

**CITY OF GRAHAM  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2021**

The City Council of the City of Graham held a regularly scheduled meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m. on August 10, 2021, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building located at 201 South Main Street, Graham, NC.

**Council Members Present:**

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

**Staff Present:**

Aaron Holland, Interim City Manager  
Darcy Sperry, City Clerk  
Bryan Coleman, City Attorney  
Bob Ward, City Attorney  
Jeff Wilson, IT Systems Manager  
Renee Ward, Interim City Clerk  
Nathan Page, Planning Director

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Jerry Peterman called the meeting to order and presided at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Peterman gave the invocation and everyone stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Peterman stated that Mayor Pro Tem Chip Turner experienced a health issue and would not be present for tonight's meeting.

**CODE OF ETHICS DISCLOSING CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** City Clerk Darcy Sperry

Councilmember Jennifer Talley stated that in regards to the Appearance Commission appointment that Zipporah Clark Baldwin was an employee of one of her companies. She stated there was no financial benefit and that Ms. Baldwin worked in a section of the company that plans events. She asked Council if they considered this a conflict of interest.

Mayor Peterman stated that he did not consider this as a conflict of interest and Councilmembers Hall and Wiggins agreed. Councilman Wiggins added that in the wake of grants, there may be concern and that Ms. Baldwin needed to know that before taking office and being sworn-in.

Councilmember Tally also stated that in regards to the Planning Board Recommendations, Item 3b, (Rezoning-Maple and Market) she needed to disclose that she owns adjoining property to the proposed rezoning property.

Mayor Peterman stated that he considered owning adjacent property as a conflict of interest.

Upon motion by Mayor Peterman, seconded by Councilmember Wiggins, it was resolved that Councilmember Talley would be recused from Item 3b (Rezoning-Maple and Market). Ayes: Mayor Peterman, Councilmember Wiggins. Nays: Councilmember Hall. Motion carried 2:1.

Tom Boney, Alamance News, disagreed with Mayor Peterman's motion to recuse Councilmember Talley from considering Item 3b.

Councilmember Talley voiced confusion over being recused and asked if she would be able to speak as a citizen on the rezoning in question if she was barred from voting on the rezoning.

City Attorney Robert Ward stated that it was the Council’s discretion to decide if owning property adjacent to the proposed rezoning property was considered a conflict of interest and that if she was recused, she should not be permitted to speak because her role was that of a councilmember.

Mayor Peterman stated that in reference to G.S. 160(D) that Councilmember Ricky Hall should also be recused from Item 3b because of being an employee of Councilmember Talley. Councilmember Hall stated he did not work for Councilmember Talley and that he had never completed an application for employment.

Mayor Peterman rescinded his request asking for Councilmember Hall’s recusal.

Mr. Tom Boney, Alamance News, stated that these proceedings were odd and that the Council was going down a rabbit hole by forcing a recusal and not allowing the person in question the right to vote.

**OATH OF OFFICE:** Interim City Clerk Renee Ward

City Clerk Darcy Sperry administered the oath of office to Renee Ward to act as Interim City Clerk for the City of Graham, effective August 10, 2021.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- a. **Approval of Minutes from the July 13, 2021, Regular Session meeting.**
- b. **Approval of Tax Collector’s Year End Report.**
- c. **Approval of 2020 Outstanding Tax Listing.**
- d. **Approval of the below listed Tax Releases:**

CITY OF GRAHAM RELEASE ACCOUNTS				
AUGUST				
ACCT#	YEAR	NAME	REASON FOR RELEASE	AMOUNT RELEASED
680674	2021	PLATINUM RENOVATIONS INC	RELEASE & REBILLED TO CURRENT OWNER	\$113.75
693659	2021	DALIMONTE, FRANK	SCE REMOVED FROM 21 BILL, ADD EXEMPTION BK	\$299.45
700137	2021	ZACHARY, JONATHAN LAVERNE ETAL	RELEASE & REBILLED TO CURRENT OWNER	\$602.66
597413	2021	QUIGLEY, DAVID RAYMOND JR	SOLD PRIOR TO JAN 1, 2021	\$34.32
603973	2021	SYSTEL BUSINESS EQUIPMENT CO	WRONG SCHEDULE, VALUE ADJUSTMENT	\$18.77
678174	2021	REICHENBACH, KENNETH WAYNE	VALUE OF BOAT ADJUSTED	\$3.64
680893	2020	TURNER, BRICE CALDWELL	DID NOT OWN JAN 2020	\$6.38
680893	2021	TURNER, BRICE CALDWELL	DID NOT OWN JAN 2020	\$6.38

