Grayson City Council Regular Monthly Meeting 10/8/2007

Present: Mayor George Steele

Council: Duane Suttles

Pam Nash
Pearl Crum
Patrick Robinson
Terry Stamper
Brandon Fraley

Attorney W. Jeff Scott

Mayor Steele called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Steele welcomed all visitors.

Payroll Tax Committee Recommendations

Committee chairman, Terry Stamper informed the Mayor and Council of the committee findings. The decision of the committee was to give the police officers \$1.00 on the hour pay raise, with the impoundment program funding their raise. They are working on different options for a retirement system. This would be paid by a payroll tax, that will go into effect January 1, 2008. The retroactive pay raise for officers will go back to August 1, 2007.

Committee member Brandon Fraley address the retirement issue. There are 2 options:

- (1) A retirement plan similar to the present MetLife plan with the City matching 5%.
- (2) Enroll into the County Employee Retirement System. With this retirement plan, an employee work 5 years to be vested. The City would be required to participate in the state insurance plan due to not being a member before 2003.

Mr. Fraley explained the CERS would be a 27 year retirement plan and some of this could be funded by a payroll tax. This tax would only effect persons working inside the city limits at a proposed rate of 1.75%. This would be the responsibility of the employer to submit the payment to the city on a quarterly method. The payroll tax would be on taxable income only. Health insurance and retirement would not be taxable. If a employee works outside the city during the year, refunds would be possible.

Mayor Steele addressed the issue that all city employees would be paying this tax. He added the payroll tax would go toward retirement, sidewalks, recreation and to meet the basic needs of the people.

Councilman Suttles stated the City needs to provide quick emergency response to the citizens of the city. At the present time, the fire department is on a volunteer basis only. The basic needs are not being met.

Councilman Stamper made the motion to give all police officers a \$1.00 per hour raise, retroactive to August 1, 2007. He amended the motion to include all city employees. Seconded by Councilperson Nash. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilman Stamper to impose a 1.75% payroll deduction tax effective January 1, 2008. Councilman Fraley seconded.

Attorney Scott requested guidelines to write the payroll tax ordinance. Councilman Fraley stated the ordinance should include the following: the tax would effect employees who work inside the city limits of Grayson, employers to submit payment 25 days after the quarter ends, employers to submit an annual reconciliation report 25 days after the end of the year. Employees who work outside the city limits as well as inside the limits may request a refund at the end of the year. The employee must have a statement from the employer stating the hours not worked inside the city limits for the year. If an employer refuses to pay this tax can be fined and possible closure of the business.

Motion carried.

Ordinance 12/2003 & 12/2007 Amendment Recommendations

Councilmen Stamper and Robinson expressed concern about the section in the Utility Ordinance 12-2003 & 12-2007, wanting to amend the ordinance in reference to the land owners being respon sible for utility bills of their renters. Attorney Scott stated the Council can only act on an ordinance on the recommendation of the Utility Commission.

Mayor Steele told the landlords he would speak to Utility Superintendent Gerald Haney.

Damron-Mayo Subdivision Annexation

Discussion was held on the annexation of the Damron-Mayo Subdivision. Attorney Scott explained an intent to annex ordinance would have to be adopted before the annexation procedure could be completed. The City Clerk would have to notify all persons in the desired area of annexation of the city's intent to annex. Within 60 days, if 50% of the resident owners petition the annexation, the annexation will be placed on the ballet of the next general election. This will be November of 2008. If a petition is not filed in 60 days, an ordinance can be adopted stating the area to be annexed.

Councilperson Crum ask to table the issue until the complete consideration of the roads in the described area.

Councilperson Nash made the motion to table this issue. Seconded by Councilman Stamper. Motion carried.

Annexation of the formally known as William F. Lewis Farm

The ordinance to annex the land known formally as the William F. Lewis farm was read by Attorney Scott. Motion made by Councilman Suttles to accept this annexation ordinance. Seconded by Councilman Fraley. Motion carried.

