



DRAFT

MINUTES
Cochran City Council
Tuesday, March 14, 2017
Regular Meeting @ 7:00 PM

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

Present: Mayor Gary Ates, Councilmembers Regina Gooch, Jon Thrower, Charles Cranford, and Fleming Gilman.

Absent: Mayor Pro Tem Andrew Lemmon

Call to order by Mayor Ates. The invocation was given by Mayor Ates followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilmember Thrower.

Mayor Gary Ates made a motion and Councilmember Thrower seconded the motion to approve the Agenda and the minutes. Motion passed unanimously with all voting in favor.

Agenda Items

Item # 1 – Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider appointment of a Council Member to serve the remainder of the term for District 1 seat. Term expires on December 31, 2017. The nomination was made and the individual was asked to conduct a background check. Councilmember Gilman asked why a letter was included instead of the background check. Chief Chris Coley stated by law he was not allowed to give the original background check. Councilmember Regina Gooch made a motion to fill District 1 seat with Keith Anderson. Councilmember John Thrower second motion. Not all of council was in favor. Motion dead.

Item #2 – Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider approving Crack Seal and WASA tower grant for Airport. Consider adopting a Resolution of approval for a contract with GEORGIA DOT to install an AWOS tower at the Cochran Airport and to perform crack seal and remarking of Runway 11-29. This is \$ 151,115 project that will be paid 90% by the federal government, 5% by Georgia DOT, and 5% by local share. The federal share is funded by FFA, and is \$143,559 of the \$151,115 total. The GA DOT share is \$7,556, and the local share is \$7,556. The City's contribution to the local share will be \$3,778, and the Airport Authority will contribute \$3,778. Councilmember John Thrower made the motion to approve contract with GA DOT. Councilmember Gilman second the motion. Motion was passed with all in favor.

Item # 3 – Presented by Mathew White-City logo

Mr. Matt White, the Middle Georgia State University senior who introduced the new Cochran logo called "Your Southern Home" to the Council at the Retreat, presented to the Council he would like clarification on colors to use with the new logo called "Your Southern Home". He showed 10 different

options. Council decided on Purple Red and Green. Councilmember Regina Gooch made a motion and Councilmember John Thrower second. Motion a passed unanimously all voting in favor.

Item # 4 – Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider approving an allocation of \$73,000 from Water and Sewer Fund to help finance a \$142,000 sewer replacement in the back of Subway to improve sewer services in the Ann St./Lewis St. CDBG target area. The project will replace an eight (8”) inch 160-foot-long sewer service line with a ten (10”) sewer line. Project will be performed by Insituform Contractor’s, the City’s CDBG contractor. This project will complete the City’s 2014 CDBG project that has improved sewer services in the Ann Street, Seventh Street and Lewis Street target area. The upgrade of the sewer line from the eighth (8”) into a ten (10”) inch-wide line will improve sewer service for the target area. This project will be funded with \$69,000 in CDBG federal funds and \$73m,000 from the water and sewer fund, for a total estimated project cost of \$142,000. Councilmember John Thrower made a motion and Councilmember Regina Gooch second. Motion was passed unanimously with all voting in favor.

Item # 5 – Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider allocating up to \$75,000 from the SPOLST Roads account to include repair of the Peacock St. drainage pipe in the Peter St. and Porter Road Drainage improvement projects. These three projects will be bid together as one City Drainage Project. The Peter St and Porter Roads Drainage Projects have an estimated total cost of \$93,000 which the Council has previously approved to finance from FY 2016-17 LMIG Funds. The Peacock Street Drainage project is an additional project that the Council has not approved yet. This project is in front of the hospital and will cost an estimated \$75,000 if a box culvert is installed. The Council is asked to approve an allocation of \$75,000 from the Road SPOLST find to finance the Peacock Street project and to proceed with bidding the Peter, Porter and Peacock drainage [projects together to attract competitive bids. Skip Layton, City Engineer explained the different size of pipes and how it will fix the problem. Councilmember Gilma stated there was a lot of drainage problems in that area. Councilmember John Thrower made the motion and Councilmember Cranford second. The motion passed with all in favor.

Item # 6 – Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider appointment of city Clerk. Richard Newbern recommended to the City Council that Mrs. Tracy Jones. Currently the City ‘s Finance Administrator/Interim Clerk, be appointed to the position of City Clerk. Councilmember Gilman made the motion and Councilmember Cranford second. Motion was passed with all voting in favor.

Item # 8 – Report from Chamber President Nicole ward – Chamber of Commerce and IDA activities

Mrs. Ward passed out handout to all Councilmember and talked briefly on the Cochran-Bleckley Industrial Development Authority and the progress they have made. Also, she gave an update on the events that have been successful in Cochran since November 2016. Upcoming Events are Chamber Board Meeting (3/15/17 12 @MGC) and IDA Board Meeting (3/21/2014 8AM @Chamber.

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.)

- Sarah Gilmore- She stated she was upset due to her car being towed February 23, 2017 by Willie Farrow - City's Code Enforcement. She stated Monday she called the Housing Authority and they told her it was ok to leave her car there. Monday, she stated her car was towed and she had to pay to get her car back. She was upset and explained more cars than her car has been sitting in the yard. She also told Council she went to City Hall and spoke with City Manager Richard Newbern about the situation. The following day she went and spoke with Mr. Martin at Housing Authority. She said the City of Cochran had her car towed. Willie Farrow explained the policy he follows in a case such as cars sitting in yards unable to operate. Willie talked to Keith Martin at HA and Willie Farrow not to get involved and City of Cochran was not the one who had Mrs. Gilman's car towed.
- Jessie Lawson of 139 MLK Drive stated his walls are cracked and windows are broken due to the loud sonic boom from the jets from WRAFB. Richard Newbern stated he would contact WRAFB to see what can be done.
- Mrs. Munford stated she was having trouble with the train and it rattles everything.
- Mrs. Pitts asked when City of Cochran would start spraying for mosquitos. She stated she was having a lot

Department updates.

City Clerk, Tracy Jones, Thanked the Council for appointing her as City Clerk. She also gave an update on the registration for the GMA conference in Savannah GA, in June.

Police Chief Chris – Gave update on TRIPP program.

Willie Farrow- Code Enforcement – Gave a brief update on the Peyton Williams project. He has stripped the basketball court and the backboards are ordered. Will have ribbon cutting as soon as the project is completed.

Councilmember Thrower made a motion and Councilmember Gilman seconded the motion to go into Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously with all voting in favor.

Councilmember Thrower made a motion and Councilmember Cranford seconded the motion to come out of Executive Session and enter Regular Session. The motion passed unanimously with all voting in favor.

Councilmember Gilman made a motion to adjourn and Councilmember Gooch seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously with all voting in favor.

Adjourn @ 10:45 pm

(Seal)

Tracy B Jones, City Clerk