- e. **Approve an Ordinance amendment to CHAPTER 18- STREETS, SIDEWALKS, AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES, ARTICLE I- IN GENERAL of the Code of Ordinances to require Historic Resource Commission and Technical Review Committee approval prior to City Council consideration of an Encroachment License request.**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAHAM, AMENDING  
CHAPTER 18, ARTICLE I, Sec. 18-2 TO THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF  
GRAHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

The City Council of the City of Graham, North Carolina, does ORDAIN:

**Sec. 1.** That the Code of Ordinances, City of Graham, North Carolina, is hereby amended by amending section numbered 18-2, which said section reads as follows:

**Chapter 18 – STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES**

**ARTICLE I. – IN GENERAL**

**Sec. 18-2(e). – Encroachments on streets and public rights-of-way.**

**Amended Section 18-2(e)**

e. The city manager or his designee will work with the applicant to help prepare the application for presentation to the City Council. The city staff shall require the application to, and approval from the Historic Resources Commission and Technical Review Committee, if applicable. The city staff may also require the applicant to produce evidence of property ownership sufficient to establish the applicant's authority for the use of any person or entity other than the signatory and/or engineered drawings sufficient to determine the proposed use of the public space.

**Sec. 2.** That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval and publication, as provided by law

- f. Petition for Voluntary Contiguous Annexation for 52 acres located off Parham Drive and Wildwood Lane (GPIN 8883202217, 8883216464, 8883219007, 8883312515) (AN2102):**
  - i. Approve Resolution Requesting City Clerk to Investigate Sufficiency.**

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE CLERK TO INVESTIGATE  
A PETITION RECEIVED UNDER G.S. 160A-31  
FOR 52 ACRES LOCATED OFF PARHAM DRIVE AND WILDWOOD LANE  
GPIN# 8883216464, 8883312515, 8883219007, 8883202217 (AN2102)

WHEREAS, a petition requesting annexation of an area described in said petition was received on July 21, 2021, by the Graham City Council; and

WHEREAS, G.S. 160A-31 provides that the sufficiency of the petition shall be investigated by the City Clerk before further annexation proceedings may take place; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Graham deems it advisable to proceed in response to this request for annexation.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Graham:

That the City Clerk is hereby directed to investigate the sufficiency of the above described petition and to certify as soon as possible to the City Council the result of her investigation.

**ii. Approve Resolution Fixing Date of September 14, 2021 for Public Hearing on Question of Annexation.**

RESOLUTION FIXING DATE OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2021, FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON QUESTION OF ANNEXATION PURSUANT TO G.S. 160A-31 FOR 52 ACRES LOCATED OFF PARHAM DRIVE AND WILDWOOD LANE GPIN# 8883216464, 8883312515, 8883219007, 8883202217 (AN2102)

WHEREAS, a petition requesting annexation of the contiguous area described herein has been received; and

WHEREAS, certification by the City Clerk as to the sufficiency of the petition has been made; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Graham, North Carolina that:

Section 1. A public hearing on the question of annexation of the area described herein will be held at the City Hall, 201 S. Main Street, Graham, NC at 6:00 pm on September 14, 2021.

Section 2. The area proposed for annexation is described as follows:

ALL of that certain piece, parcel or tract of land lying and being in the City of Graham, Graham Township, Alamance County, North Carolina, and being more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at an existing buried stone in the recorded eastern margin of Broadway Drive as shown on a map entitled "Luther R. Shoffner" and recorded in Plat Book 68, Page 85 in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Alamance County, N.C., said point being the recorded northwestern property corner of Grantor (now or formerly) Foust Family Properties, LLC as described and recorded in Deed Book 3520, Page 846 and being Lot 2 as shown on a map entitled "T. Howell Foust" and recorded in said Plat Book 62, Page 71 in said Alamance County Registry), said stone also being the recorded southwestern lot corner of Lot 133 as shown on a map entitled "Broad Acres, Section Seven" and recorded in Plat Book 50, Page 5 in said Alamance County Registry; thence, from said point of beginning, along Grantor's recorded northern property line, said southern lot line of said Lot 133, North 68°26'47" East 290.90 feet to a computed point, said point being the recorded southwestern property corner of (now or formerly) Martin L. Shoffner as described and recorded in Deed Book 3440, Page 381 in said Alamance County Registry and also being the recorded southeastern corner of said Lot 133; thence, along said Shoffners western property line and the recorded eastern line of Lots 133, 132A, 90A, 89A and 86A as shown on several maps entitled "Broad Acres, Plat Book 50, Page 5, Plat Book 46, Page 44, Plat Book 23, Page 80 & Plat Book 60, Page 40" in said Alamance County Registry the following seven (7) bearing and distances: 1) North 03°30'29" West 121.69 feet to a point; 2) North 03°31'56" West 110.19 feet to a point; 3) North

