

**CITY OF GRAHAM
SPECIAL SESSION
WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2020
9:00 A.M.**

The City Council of the City of Graham met in special session at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 8, 2020, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building located at 201 South Main Street.

Council Members Present:

Mayor Jerry Peterman
Mayor Pro Tem Chip Turner
Council Member Melody Wiggins
Council Member Jennifer Talley
Council Member Ricky Hall

Staff Present:

Frankie Maness, City Manager
Aaron Holland, Assistant City Manager
Darcy Sperry, City Clerk
Bob Ward, City Attorney
Bryan Coleman, City Attorney
Kristy Cole, Assistant Police Chief

Mayor Jerry Peterman called the meeting to order and presided at 9:00 a.m.

Prior to the closed session, City Attorney Bob Ward advised Council that appointment of outside counsel must be done in open session.

At 9:02 a.m., Mayor Peterman made a motion to go into closed session in accordance with N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 (a) (3), to discuss litigation between the NAACP vs. Jerry Peterman, et al., civil action 1:20-CV-613 in Federal Middle District Court in Greensboro. Mayor Pro Tem Chip Turner seconded the motion and all voted in favor of the motion.

At 9:05 a.m., Council Member Jennifer Talley joined the closed session and at 9:15 a.m., Assistant Police Chief Kristy Cole joined the closed session.

At 9:43 a.m., Mayor Peterman reconvened the open session and announced that Council agreed to hire outside legal counsel for the upcoming litigation.

Council Member Talley recommended Mr. Anthony Biller. Mr. Ward stated Council could also consider Mr. Robert Hagemann and Mr. Mac McCarley. Mr. Ward suggested that if Council was in agreement with Mr. Biller, Mayor Peterman and/or City Manager Frankie Maness establish contact with him to see if he will take the case.

Mayor Peterman made a motion to ask the City Manager and Council Member Talley to contact Mr. Anthony J. Biller to see if he will do litigation between the NAACP and Jerry Peterman, civil action 1:20-CV-613 in Federal Middle District Court. Council Member Ricky Hall seconded the motion.

At 9:52 a.m., Mayor Pro Tem Turner made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Hall. All voted in favor of the motion.

Darcy Sperry, City Clerk