

Grayson City Council  
Regular Meeting  
City Municipal Building  
August 11, 2008

Present: Mayor George Steele  
Councilman Duane Suttles  
Councilperson Pam Nash  
Councilperson Pearl Crum  
Councilman Brandon Fraley  
Councilman Terry Stamper  
Councilman Patrick Robinson  
Attorney Gary Conn

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Steele.

Devotion was given by Jim Phillips.

**Tourism Commission 2008/2009 Budget**

Mrs. Sally York presented the 2008/2009 Tourism Commission budget. Councilman Fraley made the motion to accept the budget. Councilman Suttles seconded the motion. Motion carried with a vote of 6/0.

**New Streets Accepted**

Mr. Tracy Brown submitted a deed of conveyance to the council, asking the streets of the newly developed subdivision be adopted into the city maintenance program. Taylor Duncan confirmed Mr. Brown complied with all request to bring the streets up to city ordinance. Councilman Fraley made the motion to accept the 3 subdivision streets into the city maintenance program. Councilman Stamper seconded the motion. Motion carried with vote of 5/1.

Councilman Suttles made the motion to install a stop sign at the intersection of the newly adopted street that empties onto Meadowview. Councilman Fraley seconded the motion. Motion carries with a 6/0 vote.

**Bucket Brigade Requests**

Motion made by Councilman Robinson to approve a bucket brigade on December 13<sup>th</sup>. Seconded by Councilperson Nash. Motion carried with a 6/0 vote.

**Street Department**

Motion to approve the Street Department bills in the amount \$1,053.52 made by Councilperson Nash. Councilman Robinson seconded the motion. Motion carried with a vote 6/0.

Building inspector Taylor Duncan requested to have grating tile installed in the alley located at Connie's Beauty Salon. Shaffer's Concrete made a bid of \$1,975.00 to install the grating tile. Councilman Robinson made the motion to proceed with this project. Councilman Fraley seconded the motion. Motion carried 6/0.

**Fire Department**

Councilman Robinson made the motion to approve the Fire Department bills in the amount of \$2,529.00. Councilperson Nash seconded the motion. Motion carried 6/0.

Chief Felty requested \$350.00 for 3 people to fire school on August 23 & 24<sup>th</sup>. This includes meals, lodging and registration. Councilperson Nash made the motion for the request. Seconded by Councilman Robinson. Motion carried with a 5/0 vote. Councilman Fraley stepped out of the room.

Chief Felty asked the council to consider the purchase of a new Ford Explorer for the fire department. The state contract price is \$20,699.00. This price does not include lighting equipment. Councilperson Nash made the motion to purchase the requested vehicle. Councilman Robinson seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 6/0 vote.

**Police Department**

Mayor Steele announced Mr. Ed Ginter is the new Police Chief. Council members welcomed Mr. Ginter. Councilman Fraley requested Police Chief Ginter to add to the monthly report to include the number of calls officers respond to that are located outside the city. Chief Ginter assured council the information would be on the monthly report next regular meeting. Motion made by Councilman Suttles to approve the monthly bills in the amount of \$2,377.78 and additional

bills to Mr. Sparkle Car Wash \$26.00 and Roy Ison \$20. 00. Councilman Fraley seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 6/0 vote.

Mayor Steele informed council Officer Don Beller would not be returning to work for at least 6 months, causing a shortage of officers to cover all shifts. Due to the start of school starting, the Police Department had begun directing traffic in the morning and afternoon. Chief Ginter worked a midnight shift due to another officer being ill. Mayor Steele confirmed if pattern continued, budgeted overtime would be depleted. Chief Ginter expressed his concern for the safety of the citizens; he wished to have two officers on patrol at all times. Councilman Suttles suggested letting the new Chief to work with the schedule, officers working 4 ten hour shifts. Council will look at the used overtime next month and make a decision then.

#### **Administration Department**

Councilman Stamper made the motion to approve the monthly bills in the amount of \$4,820.97 Councilperson Crum seconded the motion. Motion carried with 6/0 vote.

Councilman Fraley asked why the dispatching bill was not listed. City Clerk Stratton explained the invoice had not been received at this time. She added gasoline bills were not included for the same reason.

