



MINUTES
Cochran City Council
December 11, 2018
Regular Meeting @ 7:00 PM

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

Present: Mayor Billy Yeomans, Mayor Pro Tem Fleming Gilman,
Councilmembers Carla D Coley, Regina Gooch, Keith Anderson, Andrew Lemmon

Absent: Councilmember Jon Thrower

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

The invocation was given by Mayor Billy Yeomans followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Billy Yeomans.

Mayor Yeomans asked if any corrections or additions needed to be made to the December 11, 2018 agenda. Mayor Yeomans requested a motion to approve the December 11, 2018 Agenda. Councilmember Keith Anderson made the motion to approve agenda Mayor Pro Tem Fleming Gilman seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

Mayor Billy Yeomans asked if any corrections or additions needed to be made to November 13, 2018 minutes. Councilmember Coley stated the 90 miles needed to be changed to .9 miles for LMIG resurfacing. City Clerk, Tracy Jones stated she would make corrections on the minutes as requested. Councilmember Andrew Lemmon made the motion to accept the minutes and Councilmember Carla Coley seconded the motion. Motion was passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

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- 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

Recognition of the 8U All-star team District 1 Class C Football Champions. Mayor Yeomans spoke about the record the All-Star team and how proud everyone was of them. Chan Jones then followed up and spoke about the season and the great accomplishments the team made this year.

ITEM #2 – Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Introduction of Conner as a new Cochran Firefighter. Not available due to a fire call.

ITEM # 3- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Public Hearing and consideration on adoption of an Updated Zoning Map. Public Hearing was called to order at 7:08PM. The Zoning committee had a Public Hearing on Thursday, December 6 and they recommended City Council to begin the process of annexing eligible “island” or parcels of unincorporated parcels into the City. Mr. Ray Knighton expressed his concerns and the pros of zoning the parcels in. After Mr. Knighton spoke the Mayor asked if anyone else had any input for or against the zoning. James Pope from Regional Commission was present and gave his update on the zoning and what that would mean for the City of Cochran. Mayor Yeomans stated the public hearing was closed at 7:15PM.

ITEM # 4 - Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider adoption of Updated Zoning Map- Motion was made to approve zoning map but Councilmember Regina Gooch with Councilmember Carla Coley seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

ITEM # 5 - Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Presentation by Tony King of Springsted Financial on Water/Sewer Fund revenue/expenditure forecast Mr. Tony King presented a power point presentation on the Water/Sewer revenues and expenses. Springsted’s financial forecast shows the City will have to eventually consider rate increase to keep up with debt commitments, system maintenance and water/sewer funds to continue to support the General Fund.

ITEM # 6 - Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Presentation by Tony King of Springsted Financial on financial options for City Hall/Police Department improvements. Tony King described Springsted’s proposal on how borrowing funds to refurbish buildings for use of City Hall/Police Department might impact the City’s millage rate and debt status. Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Fleming Gilman and seconded by Councilmember Andrew Lemmon. Motion was passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

ITEM # 7 - Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider adoption Resolutions for GEFA Water and GEFA Sewer loan extensions. Skip Layton from Falcon Design was in attendance to explain the GEFA Water and Sewer loan extensions. Mr. Layton explained approval of the Resolutions would extend the \$2,572,50 GEFA Water loan to December 2019 and the \$2,500,000 GEFA sewer loan to January 2020. Motion was made by Councilmember Regina Gooch with Councilmember Keith Anderson seconding the motion. Motion was passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

ITEM #8 - Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider award of bid to The Renee Group, Inc. in the amount of \$1,345,262.50 to install sewer line/manhole improvements. This is being financed through the City’s GEFA sewer loan. Skip Layton also addressed the Council with the bid award of the Renee Group. Renee Group was the lowest bid at the bid opening on December 5, 2018. A total of 7 bids were turned in for this project. Motion was made to approve the Renee group for this project by Councilmember Andrew Lemmon with Mayor Pro Tem Fleming Gilman seconding the motion. Motion was passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

ITEM # 9- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider award of bid to Pyles Plumbing & Utility Contractors, Inc. to install water line improvements. This is being financed through the City's GEFA water loan. Skip Layton asked the Council to award the project to Pyles Plumbing and Utility Contractors, this will involve water line upgrades with valves and hydrants in areas of the City with substandard infrastructure. Motion was made to award bid to Pyles by Councilmember Carla Coley with Councilmember Andrew Lemmon seconding the motion. Motion was passed with all voting in favor. 5-0.

