



## **POST AGENDA**

**January 13, 2026**

**Cochran City Council**

**Regular Called Meeting 6:00 PM**

***City Auditorium, 102 N Second Street, Cochran, GA 31014***

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### **City Council**

### **City Staff**

Carla D Coley, Mayor	Richard Newbern, City Manager
Trecia Gardner Council Member (District 1, Post 1)	Tiffany Lampp, Interim City Clerk
Gary Ates, Council Member (District 1, Post 2)	Jim Elliott, City Attorney
Rufus Veal, Council Member (District 2 Post 1)	
Lonnie Tedders, Council Member (District 2, Post 2)	
Dianne Lester Council Member (District 3, Post 1)	
Shane Savant, Council Member (District 3, Post 2)	

- I. Call to Order by Interim City Clerk @ 6:00 pm**
- II. Invocation by Councilman Gary Ates**
- III. Pledge of Allegiance by Councilman Shane Savant**
- IV. Attendance-** All in attendance creating a quorum.
- V. Swearing in of Mayor and Council by the Interim City Clerk**
- VI. Pass of the gavel to New Mayor Carla D. Coley**

#### **• Attendance & Agenda**

- Full council present
- Approval of prior meeting minutes and agenda

#### **• Recognitions**

- Swearing-in of the City of Cochran's first female mayor
- Recognition of historic milestones and presentation of the official City of Cochran flag

#### **• Appointments & Administrative Actions**

- Appointment of the 2026 Mayor Pro Tem
- Approval of the 2026 Budget Calendar
- Authorization to pursue creation of a Public Facilities Authority

#### • **Financial & Audit Items**

- Acceptance of \$46,135.89 in Hurricane Lee reimbursement funds
- Presentation of the FY 2024–2025 audit with an unmodified (clean) opinion
- Discussion of enterprise fund performance and investment of idle funds

#### • **Licenses & Fees**

- Approval of two six-month liquor license extensions
- Adoption of updates to the city fee schedule, including:
  - \$25 after-hours utility reconnection fee
  - \$25 zoning verification letter fee
  - \$200 double-wide mobile home fee

#### • **Building & Development**

- Termination of county building inspection agreement
- Approval of contract with Falcon Design for building inspections (City retains 80% of fees)

#### • **Grants & Capital Projects**

- Approval to apply for the 2026 CHIP Grant (\$500,000 with \$30,000 match)
- Approval to pursue a CDBG application focused on water and sewer infrastructure
- Updates on:
  - Peacock Street drainage project
  - Willie Basby Park upgrades
  - Comprehensive Plan joint meeting with the County

#### • **Items Tabled**

- Peyton Williams Learning Center / Cochran Helps proposal (additional review requested)

#### • **Department Reports**

- Police Department monthly report
- Finance report indicating stable budget trends

#### • **Council & Mayor Remarks**

- Emphasis on teamwork, accountability, early agenda packet distribution, and serving the citizens of Cochran

- **Executive Session**

- Council voted to enter executive session for:
  - Property acquisition
  - Personnel matters
  - Potential litigation
- Informal discussion occurred while council remained in executive session, followed by a formal vote to return to open session.
- Council clarified that a previous personnel vote from a called meeting had been vetoed by the former mayor, leaving prior conditions in place and requiring the matter to be reconsidered.
- A motion was made and seconded to terminate City Clerk Candace Summerall's administrative leave and return her to work effective January 20.
- The motion passed by majority vote after roll call.
- With no further business, the meeting concluded and adjourned.