

**CITY OF GRAHAM
SPECIAL SESSION
TUESDAY, MAY 24, 2016
5:00 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Graham met in special session at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 24, 2016, in the Conference Room of the Municipal Building located at 201 South Main Street.

Council Members Present:

Mayor Jerry Peterman
Mayor Pro Tem Jimmy Linens
Council Member Lee Kimrey
Council Member Chip Turner
Council Member Griffin McClure

Also Present:

Frankie Maness, City Manager
Aaron Holland, Assistant City Manager
Darcy Sperry, City Clerk
Erin Quigley, Administration Intern

Mayor Jerry Peterman called the meeting to order and presided at 5:00 p.m.

Council Members expressed concern over the allocation of \$20,000 for rebranding. Council Members, while in agreement that we need to concentrate on improving the downtown area by making it more attractive to prospective businesses, questioned whether or not rebranding is the most cost effective way to do this. Council Members discussed how The Graham 2035 Comprehensive Plan already recommends that we focus and improve the downtown area. After debating whether or not rebranding would contribute to economic growth in the City, Mayor Peterman asked City Manager Frankie Maness for his professional opinion as to where these funds might better serve the citizens of Graham. Mr. Maness identified the need for an upgrade to the City's website, upgrading the City's existing infrastructure and funding of the additional monies for the City's façade grant as possible reallocation options.

By consensus, Council chose to reallocate \$15,000 towards upgrading the City's website and \$5,000 towards the City's façade grant program.

Council requested that at some point in the future, Mr. Maness provide a cost for a small area plan for the downtown area.

Mr. Maness informed Council that the City's health insurance policy for the FY 2016-2017 will keep comparable coverages for employees while reducing the total rate by 1.8%.

There being no further discussion and upon a motion by Council Member Chip Turner, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Jimmy Linens, the Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:17 p.m.

Darcy Sperry, City Clerk