GRAHAM CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
JUNE 26, 2025

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT
Mayor: Alex Heartfield
Mayor Pro-Tem/Place 1: Shana Weatherbee-Wolfe
Councilmember Place 2: Jeff Dickinson
Councilmember Place 3: Jack Little
Councilmember Place 4: Brendan Weatherman

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT
None.

STAFF PRESENT
Eric Garretty, City Manager
B.J. Cook, Code Enforcement Officer
Cassie Kieschnick, Executive Assistant
Chris Denney, IT Director
David Aleshire, Assistant Fire Chief
Deanna Bullock, Library Director
Jim Don Laurent, Fire Chief
Jon Delamarter, Airport Manager
Melinda Brown, Assistant City Manager, GEIC/GIA Executive Director
Mike Watts, Animal Control Officer
Randall Dawson, Director of Public Works/Building Official

1. CALL TO ORDER
   Mayor Alex Heartfield called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

2. NOTICE OF POSTING: NOTICE OF THIS REGULAR CALLED MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAHAM TEXAS WAS DULY POSTED AT A PLACE READILY ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC AT LEAST 72 HOURS PRIOR TO THE DATE AND TIME OF THIS MEETING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT.

3. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS PRESENT
   Mayor: Alex Heartfield
   Mayor Pro-Tem/Place 1: Shana Weatherbee-Wolfe
   Councilmember Place 2: Jeff Dickinson
   Councilmember Place 3: Jack Little
   Councilmember Place 4: Brendan Weatherman

4. OPENING PRAYER AND PLEDGES TO U.S. AND TEXAS FLAGS
   Cathy Partridge led the invocation followed by the U.S. Pledge and Texas Pledge.

5. PUBLIC FORUM
   Sonya Ramos stated her opinion on the grant for sidewalks. She stated she was disappointed that the City did not follow through with the grant.
   Greg Bonzalar stated his opinion on the options for Third Street and Cherry Street on the stop sign installation instead of needing a blinking light. He also stated his opinion on Agenda Item # 9 and # 10 being a tier system for customers instead of a 7% increase overall.

6. REPORTS
   Individual Department Heads provided overviews for Council on ongoing updates of their respective departments which included: Animal Control, Code Enforcement, Fire , Library, GEIC/GIA, Chamber/Visit Graham, Airport, and Public Works.
   City Manager Eric Garretty provided reports on the Lake Graham Water Level, Key Dates and Upcoming Events, Boards Update, Plug Power Payments Report, Hotel Occupancy Tax Report, and Project Status Report.

7. CONSENT AGENDA.
   Following a motion made by Shana Weatherbee-Wolfe and seconded by Brendan Weatherman, the following Consent Agenda was approved unanimously 5 – 0.

   a. Approve the Minutes of the Regular Called Meeting held on June 5, 2025; and

b. Approve a request from Tracy Terasas for the exclusive use of Firemen's Park on Saturday, **October 25, 2025**, from 6:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. in support of the Family Fun and Fishing event and the Remembering Wyatt Dale Water Safety Awareness organization; and

c. Approve a request from the Graham Area Chamber of Commerce for the closure of certain portions of Fourth Street, Elm Street, Second Street and Oak Street in support of the **June 28, 2025**, Patriotic Parade; and

d. Consider and act to authorize the City Manager to grant a one-time waiver of restrictions related to the use of fireworks inside the corporate limits of the City for the purpose of allowing the Graham Fire Chief to supervise the discharge of fireworks, in the vicinity of West Street, in support of the **June 28, 2025**, fireworks display; and

e. Approve a request from Vicki Fortner, on behalf of the Cowboy Church of Young County, for the closure of the southern half of the Square on Saturday, **July 11, 2026**, in support of the annual Cowboys and Hotrods Car Show.