01°58'58" East 80.47 feet to a point; 4) North 18°01'03" West 20.92 feet to a point; 5) North 03°21'56" West 100.08 feet to a point; 6) North 02°36'52" West 155.77 feet to a point on the recorded southern margin of Wildwood Drive; 7) thence along the recorded eastern margin of Wildwood Drive North 08°58'27" West 50.49 feet to a point on the recorded northern margin of Wildwood Drive, said point being the recorded northwestern corner of said Martin L. Shoffner and also being a point on the recorded southern property line of (now or formerly) Fields Family Irrevocable Trust, Linnie Fields Jr. & Frances, Trust as described and recorded in Deed Book 2658, Page 823 in said Alamance County Registry; thence, along the recorded northern property line of said Shoffner and the recorded southern property line of said Field Family, with a curve to the right, having a radius of 426.31 feet and a chord bearing and distance of South 63°22'23" East 99.77 feet to a new iron pipe; thence, along the recorded western property line of said Shoffner and recorded eastern property line of said Fields the following three (3) bearing and distances: 1) North 10°01'12" East 195.04 feet to a point; 1) North 63°42'26" West 35.51 feet to a point; 3) North 05°20'12" West 218.32 feet to a new iron pipe, said pipe being the recorded northwestern property corner of said Shoffner, the recorded northeastern property corner of said Fields and pipe also being located on the recorded southern property line of (now or formerly) Michael R. Allen as described and recorded in Deed Book 1336, Page 253 in said Alamance County Registry; thence, along the recorded northern property line of said Shoffner and the recorded southern property line of said Allen the following five (5) bearing and distances: 1) South 87°33'42" East 167.35 feet to a point; 2) South 87°34'11" East 222.16 feet to a point; 3) South 87°30'54" East 701.29 feet to an existing iron pipe; 4) South 88°12'03" East 58.80 feet to an bent existing iron pipe; 5) South 88°06'57" East 160.00 feet to a new iron pipe, said pipe being the recorded northeastern property corner of said Shoffner and a pipe on the recorded southern property line of (now or formerly) Brian Reid as described and recorded in Deed Book 3674, Page 424 in said Alamance County Registry and also being located on the recorded northern lot line of Lot 16 as shown on a map entitled "B.V. May Property" and recorded in Plat Book 1, Page 117 in said Alamance County Registry; thence, with a new proposed property line for said Shoffner (recorded in Deed Book 3440, Page 381 and Deed Book 2974, Page 539) the following five (5) bearing and distances: 1) South 18°17'26" West 510.28 feet to a new iron pipe, said pipe being located on the recorded northern property corner of (now or formerly) Randy C. Williamson & Theresa P. Williamson as described and recorded in Deed Book 3827, Page 810 and also located on the recorded southern property line of said Shoffner (Deed Book 3440, Page 381 in said Alamance County Registry; 2) South 32°07'09" West 404.33 feet to a new iron pipe, said pipe being located on the southern property line of said Williamson and also being located on the recorded northern property line of said Foust Family Properties, LLC; 3) South 25°03'03" West 400.22 feet to a new iron pipe; 4) South 17°47'19" West 268.10 feet to a new iron pipe; 5) South 20°17'47" West 273.29 feet to an existing iron pipe, said pipe being the recorded northwestern property corner of (now or formerly) Jean Monnett Ross as described and recorded in Deed Book 3618, Page 103 and also known as the recorded northwestern lot corner of Lot 1 as shown on a map entitled "Jean Monnett Ross" and recorded in Plat Book 78, Page 59 in said Alamance County Registry; thence, along with the recorded eastern property line of said Foust Family Properties, LLC and the recorded western property line of said Ross South 16°13'38" East 336.58 feet to a computed point, said point being the recorded southwestern property corner of said Ross, one of the recorded southeastern property corners of said Foust Family Properties, LLC and also being one of the recorded northeastern property corner of (now or formerly) Ivey Thomas Foust & ETAL as described and recorded in Deed

