



MINUTES
Cochran City Council
Tuesday, October 13, 2015
Regular Meeting @ 7:00 PM

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

Present: Mayor Stoy, Councilmembers Willie Basby, Gary Ates, Eric Bisher, Charles Cranford, Tommy Guyton and Andrew Lemmon.

Call to order by the Mayor. The invocation was given by Councilmember Basby followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilmember Eric Bisher.

Councilmember Basby made a motion and Councilmember Lemmon seconded the motion to adopt the agenda. Motion passed unanimously with all in favor. Councilmember Ates made a motion and Councilmember Basby seconded the motion to approve the September 8, 2015 City Council Work Session Meeting Minutes and Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion passed unanimously with all in favor.

Item # 1 – Presented by Mayor Mike Stoy

Proclamation for Pilot Club.

Mayor Stoy declared October 15, 2015 as Pilot Club Day. He presented the proclamation to Pilot Club President Vickie Cheek along with members Maureen Stoy and Lisa Chastain.

Item # 2 – Presented by City Manager Richard Newbern

Public hearing on solid waste collections.

Mr. Adam Cochran gave a presentation and showed video demonstrating the automatic side load garbage truck.

Item # 3 – Presented by City Manager Richard Newbern

Second Amendment to the exclusive contract for solid waste collection services between the City of Cochran and Advanced Disposal Services Macon, LLC. This 2nd amendment will save money since Advance can do this service more economically than the City of Cochran.

This will be a five year contract with Advanced. Residential cost will remain constant the first three years with the last two years increasing according to CPI. Contract will go into effect February 1, 2016. Councilman Basby made a motion and Councilman Lemmon seconded the motion to approve the amendment. Motion passed unanimously with all voting in favor.

Item # 4 – Presented by City Manager Richard Newbern

Louis Abbott will give a brief overview of insurance renewal rates. A premium summary was given to Council for review.

Item # 5 – Presented by City Manager Richard Newbern

Ordinance – 09-15; Adjust commercial garbage. The Mayor and Council of the City of Cochran have previously discussed applying a 1.7% cost of living increase to commercial customers on commercial garbage or dumpster rates. This will go into effect for commercial customers on October 15, 2015 or within 30 days. Councilmember Guyton made a motion and Councilmember Bisher seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 09-15 and to implement with a 30 day grace period. Councilmembers Basby, Ates and Lemmon opposed. Councilmember Cranford abstained. Mayor Mike Stoy voted to approve the ordinance. Ordinance 09-15 passed.

Item # 6 – Presented by City Manager Richard Newbern

Resolution 15-15; Proposal to raise the City of Cochran millage rate from 9.767 mills to 11.267 mills. The City needs to raise the millage rate to strengthen the general fund of the City of Cochran and reduce the general fund's reliance on the funds from the gas fund, the water and sewer fund and the solid waste fund. Councilmember Basby made a motion and Councilmember Guyton seconded the motion to approve Resolution 15-15. Motion passed unanimously with all voting in favor.

Item # 7 – Presented by Mayor Mike Stoy

Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Cochran and the Bleckley-Cochran Industrial Development Authority. The Bleckley-Cochran Industrial Development Authority is willing to undertake the responsibility of promoting the City of Cochran and will specifically assist the City of Cochran in seeking new industry for the City of Cochran, seeking new businesses for the City of Cochran and seeking new residents for the City of Cochran. Councilmember Bisher made a motion and Councilmember Ates seconded the motion to accept the MOU between the City of Cochran and the Bleckley-County Industrial Development Authority. Motion passed unanimously with all voting in favor.

Item # 8 – Presented by City Manager Richard Newbern

Ordinance -10-15; Automatic Adjustment Clause. To cover annual expenses, the City will automatically increase utility rates for the usage of water, sewer, natural gas and solid waste garbage services in accordance with any increase represented by the United States Social Security administration's annual cost of living adjustment (C.P.O.LA.). Such increase if any, will take effect on January 1st of each year. Annual automatic increases shall not exceed 4% in any given year, without the specific approval of the City Council of the City of Cochran. Council is requesting specifics on how this will be enforced. Councilmember Bisher made a motion and Councilmember Ates seconded the motion to table and send back for review. Motion passed unanimously with all voting in favor.

VIII. Mayor Updates

Mayor Stoy announced that the City is not involved in tearing down the old train depot located at the Bleckley County Primary School. This is being handled by the Bleckley County Board of Education.

IX. City Manager Discussion/Items/Updates

Department updates were distributed to all councilmembers. Fire Chief Kevin Noles gave an ISO update. Police Chief Chris Coley introduced Officers Shannon Roland and Sheldrick Hugley. Neighborhood Watch at the Happy Hill Community will have an informational meeting sometime in November.

City Engineer, Skip Layton gave an update on the water and sewer system.

Public Works Director, Jacob Daniels gave an update on road paving. Pine Street and 9th Street Terrace are scheduled for paving in 2016.

Council Comments:

Councilmember Tommy Guyton would like to have a vote concerning Council's pay. He does not agree that Council receive their pay if they do not attend meetings. City Manager Richard Newbern will investigate and bring information to November's meeting.

Councilmember Andrew Lemmon would like to change the name of John Conley Alley to John Conley Memorial Alley. City Manager Newbern will look into this.

Announcement of Upcoming Meetings and Events

Regularly Scheduled City Council Work Session Meeting–November 10, 2015 @ 6:00 pm
Regularly Scheduled City Council Meeting – November 10, 2015 @ 7:00 pm

Councilmember Ates made a motion and Councilmember Basby seconded the motion to go into Executive Session. Motion passed unanimously with all voting in favor.

Councilmember Bisher made a motion and Councilmember Ates seconded the motion to leave Executive Session. Motion passed unanimously with all voting in favor.

Councilmember Ates made a motion and Councilmember Basby seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously with all voting in favor.

Adjourn
9:45 pm

Lisa Chastain, City Clerk