8. **CONSIDER AND ACT TO APPROVE AND ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 218 WHICH TRANSFERS OWNERSHIP OF A CERTAIN SEVEN-YEAR-OLD BELGIAN MALINOIS DOG, TRAINED AS A POLICE CANINE, FROM THE CITY, TO POLICE OFFICER DAVID LIPSEY, AND FURTHER MAKES SAID TRANSFER SUBJECT TO CERTAIN TERMS AND CONDITIONS AS REQUIRED UNDER TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, CHAPTER 614, SUBCHAPTER 'L'.**
Motion made by Jeff Dickinson and seconded by Jack Little to approve and adopt **Resolution No. 218** which transfers ownership of a certain seven-year-old Belgian Malinois dog, trained as a Police canine, from the City, to Officer David Lipsey, and further makes said transfer subject to certain terms and conditions as required under Texas Government Code, Chapter 614, Subchapter 'L'. Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

9. **CONSIDER AND ACT TO APPROVE ON, FIRST READING, ORDINANCE NO. 1194, AMENDING CHAPTER 25, SECTION 25-13 'WATER SERVICE CHARGES – GENERALLY', AND SECTION 25-16 'SEWER SERVICE CHARGES', OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES (AS AMENDED), TO PROVIDE (A) A SEVEN PERCENT INCREASE TO WATER SERVICE CHARGES AND (B) A SEVEN PERCENT INCREASE TO SEWER SERVICE CHARGES, WITH SUCH INCREASES TO BE EFFECTIVE WITH THE BILLING PERIOD BEGINNING OCTOBER 15, 2025.**
Motion made by Jack Little and seconded by Jeff Dickinson to approve on, FIRST READING, **Ordinance No. 1194**, amending Chapter 25, Section 25-13 'Water Service Charges – Generally', and Section 25-16 'Sewer Service Charges', of the Code of Ordinances (as amended), to provide (a) a seven percent increase to water service charges and (b) a seven percent increase to sewer service charges, with such increases to be effective with the billing period beginning **October 15, 2025**. Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

10. **CONSIDER AND ACT TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THURSDAY, JULY 31, 2025, AT 8:30 A.M., AT 608 ELM STREET, GRAHAM, TEXAS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING A PROPOSED SEVEN PERCENT INCREASE TO CITY WATER AND SEWER UTILITY RATES.**
Motion made by Shana Weatherbee-Wolfe and seconded by Brendan Weatherman to set a Public Hearing for Thursday, **July 31, 2025**, at 8:30 a.m., at 608 Elm Street, Graham, Texas, for the purpose of receiving public comment regarding a proposed seven percent increase to City water and sewer utility rates. Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

11. **CONSIDER AND ACT TO SET A SPECIAL CALLED MEETING FOR 'CITY COUNCIL BUDGET WORKSHOP NO. 3', WITH SUCH MEETING TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M., AT 608 ELM STREET, GRAHAM, TEXAS.**
Motion made by Brendan Weatherman and seconded by Jack Little to set a Special Called Meeting for 'City Council Budget Workshop No. 3', with such meeting to be held on Thursday, **August 7, 2025**, at 6:00 p.m., at 608 Elm Street, Graham, Texas. Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

12. **CONSIDER AND ACT TO SCHEDULE A PUBLIC FORUM/TOWN HALL FOR TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M., AT 608 ELM STREET, GRAHAM,**

TEXAS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING INPUT FROM THE PUBLIC REGARDING THE CITY BUDGET, CITY SERVICES, AND ANY CITIZEN CONCERNS.

Motion made by Jack Little and seconded by Brendan Weatherman to schedule a Public Forum/Town Hall for Tuesday, **August 26, 2025**, at 6:00 p.m., at 608 Elm Street, Graham, Texas, for the purpose of receiving input from the public regarding the City budget, City services, and any citizen concerns. Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

13. **CONSIDER AND ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND CONCLUDE A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH HELEN FARABEE CENTERS (WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS), IN THE AMOUNT OF $15,000, FOR THE PROVISION OF CERTAIN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES.**

Motion made by Brendan Weatherman and seconded by Jeff Dickinson to authorize the City Manager to negotiate and conclude a Memorandum of Agreement with Helen Farabee Centers (Wichita Falls, Texas), in the amount of $15,000, for the provision of certain Behavioral Health Services. Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

