speed trackers be put out in hopes vehicles will slow down. Mayor Alex Heartfield stated he appreciates her concerns and he would look into the police department putting out speed trackers around town. Rebekah Schultheis spoke about her plans for her new RV Park that will be named Wild Fire Ranch. She requested her RV Park to be considered as 'grandfathered' to exclude her from some of the restrictions in the RV ordinance. Johnny Ward voiced his opinion on the city's priorities and remembering the people. Mayor Alex Heartfield stated the city will work hard to find the balance.

4. CEREMONY: MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING APRIL 15-APRIL 21, 2023 AS THE "WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD™".

A ceremony was proclaimed by Mayor Alex Heartfield proclaiming April 15-April 21, 2023 As The "Week Of The Young Child™" by a Mayor's Proclamation.

5. REPORTS

Individual Department Heads provided overviews for Council of ongoing updates of their respective departments which included: Fire Department, Code Enforcement, Municipal Court, Public Works, Chamber of Commerce/CVB, Library, Streets, Convenience Station, Auditorium, Arena and GEIC. City Manager Eric Garretty provided reports on Lake Graham water level, key dates and upcoming events, Hotel/Motel Occupancy Tax Report, along with project status report.

6. CONSIDER AND ACT ON A REQUEST FROM THE WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD™ COMMITTEE TO BLOCK OFF THE ENTRANCES TO THE SQUARE TO ENABLE A CHILDREN'S PARADE ON THE INTERIOR OF THE SQUARE, DURING THE PERIOD 8:45 A.M. – 11:00 A.M. ON THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2023.

Motion made by Jack Little and seconded by Shana Weatherbee-Wolfe to approve a request from the Week of the Young Child™ Committee to block off the entrances to the Square to enable a children's parade on the interior of the Square, during the period 8:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 20, 2023. Motion passed unanimously

5 - 0.

7. **CONSIDER AND ACT TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CALLED MEETING HELD ON MARCH 16, 2023.**

Motion made by Jack Little and seconded by Shana Weatherbee-Wolfe to approve the Minutes of the Regular Called meeting held on March 16, 2023. Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

8. **PRESENTATION OF THE SALES TAX REPORT DETAILING JANUARY 2023 SALES TAX REVENUE.**

Financial Officer Marci Bueno reviewed the sales tax report detailing January 2023 sales tax revenue.

9. **CONSIDER AND ACT ON A REQUEST FROM AFFIRMING TEXAS FAMILIES (ATF) FOR THE CLOSURE OF THE FAR NORTH SIDE OF THE SQUARE PARKING AREA, DURING 8:30 A.M. TO 2:30 P.M., ON SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2023, IN SUPPORT OF A RESOURCE FAIR TO BE HELD BY ATF.**

Motion made by Randy Cantin and seconded by Jack Little on a request from Affirming Texas Families (ATF) for the closure of the far north side of the Square parking area, during 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., on Saturday, April 29, 2023, in support of a Resource Fair to be held by ATF. Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

10. **CONSIDER AND ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE APPROPRIATION OF UP TO \$70,000 TO THE BOAT RAMP IMPROVEMENTS CAPITAL PROJECT, FOR THE PURPOSE PROVIDING FUNDING FOR THE REHABILITATION OF CERTAIN BOAT RAMPS ON LAKE GRAHAM AND LAKE EDDLEMAN, AND FURTHER DIRECTING THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO PREPARE A BUDGET AMENDMENT IN SUPPORT OF SAME.**

Motion made by Jack Little and seconded by Randy Cantin to authorize the appropriation of up to \$70,000 to the Boat Ramp Improvements capital project, for the purpose providing funding for the rehabilitation of certain boat ramps on Lake Graham and Lake Eddleman, and further directing the Finance Director to prepare a budget amendment in support of same. Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

11. **PRESENTATION BY ZACHARY HUSEN, GRAHAM AREA ENGINEER FOR THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, ON THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:**
Zachary Husen, Graham Area Engineer for the Texas Department of Transportation, reviewed the following topics:

(a) **POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENT OF TRAFFIC CONTROL MEASURES IN AND AROUND THE INTERSECTION OF ELM, CHERRY, AND AUSTIN STREETS; AND**

Upon discussion on potential improvement of traffic control measures in and around the intersection of Elm, Cherry, and Austin Streets a future public hearing will be set. Council would like to put together a committee of representatives which would include Texas Department of Transportation, Graham Regional Medical Center, and City of Graham Street Department.