ITEM # 10- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider purchase of a GIS Data Collection System in the amount of \$12,769.90 from Geomax Corp, to be paid from water/sewer professional services. Public Works Director Willie Farrow explained to the Council this equipment is needed by the water/sewer employees to record their work locations into the on-going water/sewer infrastructure database. He also explained the staff would be trained to record every line, leak, tap, valve road-cut or any other work – item performed on the water/sewer system. This will allow the City to have an upgraded database of work performed as to date and location. Motion was made by Councilmember Andrew Lemmon and seconded by Councilmember Keith Anderson. Motion was passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

ITEM # 11- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider contracting with ECS Southeast consultants to perform a structural analysis of the Walgreen's building for possible use as a City facility. Police Chief Chris Coley explained the contract would be an analysis of the Walgreen's building to determine its suitability for use as a City facility, either as a Police Department or possibly City Hall. The \$2,800.00 can be paid from the \$15,000-line item for research of City Hall/Police Department improvements. Chief Coley stated this building would only be big enough for either City Hall or Police Department. Councilmember Andrew Lemmon asked if any other building was considered. Chief stated no other building was considered. Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Fleming Gilman & seconded by Councilmember Andrew Lemmon. Motion was passed with all voting in favor. 5-0.

ITEM # 12- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider adoption of capital thresholds for auditing purposes. Richard Newbern asked Council to approve capital thresholds, which this amount has been about \$1,000 for many years. This will streamline the City's auditing process and reduce the depreciation calculation on City assets. Mr. Newbern explained this was recommended by the City's consultants, Giddens & Bennet CPA. Motion was made by Councilmember Andrew Lemmon and seconded by Councilmember Keith Anderson. Motion n passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

ITEM # 13- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Adopt Holiday Calendar for Calendar Year 2019- Richard Newbern presented the Council with a list of holidays for the 2019 Calendar Year. The council reviewed the dates. Motion was made by Councilmember Keith Anderson with Councilmember Regina Gooch seconding the motion.

Motion was passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

ITEM # 14- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Discussion of Council Retreat Agenda scheduled for late January or early February 2019- City Clerk Tracy Jones gave the Council an update on the location and dates available for the 2019 Council Retreat. The Council agreed that January 24, 25 & 26 were adequate dates for the Council Retreat.

City Manager Discussion/Items/Updates

- CHIP application was sent in last week, hope will hear soon.
- Advertising Health benefits with the deadline of January 4, 2019.

Council Discussion Items-

Councilmember Carla Coley

- Mrs. Coley asked if the City audit was on schedule. Mr. Newbern stated there have been some issues in the past, but this year it improved with time lines that were set. It was also noted that the deadline of December 31, 2018 would not be met due to hardship extension granted for Hurricane Michael.
- Mrs. Coley asked when would Municode have the ordinances complete. Mr. Newbern stated the process was back and forth. They send proofs to City Hall and we look over them and send them back. Should not be much longer he stated.

Mayor Pro Tem Fleming Gilman stated he talked to Leo about the Charter and gave his legal advice on what the Council could do and couldn't do pertaining to the Charter.

Councilmember Regina Gooch – asked about the hiring of a Code Enforcement Officer. Mr. Newbern stated it was close to being wrapped up and he was in hopes of hiring someone soon. She also expressed all the good things she heard about the Christmas Parade and thanked City Clerk for her hard work.

Councilmember Keith Anderson – Thanked City Clerk for the hard work on the Christmas Parade.

VIII. Announcement of Upcoming Meetings and Events

- Work Session Prior to Council Meeting –January 8, 2019 @ 6:00 pm
 - Regularly Scheduled City Council Meeting – January 8, 2019 @ 7:00 pm

Public Comments (Please note that every individual who signs up to speak prior to the meeting will be given a total of five minutes to address the Mayor and Council.)

- ❖ Mary Pitts – Mrs. Mary stated the town needs more jobs and stores. She expressed her opinion about this town without grocery stores.

Mayor Yeomans called for a motion to adjourn.

Councilmember Carla Coley made the motion to adjourn and Councilmember Regina Gooch seconded the motion.

Motion passed with all in favor 5-0.

Adjourn @ 9:14PM

(SEAL)

Tracy B Jones
City Clerk