



**MINUTES
Cochran City Council
June 11, 2019
Regular Meeting @ 7 PM**

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

Present: Mayor Billy Yeomans

Councilmembers: Carla D Coley, Regina Gooch, Andrew Lemmon, Jimmy Jones Keith Anderson

Absent: Councilmember Mayor Pro Tem Jon Thrower

Call to order by Mayor Billy Yeomans @ 7:01PM

The invocation was given by Scott Cox, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by City Council.

Mayor Yeomans asked if any corrections or additions needed to be made to the June 11, 2019 Agenda. Mayor requested a motion to approve the June 11, 2019 Agenda. City Manager asked to add a Resolution to the Agenda for the Complete Count Committee. Councilmember Jones made the motion to accept the June 11, 2019 Agenda as stated with Councilmember Lemmon seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

Mayor Yeomans stated Council was provided a copy of the Special Called Meeting on April 23, 2019 minutes. He asked for any additions or corrections to April 23, 2019 minutes. City Clerk, Tracy B Jones, stated a change of a meeting date would be corrected. If no other corrections, Mayor asked for a motion to approve the minutes from April 23, 2019 Minutes. Councilmember Coley made the motion to approve the April 9, 2019 minutes with Councilmember Gooch seconded the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor 5-0. Council was provided a copy of the May 6, 2019 Special Called Meeting Minutes. Mayor asked for any corrections or questions concerning the minutes. If none, Mayor asked for a motion to adopt the minutes. Councilmember Jones made the motion to approve the minutes with Councilmember Gooch seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0. Council was provided a copy of the Regular Meeting, May 14, 2019. Mayor asked of any corrections or questions concerning the minutes. Councilmember Coley stated State Representative Danny Mathis name was misspelled and needed to be corrected. Mayor called for a motion to approve the minutes with the correction of the misspelled name. Councilmember Lemmon made the motion to approve the minutes with Councilmember Jones seconding the motion. Motion was 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

Public Hearing and consideration of amendments to City Charter.

Called to order at 7:05PM

Purpose of this Public Hearing is to amend City Charter changes.

Amendments to the City Charter was voted on May 14, 2019 and today June 9, 2019. Changes were published in the Cochran Journal for three consecutive weeks and also placed on Social Media. Following the Public Hearing the Council will vote and must receive 4 votes to pass, if 4 votes are not received, it will not pass. If it passes all changes will take effective immediately. Mayor Yeomans instructed if anyone in the audience desires to make a comment, to approach the podium and state the name and address. (Michael Stoy, 154 Whippoorwill Landing). Mr. Stoy stated his questions and concerns about the wording of supermajority. He asked for the Council to define for him the definition of a supermajority. He is concerned about the way it is used in several sections of the Charter. Councilmember Coley stated according the GMA definition it is a majority plus one. Councilmember Coley stated the Council was wanting to go back to the original GMA wording. An extensive conversation was held between Mr. Stoy and Council.

Mayor asked if anyone else wanted to address the Council with questions or concerns. No one responded.

Public Hearing closed at 7:23PM.

Mayor called for a motion approving the changes of the Cochran City Charter made on June 11, 2019. Councilmember Coley made the motion to amend the changes to the Cochran City Charter with Councilmember Anderson seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting stating yes in favor. 5-0

ITEM #2 – Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider approving Grant for DOT striping. The City received this opportunity from the GDOT. The Council is asked to accept the grant and approve the 10% match of \$5,000.00 and authorize the Mayor and Staff to execute the needed documents to proceed with the grant projects. The match will come from the TSPLOST account. The striping funds can be used on city roads lacking striping without the need of resurfacing in the next three years. Public Works Director, Willie Farrow, explained the reason for the list of the roads that have never been striped before. Mayor called for a motion to approve the grant for GADOT striping. Councilmember Anderson made the motion to approve the striping grant from GADOT with Councilmember Gooch seconding. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

ITEM # 3- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider approving two voting delegates for the Annual GMA Business Meeting at the 2019 Convention held in Savannah, GA June 21-25. Council is asked to appoint a voting delegate and an alternate to vote on the behalf of the City of Cochran in the GMA Business Meeting. Mayor called for a motion to approve two voting delegates for the 2019 GMA Business Meeting in Savannah, GA. Councilmember Gooch made a motion nominating Councilmember Coley and the alternate Mayor Pro Tem Thrower. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5

ITEM # 4 - Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider FY 2019-2020 Budget Adoption. Mr. Newbern stated the council was asked to adopt the 2019-2020 City budget by city resolution and City ordinance. The adoption date has been advertised of June 11, 2019 as the date the council will consider adopting the budget with a public hearing as well on June 4, 2019. Minor changing has been made but also noted. \$10,900.00 was added for property tax software for the Clerk's office. Mayor called for a motion to accept the FY 2019-2020 Budget adoption. Councilmember Jones made the motion to adopt the resolution accepting the 2019-2020 budget with Councilmember Lemmon seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0.

