

## MINUTES OF THE 04/14/2009 REGULAR MEETING

City Council met in Regular Session on April 14, 2009 with Mayor Edward E. Towns presiding and the following Aldermen were present: David Sawyer, Leo Mullis, Willie Basby, and Eric Bisher. Absent were Aldermen Charles Cranford and Gary Ates.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Alderman Willie Basby.

Minutes of the 03/10/2009 regular meeting were read by City Clerk Matt Turknett. Motion by Alderman Basby seconded by Alderman Mullis to approve minutes as read with the following corrections: (1) paragraph #6 on page one is redundant and needs removal; (2) correction of spelling of the word "officer" in last sentence of page one. Motion carried.

The possible purchase of an electronic radio meter reading system from Accu-Flo Meter & Brass Inc. at a cost of \$680,000.00 was discussed by Mayor and Council. Mayor Towns and Council delayed making a decision until more information could be obtained.

An Amendment to Ordinance 84-2 rezoning property of Citizens Bank of Cochran from R-2 to R-2 conditional zoning was introduced by Alderman Bisher seconded by Alderman Sawyer. Upon polling Council and the vote being unanimous, Mayor Towns declared Ordinance adopted.

A motion was made by Alderman Basby seconded by Alderman Bisher to give funding to the newly formed Cochran Municipal Airport Authority in the amount of ten thousand (\$10,000.00) dollars upon the recommendation of Mayor Towns. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Sawyer seconded by Alderman Basby for the Cochran Police Department to apply for a COPS Grant in the amount of \$389,000. This money would be used for the hiring of three (3) additional police officers for a period of three (3) years. Motion carried.

All council members were urged to attend the Georgia Municipal Association's Spring Listening Session. The session for District 9 will be held on April 30, 2009 from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. at the Vidalia Community Center in Vidalia, Georgia.

There was a discussion of closing Pace Alley and Leach Lane. City Clerk Matt Turknett was to meet with the city attorney and present at the next regularly scheduled council meeting.

A Resolution was introduced by Alderman Sawyer seconded by Alderman Basby to appoint Mayor Edward E. Towns to serve as the City of Cochran's voting delegate on the Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia's Election Committee, with authority to cast all votes on behalf of the city. Mayor Pro Tem, Eric Bisher, was appointed as alternate

voting delegate. Upon polling council and the vote being unanimous, Mayor Towns declared said resolution adopted.

Mr. John Ricks, Program Director of the Cochran Better Hometown, appeared before Council to inform them of an Antique Car Show to be held April 25, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church.

Alderman Leo Mullis discussed the problem of infiltration on Ann & Peacock Street.

Alderman Willie Basby thanked the city for the tearing down of several vacant, dilapidated old homes . He also commended the Middle Georgia College Police Department for their assistance to the Cochran Police Department with recent problems.

Alderman Sawyer inquired as to the status of the issue of a shared grant writer with the county. He also requested that Council be informed of major city purchases, especially vehicles, when purchase is made or the item is acquired so as to have correct information for citizens when asked.

A motion was made by Alderman Bisher seconded by Alderman Sawyer to hold a budget retreat for Mayor, Council, and city department heads on May 5 & 6, 2009 at the Little Ocmulgee State Park in McRae. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Sawyer seconded by Alderman Bisher to adjourn meeting. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

  
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Matt Turknett, City Clerk

City of Cochran