Book 1583, Page 353 in said Alamance County Registry; thence, along with the recorded southern property line of said Foust Family Properties, LLC and the recorded northern property line of said Ivey Thomas Foust & ETAL the following seven (7) bearing and distances as it meanders and bends along the Little Alamance Creek: 1) South 49°35'52" West 102.11 feet to a point; 2) North 74°54'08" West 405.00 feet to a point; 3) North 56°07'08" West 290.00 feet to a point; 4) South 78°20'52" West 184.00 feet to a point; 5) South 68°32'52" West 325.00 feet to a point; 6) South 82°37'52" West 90.00 feet to a point; 5) North 51°51'33" West 50.13 feet to an existing iron pipe tack, said pipe being the recorded southwestern property corner of said Foust Family Properties, LLC and one of the recorded southeastern property corners of (now or formerly) Martin L. Shoffner as described and recorded in Deed Book 3440, Page 381 in said Alamance County Registry; thence, along the recorded western property line of said Foust Family Properties, LLC and the recorded eastern property line of said Martin L. Shoffner the following five (5) bearing and distances: 1) North 19°52'02" East 666.29 feet to an existing iron pipe; 2) North 19°48'21" East 185.10 feet to an existing iron pipe; 3) North 02°46'16" East 40.69 feet to an existing iron pipe; 4) with a curve to the left, having a radius of 49.40 feet and a chord bearing and distance of North 41°29'22" East 32.35 feet to a new iron pipe; 5) North 19°49'50" East 25.35 feet to the point of beginning, containing an area of 52.172 acres, more or less.

Section 3. Notice of the public hearing shall be published once in The Alamance News, a newspaper having general circulation in the City of Graham, at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the public hearing.

Adopted this the 10th day of August, 2021.

- g. Appoint the following to the Appearance Commission with a term expiration of June 30, 2024:
  - i. Zipporah Clark Baldwin
  - ii. Bernadette Konzelmann
  - iii. Carmen Larimore

Upon motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Wiggins, it was resolved unanimously to approve the foregoing consent agenda.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. **Public Hearing: CR2006 Truby Apartments.** Request by Second Partners, LLC for Conditional Rezoning for multi-family apartments from Light Industrial for property located on Truby Drive (GPIN 8894453334).

Planning Director Nathan Page stated that the applicant requested that this item be tabled to the next City Council meeting.

Upon motion by Mayor Peterman, seconded by Councilmember Wiggins, it was resolved unanimously to table the rezoning for Truby Apartments to the September 14, 2021, City Council meeting.

- b. **Public Hearing: RZ2104 Jimmie Kerr Multi-Family.** Request by Travers Webb for rezoning to R-MF from I-1 for approximately 11 acres on Jimmie Kerr Road (GPIN 8894469497 & 8894469816)

Planning Director Page explained that this was a request to rezone property from I-1, Light Industrial, to R-MF, Residential Multi-Family. He stated that the property was currently vacant, and was surrounded by general business and industrial districts, including a hotel, truck stop, and a packaging facility. The latter two of which signal frequent semi-truck traffic along this portion of Jimmie Kerr Road. He stated that while this request met many of the standards of Graham's 2035 Comprehensive Plan, the potential magnitude of the density of development, unknown site layout, the limited sewer capacity, and the potential traffic issues suggest that this development would be better served by one comprehensive Conditional Zoning.

Councilmember Talley stated she would like to see this item tabled again and that she was not ready to move forward in a positive way.

Mayor Peterman asked if there were any changes made and what was the downside to rezoning this property.

Planning Director Page stated that he was not aware of any changes and that the rezoning may result in more of an impact to sewer and traffic than a Light Industrial rezoning.

Mayor Peterman asked if the plan could go forward if the impact to sewer and traffic was not improved.

Planning Director Page stated that a small industrial use or small multi-family would work for this site. He further stated that without the sewer being resolved, it could not support a large volume water user and without the traffic considerations it would not be able to support a large traffic volume user. He stated that it would be vetted through TRC regardless of the rezoning approval or not. However, it may be beneficial to look at the whole area at one time given the proximity of other developments in the vicinity.

Mayor Peterman opened the public hearing and the following person spoke:

Mr. George Travers Webb, III - 619 E. Harden St. Graham

Mr. Webb stated that the sewer had no bearing on this rezoning and that this was the key to get this started and to get support to pay for the sewer improvements. He stated that without a rezoning, the traffic studies and requirements could not be completed.

