



MINUTES
Cochran City Council
January 14, 2020
Regular Scheduled Meeting @ 7PM

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

Present: Mayor Billy Yeomans Mayor Pro Tem Jones
Councilmembers: Carla D Coley, Andrew Lemmon, Rufus Veal, Keith Anderson, Gary Ates

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

The invocation was given by Councilmember Ates, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilmember Anderson.

Mayor Yeomans asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. Mayor stated #8 to be moved to the February meeting and replace it with the discussion of the CHIP lottery drawing. Mayor Yeomans asked for a motion to adopt the January 14, 2020 Agenda. Councilmember Ates made the motion to adopt the agenda with Councilman Lemmon seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 6-0

Mayor Yeomans asked for any additions or corrections to the December 10, 2019 minutes. Mayor asked for a motion to accept the minutes from December 10, 2019. Councilmember Jones made the motion to approve the December 10, 2019 minutes with Councilmember Ates seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 6-0.

- 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

Presentation of Mayor- Mayor Yeomans presented a plaque to Mrs. Jossett Scott for 31 years of business in the City of Cochran. The plaque was for appreciation for the contribution to the City of Cochran.

ITEM #2 – Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Introduction of new Firefighter Jasmine Rullan-Munson by Fire Chief Brock Wilcher. Chief Wilcher announced the newly hired Full time Fire Fighter Jasmine Rullan Munson to the Council.

ITEM # 3- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Recognition of the City Employee of the Month---- Public Works Department. Public Works Director Willie Farrow nominated William “Tiger” Odom as the employee of the month. He presented him with a check for \$100, a subway gift card and a certificate of appreciation.

ITEM # 4 - Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Election of Mayor Pro Tem. Mayor asked for nominations for the Mayor Pro Tem for 2020. Council member Jimmy Jones was nominated to serve as the 2020 Mayor Pro Tem. Councilmember Lemmon made the motion with Councilmember Anderson seconding the motion. Motion passed 5-1. 5 voted yes (Veal, Coley, Anderson, Jones, Lemmon) – 1 didn’t vote (Ates).

ITEM # 5 - Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Public Hearing and consideration of amending Section 66:79 of the Zoning Ordinance to add hair salons as a conditional use in R-1 zoning districts.

Call Public Hearing to order @ 7:18PM

Public Hearing is to provide any interested party with an opportunity to express their views or concerns in accordance with the appropriate section of the O. C. G A. Council was asked to consider the amendment section 66:79 of the existing zoning ordinance to add hair salons as a conditional use in R-1 Zoning District. If Council approves Hair salons as a conditional use in an R-1 District, the homeowner could open hair salons by getting a conditional use permit. Cochran Zoning Committee met Thursday, January 9, 2019 and held a Public Hearing on this proposed amendment. Zoning Board voted to recommend approval. Mayor asked for public input for or against the item. None. Public Hearing was closed at 7:22 PM.

Mayor asked for a motion from the Council. Councilmember Jones made the motion to amend section 66:79 with Councilmember Lemmon seconded the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 6-0

ITEM # 6 - Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Public Hearing and consideration of a conditional use application by Ms. McPhaul to operate a hair salon at 208 South Second Street in an R-1 Zoning District.

Call Public Hearing to order @ 7:25PM

Public Hearing is to provide any interested party with an opportunity to express their views or concerns in accordance with the appropriate section of the O. C. G A. Council was asked to consider a conditional use application by Sandra McPhaul to operate a hair salon on an R-1 zoning parcel located at 206 South Second Street. This hair salon is known as Mix Hair Salon. Mayor asked for public input for or against the item. None.

Public Hearing Closed at 7:31PM.

Mayor asked for a motion to approve the application for Conditional use. Mayor Pro Tem Jones made the motion to approve the application with Councilmember Ates seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 6-0.

ITEM # 7- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Public Hearing and consideration of a rezoning application to rezone 1.48 acres of property fronting at 182 East Dykes Street from R-1 residential to C-2 roadside commercial.

Mayor called Public Hearing to order at 7:29PM

Public Hearing is to provide any interested party with an opportunity to express their views or concerns in accordance with the appropriate section of the O. C. G A. Council was asked to consider to rezone a 1.48 acre track @ 182 East Dykes Street from R 1 Residential to C 2 Roadside commercial. This property is owned by Rene Cannon.

Mayor called for any public input at this time. None.

Public Hearing closed at 7:31PM.

Mayor called for a motion. Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Jones to approve the changes from the R 1 to C 2 with Councilmember Ates seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 6-0.

ITEM #8- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Discussion for CHIP lottery drawing.

Mr. Richard Newbern stated this was discussed in work session. In accordance with the CHIP program by DCA for homeowners in the area which are eligible can apply for rehabilitation. Mr. Newbern explained the steps of how the ones chosen would be picked. Mayor called for a motion to approve the process of selecting the individuals eligible.

Councilmember Anderson made the motion to approve the process with Councilmember Ates seconding. Motion was passed with all voting in favor.