Fire Department Architectural Bids

Two companies submitted bids for the construction of the fire department building. Walker & Associates submitted a bid for \$37,000.00 and Architectural Planning & Design for the amount of \$37,500.00. Motion made by Councilman Suttles to accept the bid from Architectural Planning & Design. Seconded by Councilman Fraley.

Ayes: Suttles, Crum, Nash, Fraley and Stamper

Abstain: Robinson

Street Department

Motion made by Councilperson Nash to pay the Street Department bills for \$937.28. Seconded by Councilman Robinson. Motion carried.

Councilman Suttles made the motion to purchase a new salt spreader. He amended the motion to a stainless steel salt spreader, (lower of two quotes). This to be taken out of the capital expenditures line of the budget. Seconded by Councilperson Nash. Motion carried.

Assistant Street Foreman Allen and Councilman Suttles discussed the christmas light electrical boxes. The Council was informed that the old boxes were manual and out of date. New boxes with electrical eyes would cost approximately \$50.00 a piece. This would be a cost saving measure for the city, saving time and money.

Mayor Steele asked Mr. Allen to attend the next meeting of Tourism and Chamber of Commerce to request monies for new decorations.

Fire Department

Motion made by Councilperson Crum to pay the Fire Department bills totalling \$5,578.18. Second by Councilman Fraley. Motion carried.

Fire Chief Felty requested \$300.00 for men to attend the Maysville Fire School on October 20 & 21. Motion made by Councilman Stamper approving the \$300.00. Seconded by Councilperson Crum. Motion carried.

Police Department

Councilperson Nash made the motion to approve the Police Department bills for \$4,244.82. Seconded by Councilman Fraley. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilperson Nash to purchase a 99 Dodge Durango for \$1,600.00. Seconded by Councilman Suttles. Motion carried.

Administration Department

The 1st reading of Ordinance 13-2007, the final 2006/2007 budget was given.

Motion to approve the monthly budget made by Councilman Stamper. Seconded by Councilman Suttles. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the minutes of September 10th meeting made by Councilman Suttles. The motion seconded by Councilman Fraley. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2007 meeting made by Councilperson Nash. Seconded by Councilman Stamper. Motion carried.

Motion to accept the 2007 property tax rate of 18.7 cents per \$100.00 made by Councilman Stamper. Seconded by Councilman Suttles. Motion carried.

Councilperson Nash made the motion to approve American Legal Publishing to procede with the ordinances at a cost of \$2500.00. Seconded by Councilman Fraley. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilman Robinson to approve the Administration bills totalling \$3,351.42. Seconded by Councilman Stamper. Motion carried.

Councilperson Crum made the motion to pay additional bills for the following departments:

Fire Department:

\$ 240.99 K-Mart

Police

\$ 156.55 Travis Steele

\$ 313.40 Roy Ison

\$ 18.60 Casey Brammell

\$ 9.75 Unity Communications

Administration:

\$ 1,012.50 W. Jeff Scott

\$ 1,357.00 FIVCO

Councilman Fraley seconded the motion. Motion carried,

Oridinance 14-2007

Jeff Scott read ordinance 14-2007 to formally close the the street Betty Malone requested. Motion made by Councilperson Crum. Seconded by Councilman Robinson. Motion carried.

Mayor Steele asked Attorney Scott to inquire about the K-Mart delinquent taxes.

Councilman Suttles made the motion to annex the west side of 1 & 7, northside of the Barretts Creek Bridge, areas of Texaco and El Portal. Clay Tires on the eastside of 1 & 7, and property owned by St. Johns & Elizabeth Church, including the fellowship hall. Seconded by Councilman Robinson. Motion carried.

Mayor Steele thanked the council and city employees for the support during the death of his mother.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Mayor George Steele

Attest:

Cindy Stratton

City Clerk