ITEM # 5 - Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Discussion by Dr. Mike Stoy concerning Cochran Bleckley Census Complete Count Committee Mr. Stoy explained to the Council about the 2020 Census that begins on April 1, 2020 and how important it is to participate. This survey will be conducted by internet and door to door. It is crucial for everyone to participate because the ones who do not, effects our revenue for the city and county. This census will establish the next ten years of representation in the House of Representatives. The committee is looking for the Council to approve the resolution in order for work to begin. Mayor called for a motion to approve a joint resolution with the Commissioner of Bleckley County and the Mayor and the Council of Cochran to create the Cochran Bleckley local complete count committee for the upcoming 2020 census. Councilmember Gooch made the motion to approve the joint resolution with the County to create the Cochran Bleckley Local Complete Count Committee for the 2020 Census with Councilmember Lemmon seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

ITEM # 6 - Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider LMIG amendment. Consider LMIG amendment- Mr. Newbern stated this is the Local Maintenance Investment Grant through GADOT. This is a formal grant that is provided to cities and counties across the state based on road mileage. We have approximately 55 miles of city roads in the City of Cochran which qualifies us for \$ 94, 845.00 in LMIG grants. We had a LMIG project listing for resurfacing which was developed and approved by Council. We have determined the state will resurface Palm Street from Oak Street to Maple Street which is funded through the TSPOLST fund. Therefore, Palm will not be on the LMIG list, so those funds totaling to \$23,000.00 of the \$94,000.00 package will be ear marked to several other roads under the LMIG project. The Council is asked to consider recognizing Palm street will be paid for by the state monies that were originally allocated by Palm Street can be spent on the five lanes that is listed on the LMIG list. Councilmember Coley expressed her concerns about the draining of the alley ways. Mr. Farrow reassured Councilmember Coley that the state would take care of any drain issues she may have. Mayor called for a motion to amend the LMIG listing. Councilmember Jones made the motion to amend the LMIG listing with Councilmember Anderson seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

ITEM # 7- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider Zoning Board Appointment. Consider Zoning board appointment – Mr. Newbern stated there was a vacancy on the Zoning Committee. Mayor asked for nominations. Council didn't have any at this time.

City Manager asked Skip Layton to give an update on the railroad project and other projects currently in progress in the City. Skip gave an update on the current GEFA, CDBG and Railroad projects that are active or potentially will become active in the near future.

City Manager Discussion/Items/Updates:

- Ordinance Codification – Ordinances are under review by Department Heads and City Attorney
- DDA Training Session was held on May 25, 2019 DDA members were certified
- Budget that was approved tonight does include the DDA Director Position.
- June 20, 2019 @ 4PM - GICH Committee meeting
- Peyton Williams Center – OFTC Approached the City with some way to save on their utilities.
- Administrative Office will be closed Thursday, July 4 to observe Independence Day

Mayor –

Mayor dismissed the committee he appointed to replace Councilmember Gilman which included Councilmember Gooch, Lemmon and Mayor Pro Tem Thrower.

Mayor dismissed the committee he appointed to Charter Change Committee which included Councilmember Lemmon, Coley and Anderson.

Council Discussion Items:

- Lemmon – Nothing
- Jones – Nothing
- Anderson – Nothing
- Gooch- Nothing
- Coley – DDA is a good functioning group with a new member Diana Itson.

Announcement of Upcoming Meeting and Events

- ✓ **Work Session Prior to Council Meeting August 13, 2019 @ 5:30PM**
- ✓ **Regularly Scheduled City Council Meeting – August 13, 2019 @ 7PM**

Public Comments

- ❖ Dr. Mike Stoy – Expressed his concerns about the Fire Fee and he suggested the Council to consider consolidation between the City and County.
- ❖ Mr. John Ricks – Expressed his concerns about the Cotton/Peanut Museum and the upkeep of it.
- ❖ Ms. Ethyl King – Expressed her concerns about the Recreation Department and Voting Machines for the City.
- ❖ Mrs. Josette Scott -Expressed her concerns about the Recreation Department. Chamber, IDA and Wayne Sapp Service Station downtown.

Mayor asked for a motion to go into Executive Session. Councilmember Lemmon made the motion with Councilmembers Jones seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0 @ 8:38PM

Went into Executive Session at 8:47 PM

Came out of Executive Session at 9:30 PM (Motion made by Councilmember Lemon 2nd by Councilmember Coley.)

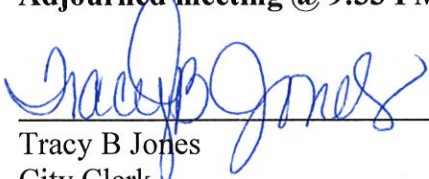
Went back into Regular Session at 9:31PM

Councilmember Coley made a motion to accept the letter City Manager will prepare for Mr. Bachelor with certain criteria completed in phases and at any point he does not meet the deadlines; the building will be torn down without further discussion with Councilmember Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor 3-2.

City Manager, Richard Newbern stated he understood for the Council's vote is going back to Court Order and he will send the letter to Bachelor with stipulations.

Councilmember Lemmon made the motion to adjourn with Councilmember Jones seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor 5-0.

Adjourned meeting @ 9:33 PM



Tracy B Jones
City Clerk