5 Yes (Coley, Anderson, Ates, Jones, Lemmon) Did not vote (Veal)

ITEM # 9- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider making the west segment of State Bank Lane alley a “one-way” street segment. Mr. Newbern asked Interim Chief Trawick to explain. Snow’s Asian Grill opened the drive through at this location. The council was asked to put one-way signs and enforce traffic requirements. Councilmember Anderson made the motion to allow the State bank Lane to become one-way street with Councilmember Lemmon seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 6-0

ITEM # 10- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Discuss and consider Retreat Agenda and time for Council Retreat tentatively scheduled for Thursday, February 20, Friday, February 21, and Saturday morning, Feb. 22. Mr. Newbern stated for the Council to review the retreat agenda that was given in packet. Council is asked to formally approve this agenda and the location. Councilmember Ates made the motion to approve the dates of February 13,14,15 and location with Councilmember Anderson seconding the motion. Motion passed with all in favor 6-0.

ITEM # 11- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider adopting a Budget Calendar for 2020. Mr. Newbern stated a proposed budget calendar was distributed to Council. The purpose of the budget calendar is to organize work on the budget and provide the Council time for Public input prior to the budget adoption on, Tuesday, June 9, 2020. Mayor Pro Tem Jones made the motion to approve the calendar with Councilmember Ates seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 6-0

ITEM #12- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider approval of ordinance updating Utility Service Policy- Mr. Newbern started off explaining the City Attorney drew up a City Ordinance for Council to approve. City Clerk explained the changes in the utility services for non-payment. Councilmember Coley asked if customers were being notified prior to this policy taken into effect. City Clerk, Tracy B Jones explained the procedures that are followed each month. Mayor Pro Tem Jones made the motion to pass the ordinance with Councilmember Lemmon seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 6-0

ITEM # 13- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider approving proposed Landscaping Ordinance- Mr. Newbern read the ordinance which Skip Layton helped draft the landscaping ordinance. This ordinance would establish minimum quality standards for new developments. Mr. Layton stated this would do the City justice due to this ordinance would hold businesses to standards. Mayor Yeomans allowed Mr. Joe Meadows to speak on this item. He expressed his views

against this ordinance. Councilmember Coley expressed her feelings on how it makes the City look better. Councilmember Ates expressed his concerns and views against this ordinance. Chris Coley spoke on his views in favor of this ordinance. Mayor called for motion to approve landscaping ordinance. Councilmember Lemmon made the motion to approve the landscaping ordinance with Councilmember Coley seconding the motion. Coley and Lemmon stated (I) Veal, Anderson, Ates, Jones (Nae). Motion Failed

ITEM # 14- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider approving Ordinance concerning the clean-up of vacant properties. The Council discussed this at the December 2019 work session. This ordinance sets forth procedures and fees for City staff to follow to get debris and trash picked up on vacant properties. Mayor called for motion to approve the ordinance to clean up vacant properties. Councilmember Anderson made the motion to approve the ordinance with Mayor Pro Tem Jones seconding the motion. Motion passed 5-1. Veal (No) Coley, Anderson, Ates, Jones, Lemmon (Yes)

ITEM # 15- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider contract extension/amendment for City Manager. This item was discussed in executive session. Councilmember Coley made the motion to extend Mr. Newbern's contract with Councilmember Ates seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor 6-0.

City Manager Discussion/Items/Updates:

- ❖ City Hall Closed MLK Day
- ❖ GICH Planning Retreat February 26/27
- ❖ Census Committee Meeting
- ❖ Annual Chamber Banquet February 7, 2020

- ❖ Andy Lucas spoke on the new development at the Middle GA Plaza with a grocery store.

Council Discussion Items:

- Lemmon – None
- Jones – Thanked Public Works Department
- Coley – None
- Anderson – Happy New Year and Welcome New Councilmembers
- Veal – None
- Ates – None

Announcement of Upcoming Meeting and Events

- ✓ Work Session Prior to Council Meeting February 7, 2020 @ 5:30PM
- ✓ Regularly Scheduled City Council Meeting –February 7, 2020 @ 7PM

Public Comments

- Mike Stoy – Expressed his opinion on consolidation and Fire fee
- Edwin Peacock – 244 Crest Drive – Thanked the Council for listening to him and his heart.
- Patrick Taylor- Expressed his concerns due to the hardship that was signed and the issues that happen between him and the City with the movement of his mobile home.

Meeting adjourned to go into executive session @ 9PM (Motion made by Ates 2nd Lemmon) (6-0)

Went into executive session @ 9:24PM

Come out of executive session @ 10:09PM (Motion made by Ates 2nd Veal) (6-0)

Back into regular session @ 10:10PM (Motion made by Ates 2nd Coley) (6-0)

Adjourned @ 10:12PM (Motion made by Jones 2nd by Ates) (6-0)

(SEAL)

Tracy B Jones
City Clerk