(b) **POTENTIAL FUNDING MECHANISMS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF CONTINUOUS SIDEWALKS ALONG ELM STREET FROM THE LIBRARY OF GRAHAM TO THE WALMART ENTRANCE.**

Upon discussion of potential funding mechanisms for the construction of continuous sidewalks along Elm Street from the Library of Graham to the Walmart entrance, Zachary Husen stated the deadline for the grant for federal funding already passed. The next time to file an application for the sidewalk grant would be the year 2025. Mayor Alex Heartfield would like Assistant City Manager Grant Ingram, Graham Area Engineer for the Texas Department of Transportation Zachary Husen and concerned citizen Sonya Ramos to review the requirements on the sidewalk grant application and present to council the steps to proceed.

12. **CONSIDER AND ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY, HELD BY THE CITY AS TRUSTEE, WITH A PHYSICAL ADDRESS OF 324 TENNESSEE STREET, WHICH IS FURTHER**

LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS 'BEN HILL/GRAHAM BLOCK 59, LOT 4, CITY OF GRAHAM, COUNTY OF YOUNG', AND CONSISTS OF 0.23 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

Motion made by Randy Cantin and seconded by Jeff Dickinson to authorize the City Manager to advertise for bids for certain real property, held by the City as Trustee, with a physical address of 324 Tennessee Street, which is further legally described as 'Ben Hill/Graham Block 59, Lot 4, City of Graham, County of Young', and consists of 0.23 acres, more or less. Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

13. **CONSIDER AND ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE A CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY OF EFFLUENT WATER TO MR. LOUIS PITCOCK III.**
Motion made by Jeff Dickinson and seconded by Randy Cantin to authorize the City Manager to negotiate a contract for supply of effluent water to Mr. Louis Pitcock III. Motion passed 4 – 0 – 1 with Alex Heartfield abstaining.
14. **CONSIDER AND ACT TO APPROVE A VARIANCE APPLICATION FROM TURNER AND BRITTANY MAPLES TO INSTALL A PRIVACY FENCE, EIGHT FEET IN HEIGHT, AROUND THE ALLOWABLE AREA OF THEIR RESIDENCE WITH A PHYSICAL ADDRESS OF 1401 AVENUE D, GRAHAM, TEXAS.**
Motion made by Jeff Dickinson and seconded by Shana Weatherbee-Wolfe to approve a variance application from Turner and Brittany Maples to install a privacy fence, eight feet in height, around the allowable area of their residence with a physical address of 1401 Avenue D, Graham, Texas. Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.
15. **CONSIDER AND ACT TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 140 AUTHORIZING SALE AND CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ON THE INTERIOR OF THE SQUARE DURING THE ENTIRETY OF THE FOOD TRUCK CHAMPIONSHIP OF TEXAS TO BE HELD DURING JUNE 2 TO JUNE 3, 2023, AND FURTHER NOTING THAT SAID RESOLUTION SHALL NOT APPLY TO THE YOUNG COUNTY COURTHOUSE AND ITS IMMEDIATE ENVIRONS.**
Motion made by Randy Cantin and seconded by Jack Little to approve Resolution No. 140 authorizing sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages on the interior of the Square during the entirety of the Food Truck Championship of Texas to be held during June 2 to June 3, 2023, and further noting that said Resolution shall not apply to the Young County Courthouse and its immediate environs. Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.
16. **CONSIDER AND ACT ON A REQUEST FROM THE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU TO BLOCK OFF THE ENTRANCES TO THE SQUARE FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING AT 4:00 P.M. ON FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 2023 AND ENDING AT 8:00 P.M. ON SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 2023 IN SUPPORT OF THE FOOD TRUCK CHAMPIONSHIP OF TEXAS.**
Motion made by Jack Little and seconded by Jeff Dickinson on a request from the Convention and Visitors Bureau to block off the entrances to the Square for the period beginning at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, June 2, 2023 and ending at 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 3, 2023 in support of the Food Truck Championship of Texas. Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.
17. **CONSIDER AND ACT TO APPROVE A REQUEST TO CLOSE THE ENTRANCES TO THE SQUARE, IN SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSED GRAHAM CVB, AND GRAHAM CONCERT ASSOCIATION, SUMMER CONCERT SERIES, DURING THE FOLLOWING DATES/TIMES:**
Motion made by Jack Little and seconded by Randy Cantin to approve a request to close the entrances to the Square, in support of the proposed Graham CVB, and Graham Concert Association, Summer Concert Series. Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.
During the following dates/times:
- a. Friday, June 16, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. on June 18, 2023
 - b. Friday, June 30, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. on July 2, 2023
 - c. Friday, July 14, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. on July 16, 2023
 - d. Friday, July 28, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. on July 30, 2023
 - e. Friday, August 11, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. on August 13, 2023
18. **CONSIDER AND ACT TO APPROVE, UPON SECOND READING, ORDINANCE NO. 1147 AMENDING CHAPTER 15 – 'HOUSE TRAILERS AND TRAILER CAMPS' REVISING THE CHAPTER IN ITS ENTIRETY TO PROVIDE FOR UPDATED LANGUAGE AND ALIGN THE REGULATION OF HOUSE TRAILERS AND**

