



MINUTES
Cochran City Council
October 8, 2019
Regular Scheduled Meeting @ 7PM

Community House located at 192 South Third Street, Cochran, GA 31014

Present: Mayor Billy Yeomans Mayor Pro Tem Thrower
Councilmembers: Carla D Coley, Andrew Lemmon, Jimmy Jones, Keith Anderson

Call to order by Mayor Billy Yeomans @ 7:00PM

The invocation was given by President of the Cochran Bleckley Chamber of Commerce and IDA Director, Andy Lucas followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Pro Tem Thrower.

Mayor Yeomans asked for a motion to adopt the October 8, 2019 Agenda.
Mayor Pro Tem Thrower made the motion to accept the October 8, 2019 Agenda with Councilmember Anderson seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor 5-0.

Mayor Yeomans asked for any additions or corrections to the September 17, 2019 minutes. Mayor asked for a motion to accept the minutes from September 17, 2019. City Clerk, Tracy B Jones stated she made a few corrections and reissued the revised version to each Councilmember. Councilmember Jones made the motion with Councilmember Lemmon seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0.

- I. Call to Order by the Mayor**
- II. Invocation**
- III. Pledge of Allegiance**
- IV. Attendance**
- V. Adopt Agenda**
- VI. Agenda Items**

ITEM# 1 – Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Proclamation- National Fire Safety Month - Mayor Yeomans read the National Fire Safety Proclamation and presented it to Fire Chief, Brock Wilcher.

ITEM #2 – Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Henry Whitfield, Community Director, Office of the President, Middle Georgia State University gave a university update about the Cochran campus and the improvements being made on the campus. He also gave a background on the College starting from the very beginning along with an update on the student capacity this semester.

ITEM # 3- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Recognition of Employee of the Month – Administration – City Clerk Tracy B Jones recognized Financial Administrator, Bonnie Raffield, as Employee of the month for the month of September. Bonnie received a \$10.00 Subway card, a cash prize and a certificate.

ITEM # 4 - Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider approving Resolution and documentation to restate the City’s Agreement with the GMEBS defined benefit retirement plan. This follows on Ms. Michelle Warner’s presentation during the work session. The Council was asked to approve the “restatement” of the pension plan to bring it in compliance with IRS regulations. The Council action will not add or change any benefits for employees. Councilmember Coley made the motion to restate the City’s Agreement with GMEBS with Councilmember Jones seconding. Motion passed 4-1
(3 -Yes – Coley, Thrower, Jones, Lemmon) (1- No – Anderson)

ITEM # 5 - Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider adopting an Ordinance setting forth a policy for the delivery of municipal services to unincorporated islands annexed into the City limits. The City Attorney has advised that the ordinance needs to be adopted for the City to annex its first County “island.”

The island is located on Tenth (10th) Street and is one of the larger islands in the City. It contains nine (9) parcels (listing enclosed). If the City adopts the ordinance, the Attorney will send letters to the nine property owners and a Public Hearing will be held before the City Council. After the Public Hearing, the Council can vote to annex the island into the City. After the first island is annexed, the City can proceed to annex other islands into the City. Councilmember Coley made the motion to adopt an ordinance setting forth a policy for the delivery of municipal services to unincorporated islands annexed into City limits with Councilmember Anderson seconded the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

ITEM # 6 - Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider approving an Agreement with Oconee Fall Line Technical College for their continued use of the City’s Peyton Williams facility for educational purposes. This Agreement formalizes the City’s relationship with the Oconee Fall Line Technical College regarding their use of the Peyton Williams Building at 142 Thompson Street. Under the Agreement terms, the College is allowed to continue using two classrooms, an office, restroom and break area on Tuesdays and Thursdays of every week, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The College uses the building primarily for GED classes. Under the terms of

the Agreement, the College will continue to be responsible for power, phone and Internet expenses and the City will be responsible for maintenance and trash removal. Mayor Pro Tem Thrower made the motion to approve an agreement with Oconee Fall Line Technical College to continue use of the Peyton Williams facility for educational purposes with Councilmember Jones seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

ITEM # 7- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider submittal of TSPLOST projects. Skip Layton, City Engineer, provided packets of the previously outlined projects. Skip and the Council went over the issues with some projects that may need to be completed before allotted money was available. They came to a conclusion and made the decision to move ahead with the list provided. Councilmember Lemmon made the motion on the submittal of TSPOLST Projects to the Heart of GA Regional Commission and GDOT with Councilmember Jones seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0.

ITEM #8- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider amending utility ordinance regarding provisions on garbage service outside the city limits. Clarification for the City to require unincorporated water/sewer customers to also have garbage was tossed around between Council and Richard Newbern, City Manager. Council asked Richard to get the verbiage on the examples of powers to put in place. No motion was made.

ITEM # 9- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider approving Indemnity Agreement between the City of Cochran and The First Baptist Church for the launching of Fireworks in the First Baptist Church parking lot for Octoberfest activities. Rusty Lloyd from Chamber of Commerce explained this is for Saturday, October 19 for Country Fest. This is the same agreement the City had with the FBC for the March 23rd fire work display. Mayor Pro Tem Thrower made the motion to accept the agreement with the FBC and Councilmember Lemmon seconded the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

City Manager Discussion/Items/Updates:

- ❖ GICH retreat update in Douglasville GA
- ❖ DCA Conference
- ❖ Strategic Plan
- ❖ Zoning Committee
- ❖ CHIP Grant update
- ❖ Closed – October 14, 2019 Columbus Day
- ❖ GA GMA Fall Meeting Tuesday Oct 29 Cloverleaf Restaurant Dublin GA

Council Discussion Items:

- Lemmon – Questions about Crest Drive
- Jones – None
- Coley – DDA – DDA Director position reopen
- Thrower – Low Pressure Question on Pansy Street and surrounding areas
- Anderson – None

Announcement of Upcoming Meeting and Events

- ✓ Work Session Prior to Council Meeting November 12, 2019 @ 5:30PM
- ✓ Regularly Scheduled City Council Meeting – November 12, 2019 @ 7PM

Public Comments

- Harold Peacock – Pansy Street – Concerns about low water pressure
- Edin Peacock – (244 Crest Drive) Spoke to the Council concerning an issue that is very important to him concerning deadly force by law enforcement and he explained the Stop the Bleed kits. He gave a kit to City Clerk to place in her office.
- Mrs. Blackshear – Concerns due to hazards on the streets and mobile home demo
- Ethel King – (110 Palm St) Concerns about body cameras

Councilmember Coley made the motion to go into executive session with Councilmember Lemmon seconded the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0
@8:49pm

Went into Executive Session at 9:15PM

Mayor Yeomans recused himself from the meeting at this time. Mayor Pro Tem Thrower then presided the meeting.

Came out of Executive Session at 9:46 PM (Motion made by Councilmember Jones 2nd by Councilmember Lemmon. Motion passed with all voting in favor 4-0)

Went back into Regular Session at 9:47PM – (Motion made by Councilmember Lemmon, seconded by Councilmember Anderson. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 4-0)

Councilmember Jones made the motion to grant hardship on 106 Center Street with conditions as a consideration for zoning purposes to allow Mr. Taylor to reside in mobile home at this location also, Mr. Taylor has to sign a Hold Harmless agreement that will release the City of Cochran of any and all liabilities due to any erroneous information provided. Councilmember Lemmon seconded the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor 4-0

Councilmember Jones made the motion to adjourn with Councilmember Anderson seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor 4-0.
Adjourned meeting @ 9:56 PM

(SEAL)

Tracy B Jones
City Clerk