Mayor Peterman closed the public hearing and stated that he agreed with Councilmember Talley that more information was needed.

Upon motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Mayor Peterman, it was resolved to table the rezoning to the September 14, 2021, City Council meeting. Ayes: Councilmember Talley, Councilmember Hall, and Mayor Peterman. Nays: Council Member Wiggins. Motion carried 3:1.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS FROM PLANNING BOARD:**

- a. **Public Hearing: CR2101 Gilbreath Multifamily.** Application by Ben Green Hyconic Holdings LLC, for 38 acres to Conditional Residential from Light Industrial for 453 dwelling units, apartments and townhomes (GPIN 8883885270, 8883872722,8883886903)

Planning Director Page stated that the applicant had asked that the rezoning request be tabled to the next meeting in order to meet requests from the Planning Board.

Upon motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Wiggins, it was resolved unanimously to table the rezoning request to the September 14, 2021, Council meeting.

**b. Public Hearing: RZ2106 Maple and Market.** Application by Jerry Smith for rezoning of parcels (approximately 3.5 acres) to B-1 from R-7 (GPIN 8884059566, 8884150571, 8884151515, 8884058556, 8884059880, 8884151700, 8884151602)

Councilmember Talley stated that she would like to consult with the Municipal Attorney as to whether she could vote on this issue and requested that Council take leniency and consider postponing the rezoning until she could get advice from the School of Government and the Municipal Attorney to determine her voting rights.

Mayor Peterman stated that it would be at the request of the petitioner if they would like to postpone the rezoning. Mayor Peterman asked Mr. Cox to come forward.

Mr. Jason Cox, 200 N. Main Street, Graham, representing the petitioner, stated that he did not have the authority to agree to a continuation. He asked if Council could take a recess while he contacted the petitioner.

Council agreed to allow Mr. Cox to consult with the petitioner, and Council moved ahead to Item C.

After consulting with the petitioner, Mr. Cox stated that the petitioner asked that the rezoning be considered tonight.

Planning Director Page stated that this was a request to rezone the subject property from R-7, Residential High Density, to B-1, Downtown Business. The property currently had a few detached single-family homes, some of which are rentals and some are owner-occupied. The homes are served by city streets, water and sewer and the site was approximately 3.5 acres.

Councilmember Hall asked if the surrounding owners had signed off on this rezoning.

Planning Director Page stated that the owners were part of the application process and they did not have to do an individual signature for each one because this was not a conditional rezoning. He stated that surrounding owners were notified of the rezoning.

Councilmember Talley recused herself from consideration of this item due to conflicts of interest.

Mr. Cox stated that this was a blanket rezoning and that the southwest parcels were currently vacant and in poor condition and would possibly be demolished. He stated that this project would take time and that he expected to be back in front of Council several more times.

Mayor Peterman asked if Mr. Cox knew what would be developed on the property.

Mr. Cox stated they did not know because there would need to be an immiscible amount of feasibility studies, costs, market analysis, engineering, topography, surveying, etc., which would be the next step after the approval of the rezoning. He stated that this would be a two-to-five year project.

Mayor Peterman stated that one of the Planning and Zoning members voted against the request due to the old houses.

Mr. Cox stated that he voiced at the Planning and Zoning meeting that if there was a coalition of stakeholders or an organization that would work with them in relocating the primary large residence he would like to see that happen. He stated that he had restored a number of historic properties and that this residence did matter to him.

Councilmember Wiggins stated that she hoped the house could remain and maybe become a bed and breakfast, but did not know what condition the house was in.

Mr. Cox stated that he did not know the condition of the house. He stated that he would bend over backwards to find a way to relocate the house but he did not know if the house could remain on this property. He stated that because of the time frame he would work with the existing tenants allowing them to stay an additional term before they would be close to doing anything to the property.

The public hearing was opened and the following person spoke:

John Lepri, 531 N. Main Street, Graham, spoke in opposition of the rezoning.

The public hearing was closed.

Upon motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Mayor Peterman is was resolved to deny the request for rezoning. Ayes: Mayor Peterman and Councilmember Hall. Nays: Councilmember Wiggins. Motion carried 2:1. Councilmember Talley was recused.

**c. Public Hearing: AM2102 Text Amendment Special Use Permits.** Development Ordinance Amendments as recommended by City Council regarding Special Use Permits- Hearings before the Board of Adjustment, Article 4, Division 7 (Sections 10.137 to 10.148)

Planning Director Page stated that the Planning Board asked that this issue be tabled to the next Council meeting. Mr. Page introduced the new Senior Planner Cameron West.