Motion made by Councilperson Nash to approve the July 14<sup>th</sup> 2008 minutes. Seconded by Councilman Suttles. Motion carried 6/0.

Councilman Robinson made the motion to approve the monthly budget. Councilman Fraley seconded the motion. Motion carried with 6/0 vote.

#### **Property & General Liability Evaluation**

Wells Fargo submitted an evaluation of the city's coverage, showing the city is under insured. The additional coverage would cost \$350.00 more annually. Discussion was held.

Councilperson Nash made the motion to keep the storage building and street building the same. Seconded by Councilman Stamper. Motion carried 6/0.

Councilman Fraley made the motion to approve the additional \$350.00 annually to the recommended insured level. Councilman Fraley amended the motion to pay the additional amount to cover the administrative building only. Councilman Stamper seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 6/0 vote.

#### **Surplus Property**

Motion made by Councilman Fraley to declare the following vehicles as surplus property. 1992 Chevy S-10 Blazer, 1975 Ford 8000 Pumper truck, 1 Chevy Impala, 2 Ford Crown Victoria's and 1 Ford Explorer. Councilperson Nash seconded the motion. Motion carried 6/0.

#### **Police Frozen Checking Accounts**

Motion made by Councilperson Crum to unfreeze the SRT, Drug Dog, Child Abuse and Equipment checking accounts. Seconded by Councilman Suttles. Motion carried with 6/0 vote. Mayor Steele instructed the City Clerk to prepare a letter to Mark Strother of the Commercial Bank, informing him of action of the council.

#### **Additional Administration Bill Approval**

Councilman Suttles made the motion to approve the additional bill of \$575.00 to Mr. W. Jeff Scott. Councilman Robinson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **New Fire Department Construction**

Committee Chairperson Nash presented to city council the recommendation of the committee. The committee looked at 2 possible sites: lot on National Street and the Harry Brown property on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. With the research considered, the Brown property would be best for the fire station construction and future infrastructure projects of a police station, a new administration building and a new street department building. Mr. Brown's asking price is \$750,000. He agreed to assume the city owned property located on South 7 minus the 30 feet, giving the city the original price of \$190,000. He would then deduct that amount off of his asking price of \$750,000. Mr. Brown also would remove the old Ford garage building at no cost to the city.

Discussion was held on the committee report. Councilman Fraley felt the property was the best location but it was overpriced. He was pleased with the aspect of future infrastructure projects could be built on this site as well. He suggested beginning a building fund for future projects and putting the money back now. Councilman Stamper wished to have the property appraised; making sure the city is making a wise choice. Gary Conn, the city's new legal counsel, advised Council to be sure of the validation of the purchase due to the use of tax payers' monies.

Councilman Robinson left the meeting at 8:30 p.m. due to prior commitments.

Councilman Fraley stated the suggested 1 million dollar bond issue payment would cost \$80,000 annually. Councilman Suttles suggested bonding 1.25 million.

Councilman Stamper made the motion for Councilperson Crum to have the Harry Brown property and the South 7 property appraised in the next 2 weeks. Councilman Fraley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5/0.

Councilman Suttles made the motion authorize for the soil testing of the Brown site. Councilperson Nash seconded the motion. Motion carried 5/0.

Motion to approve the new fire department construction bill in the amount of \$5,445.74 made by Councilperson Nash. Councilman Suttles seconded the motion. Motion carried 5/0.

#### **Street Closing Request for FuntoberFest**

Councilperson Nash made the motion to close Hord Street from the Wilhoit Law Office to 2<sup>nd</sup> Street on October 4<sup>th</sup>, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and include Pomeroy to 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. Councilman Suttles seconded the motion. Motion carried 5//0.

#### **Main Street Project**

Mayor Steele assured the council the electric box issue located at the Bush Floral shop will be taken care of. He also asked for additional money to complete the sidewalk project to correct a handicap ramp located near the JMK building. Mayor Steele's project #3 & #4 was at the Veteran's Park and from the Justice Center to the front of Boggs Hardware building. Shaffer's Concrete submitted 4 quotes for these projects. Attorney Conn advised the council to bid the project. Council agreed.