14. **CONSIDER AND ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND CONCLUDE THE RENEWAL OF A SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE YOUNG COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY (GRAHAM, TEXAS) WITH SAID AGREEMENT RELATED TO THE CONTINUED PROVISION OF CARE TO ANIMALS FOR THE CITY'S ANIMAL CONTROL DEPARTMENT.**

Vice President of the Young County Humane Society Board, Amanda Schupbach, stated the Board voted **NO** to add a position on the board for the City of Graham Animal Control Officer at this time.

Motion made by Alex Heartfield and seconded by Brendan Weatherman to **TABLE** the City Manager to negotiate and conclude the renewal of a Services Agreement with the Young County Humane Society (Graham, Texas) with said Agreement related to the continued provision of care to animals for the City's Animal Control Department. Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

15. **CONSIDER AND ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND CONCLUDE A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA) WITH THE AERONAUTICAL SERVICES DIVISION OF THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION TO PROVIDE FOR THE DEPLOYMENT OF A DIRECT-ENTRY DIGITAL NOTICE TO AIRMEN SYSTEM, NOTING THAT THERE IS NO ADDITIONAL COST TO THE CITY UNDER THIS MOA, AND FURTHER NOTING THAT AIRPORT MANAGER JON DELAMARTER SHALL SERVE AS DESIGNATED AGENT.**

Motion made by Jack Little and seconded by Shana Weatherbee-Wolfe to authorize the City Manager to negotiate and conclude a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Aeronautical Services Division of the Federal Aviation Administration to provide for the deployment of a direct-entry digital Notice to Airmen system, noting that there is no additional cost to the City under this MOA, and further noting that Airport Manager Jon Delamarter shall serve as Designated Agent. Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

16. **PRESENTATION OF THE SALES TAX REPORT FOR TAXES COLLECTED DURING APRIL 2025.**

City Manager Eric Garretty presented the Sales Tax Report for taxes collected during **April 2025**.

17. **CONSIDER AND ACT TO APPROVE THE MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING MAY 31, 2025.**

Motion made by Brendan Weatherman and seconded by Jeff Dickinson to approve the monthly financial reports for the period ending **May 31, 2025**. Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

18. **UPDATE FROM CITY STAFF REGARDING DESIGN OPTIONS FOR A FOUR-WAY INTERSECTION AT THIRD STREET AND CHERRY STREET.**

City Manager Eric Garretty and Public Works Director Randall Dawson gave an update regarding design options for a four-way intersection at Third Street and Cherry Street.

19. **UPDATE FROM CITY STAFF REGARDING A PROPOSAL TO OFFER TWO PREVIOUSLY PURCHASED GENERATORS FOR SALE BY SEALED BID AUCTION.**

Public Works Director Randall Dawson gave an update on a proposal to offer two previously purchased generators for sale by sealed bid auction.

20. **DISCUSSION REGARDING PROPOSED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.**
Future agenda items included the Young County Humane Society contract renewal, the cost of a new 75kW generator, and auctioning both current generators for sale.

21. **RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER THE FOLLOWING PROVISION OF THE TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE:** Mayor Alex Heartfield recessed the Council into Executive Session at 9:36 a.m.

Sec. 551.071 Consultation with Attorney

- Consultation with City Attorney regarding the renewal of a certain Commercial Lake Lot lease agreement for real property located on the shores of Lake Eddleman; and

- Consultation with City Attorney regarding potential litigation related to an extant Solid Waste contract.

22. **RECONVENE FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AND TAKE SUCH ACTION AS MAY BE REQUIRED.** Mayor Alex Heartfield reconvened from Executive Session at 10:12 a.m.

No action was taken.

23. **ADJOURNMENT.**
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:13 a.m. Motion made by Jack Little and seconded by Alex Heartfield.

Jeff Dickinson, acting as Mayor Pro-Tem

Marci Bueno, City Secretary/Financial Official