Mr. West stated that he is from Elizabethtown and was happy to join the team here at the City of Graham.

Planning Director Page stated that the City Council had requested the Planning Board evaluate the process for Special Use Permits, with the recommendation that they be sent to the Board of Adjustment to be heard once. He stated that under the current process, the residents of the City had limited input and the City Council had limited discretion for Special Use Permits. He stated that the current process left most residents feeling disconnected from the deliberations regarding Quasi-Judicial Hearings.

Mr. Page further stated that other jurisdictions in North Carolina had taken the step to evaluate what uses their Table of Permitted Uses had for Special Use Permits, as well as what limitations should be placed upon them (for example, a cell tower may be required to have all property lines as far away as the height of the tower). The Planning Board and Council may remove the requirement for Special Use Permits for all uses without specific standards, or add standards to those uses. For example, Bed and Breakfasts currently require a Special Use Permit in some zones, but have no standards with regards to capacity, parking, etc.

The draft language places authority to hear and approve or deny the Special Use Permits with the Board of Adjustment, and such hearings only occur once, rather than going before the Planning Board and subsequently the City Council.

Mayor Peterman stated that in respect to Planning and Zoning, we should postpone the recommendation and give the board the opportunity to work on this.

Upon motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Mayor Peterman, it was resolved unanimously to table consideration of the proposed text amendment, regarding Special Use Permits, to the September 14, 2021, City Council meeting.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:**

Mr. Morris Robertson, 3457 Southern High/Mt. Herman Road, Graham, NC, asked Council to consider a columbarium in a portion of property adjacent to its cemetery.

Mayor Peterman stated that the portion in question was not owned by the City of Graham and that he would ask City staff to look into the request.

Councilmember Talley asked if the Cemetery Board had been reorganized.

Mayor Peterman said that they were trying to find out if members were still available to serve.

City Clerk Sperry stated that in 2013, the board was put together as an advisory committee and that it had never been formed as an official board.

Mayor Peterman stated that this committee should be an official board.

Upon motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Mayor Peterman it was resolved unanimously to direct staff to create an official Cemetery Board and to grandfather in current members as part of the board if they chose to serve.

### **STAFF COMMENTS:**

Planning Director Page shared the following:

- Quasi-Judicial Training for Boards/Commission members – August 24<sup>th</sup> – 1:00pm to 3:30pm at City Hall.
- Legislative Training for Boards/Commission members – September 14<sup>th</sup> – 5:30pm to 8:00pm at City Hall.
- East Pine Street Sidewalk Project had the last easement acquired, largely due to Rod Payne's exceptional work, dedication, quality, and knowledge which made the property owners comfortable and prepared for the project.
- Jimmie Kerr Road speed limit reduction had been approved by NCDOT, from the City Limits to Cherry Lane, and should be signed soon.
- The intersection of Harden Street and E. Elm Street's final design is underway by NCDOT, and plans should be released soon.

Mr. Jason Cox re-entered the Council Chamber and announced that he was ready to address Council in reference to Planning Board Recommendations, Item b (Maple and Market Rezoning).

Interim City Manager Aaron Holland praised City Clerk Darcy Sperry and Planning Director Nathan Page for their excellent work performed while with the City of Graham and that they would be missed.

City Council also expressed sincere appreciation to Ms. Sperry and Mr. Page for a job well done.

**CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Councilmember Talley announced that a movie company would be filming a movie, Too Little Too Late in the downtown Graham area this month.

**Dockdogs** – National Competition - September 17-19, 2021 in downtown Graham.

**Thursdays at Seven Concert** - August 24<sup>th</sup> - Castaways will be performing.

Councilmember Hall asked City Staff to review a request to extend a sidewalk from Water Street to Parker Street.

Councilmember Talley asked staff to review the policy for downtown events to include notifying downtown business owners of a potential event that may take place in the area of said businesses.

Interim City Manager Holland stated that they could include notifying business owners to the event application process.

**9/11 Commemorative 5K Event** - First Responders Team Cup Kid's Zone, Food Trucks, Band Blood Drive General Information General Information Date: Saturday, September 11, 2021. Event Times: 8:00am – 2:00pm. For All Ages.

**ADJOURN:**

Upon motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Talley, it was resolved unanimously to adjourn. (7:04p.m.)

*Renee M. Ward*

Renee M. Ward, CMC  
Interim City Clerk