Councilman Fraley made the motion to allocate no more than \$25,000 out of streets and sidewalks for the Main Street project and officially advertise for the project. Councilperson Nash seconded the motion. Motion carried 5/0 vote.

#### **Interstate Drive**

Councilman Fraley made the motion due to the condition of Interstate Drive, close the road to local traffic only, closing the road to thru traffic. Councilman Suttles seconded the motion. Motion and second rescinded.

Attorney Conn assured the council the City of Grayson could not be sued over potholes.

Mayor instructed Chris Allen to install caution signs on Interstate Drive.

Motion made by Councilman Fraley to lower the speed limit on Interstate Drive to 25 mph. Councilman Suttles seconded the motion. Motion carried 4/1 vote. Councilperson Crum voted no.

#### **Meadowview Rd**

Councilman Suttles made the motion to officially declare Meadowview Rd as a dead end street and instruct the Street department to install a permanent barricade at the end of the street. Councilperson Crum seconded the motion. Motion carried 5/0 vote.

#### **Building Inspectors Report**

Building Inspector, Taylor Duncan presented a current activities report to the council. He explained new construction, violation status and other issues. Cheryl Porter owns a property on 5<sup>th</sup> Street. He suggested the city clean the property and pursue legal issues with the owner.

Councilperson Crum ask Mr. Duncan to inspect the Boggs Hardware building when he was in the location.

Discussion was held on the old steakhouse site. The owner and insurance company are disputing over insurance claim. The Fire Marshall has ruled the fire accidental. Mr. Duncan was advised to send Dr Gupta, the owner, a written notice of the code violation. He will sent written notice to Robin Webb of the violation with property she owns.

Mayor Steele will advise Dan Suit of the District 9 Highway Department the encroachment permit can be closed.

#### **Emergency Management Position Ordinance**

Attorney Gary Conn gave the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the Emergency Management Position. Councilman Suttles made the motion to accept the second reading. Motion seconded by Councilman Fraley. Motion carried 5/0 vote.

#### **Speed Bump Ordinance**

Attorney Conn gave the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of the Speed Bump Ordinance. Motion made by Councilman Suttles to accept the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the ordinance. Councilman Fraley seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 5/0 vote.

**Parks & Recreation**

Councilman Fraley announced the equipment approved at the last meeting would be delivered in the next few days. He asked Council to allow the purchase of a standing grill and paint for the existing grills at a price of \$300.00. Motion made by Councilperson Nash to approve the request. Councilman Stamper seconded the motion. Motion carried 5/0.

**Homeland Security Grant**

Motion made by Councilman Suttles to accept the grant from Homeland Security for the tanker truck and for the City Clerk to advertise for bids to purchase the tanker truck. Seconded by Councilman Fraley. Motion carried 5/0.

Mayor Steele announced Congressman Geoff Davis will be at the City Building for a check presentation the following Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. Councilman Fraley commended the Fire Department and Councilman Suttles for a job well done in writing the grant. This grant will aid the city's budget.

Motion to enter into executive session was made by Councilman Fraley. Councilperson Crum seconded the motion. Motion carried 5/0.

Motion made by Councilman Fraley to enter into regular session. Councilperson Nash seconded the motion. Motion carried 5/0.

**Flex Spending**

Councilman Suttles made the motion paid employees who qualify for health benefits and elect not to participate in the health benefits shall qualify for \$400.00 per month flex spending effective August 1, 2008. Councilman Fraley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5/0.

Councilman Fraley asked Attorney Conn to research the annexation guidelines for the city to pursue previous areas of discussion.

**Delinquent Taxes**

Motion made by Councilman Suttles to pursue the sales of 7 years of back taxes, not including tangible or mobile home only. Seconded by Councilperson Nash. Motion carried with 5/0 vote.

Motion to adjourn made by Councilperson Crum. Seconded by Councilman Stamper. Motion carried 5/0.

Meeting adjourned at 11:08 pm.

(signature)

George Steele, Mayor

Attest:

(signature)

Cindy Stratton, City Clerk