TRAILER CAMPS WITH CURRENT LAW AND CURRENT REGULATORY POLICIES.

Motion made by Jeff Dickinson and seconded by Jack Litte to table, upon SECOND READING, Ordinance No. 1147 amending Chapter 15 – 'House Trailers and Trailer Camps' revising the Chapter in its entirety to provide for updated language and align the regulation of house trailers and trailer camps with current law and current regulatory policies. No action was taken.

19. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE CURRENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE PICK-UP OF RESIDENTIAL BULK WASTE IN THE CITY.

City Manager Eric Garretty and Street Supervisor Jack Edwards discussed the current policies and procedures for the pick-up of residential bulk waste in the City. Waste Connections Assistant District Manager Cory Glassburn also stated their policies for residential bulk waste.

20. CONSIDER AND ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ADVERTISE FOR PROPOSALS FOR REHABILITATION OF THE LAGOONS AT THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT.

Motion made by Randy Cantin and seconded by Jeff Dickinson to authorize the City Manager to advertise for proposals for rehabilitation of the lagoons at the Water Treatment Plant. Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

21. PRESENTATION BY THE CITY MANAGER ON CURRENT BUDGET PROJECTIONS AND PROPERTY TAX RATE HISTORY.

City Manager Eric Garretty presented on current budget projections and property tax rate history.

22. DISCUSSION REGARDING PROPOSED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.

Discussion regarding proposed future agenda items included setting Public Hearings for highway intersection and sidewalk grant process as discussed in agenda item # 11.

23. RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER THE FOLLOWING PROVISION OF THE TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE: Mayor Alex Heartfield convened the Council into Executive Session at 11:07 a.m.**a. Sec. 551.072 – Deliberations About Real Property**

- Deliberations regarding an offer for sale of certain real property located in the vicinity of the Lake Eddleman RV Park; and

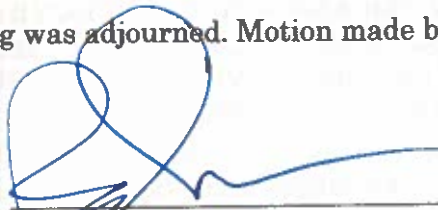
24. RECONVENE FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AND TAKE ACTION, AS REQUIRED.

Mayor Alex Heartfield reconvened from Executive Session at 11:28 a.m.

No action was taken.

25. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. Motion made by Jack Little and seconded by Jeff Dickinson.



R. Alex Heartfield, MAYOR



Marci Bueno, City Secretary/Financial Officer