



MINUTES
Cochran City Council
February 13, 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 Regina Gooch, Keith Anderson, Robert Anderson, Andrew Lemmon & 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 Councilmember Jon Thrower.

Councilmember Andrew Lemmon made the motion and Mayor Pro Tem Fleming Gilman seconded the motion to approve the Agenda for Tuesday, February 13, 2018. Motion passed unanimously with all voting in favor.

Mayor Billy Yeomans asked if any corrections or additions needed to be made to the minutes for January 9, 2018. No corrections or additions were added. Councilmember Robert Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes from Tuesday, January 9, 2018 meeting. Councilmember Andrew Lemmon seconded the motion. Motion was passed with a show of right hands. 6-0

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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

Presentation from Jonathan Shaw from Shaw Hankins Insurance Company
Jonathan Shaw brought forth a presentation to Council pertaining to insurance for city employees. Mr. Shaw stated the pros and cons of changing insurance companies. He stated Cigna gave a better rate and incentive. The Council was not sure this was the most efficient way to go. After some deliberation, the Council decided to table this motion due to lack of information. Councilmember Jon Thrower made the motion to keep BCBS Insurance and to change dental insurance to Amenities. Councilmember Andrew Lemmon seconded the motion. All in favor of the vote passing by raising of right hand. Motion passed 6-0.

ITEM #2 – Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Presentation from James Pope Regional Commission for City Zoning Ordinance. Mr. Pope gave a brief update on the Regional Commission Zoning. He gave the rezoning trends in zoning and the changes. Mr. Newbern invited Mr. Pope to the next Zoning board meeting on March 3, 2018.

ITEM # 3- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider setting date for “Clean Up Day”. Richard stated can be Saturday April, 21, 2018. He stated the chamber of Commerce would help along with local businesses and Clubs. Mr. Newbern read the resolution for the National Clean Up Day. Councilmember Jon Thrower made the motion to make Clean Up Day April 21, 2018 with Councilmember Keith Anderson seconding the motion. All in favor of the vote passing by raising of right hand. Motion passed 6-0.

ITEM # 4 - Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider approval of SPLOST referendum projects. Moved to Executive Session

ITEM # 5 - Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider appointment of representative for Regional Commission Board. Mr. Richard Newbern stated Brett Manning from Regional Commission has requested the City of Cochran to appoint a member of the Council to be the representative at the Regional Commission Board meetings. Councilmember Jon Thrower made the motion to appoint The City Mayor as the Regional Commission Board Representative for the City with Councilmember Regina Gooch seconding the motion. All in favor of the vote passing by raising of right hand.

Motion passed 6-0

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.)

- Mike Stoy- Mr. Stoy approached the podium and stated he wanted to read a letter he intended to place in the Cochran Journal under the Letter to the Editor section. After reading the letter, he gave a copy to the City Clerk, Tracy Jones to distribute to Council.
- Sandra Marshall – Mrs. Marshall thanked Police Chief Chris Coley concerning the situation of loud music and him taking care of it. She stated there was more work to do in that area, but it was a start.
- Mary Pitts – Mrs. Pitts questioned about jobs coming to Cochran. Mayor Yeomans stated he attended the IDA meetings and no discussion on jobs coming at this time. She also inquired about a park for the children. Mayor Yeomans stated that was not in the plans but it will be taken in consideration.

VIII. City Manager Discussion/Items/Updates

- ❖ City Manager distributed monthly reports.
- ❖ A budget calendar – mandated by charter to distribute to Council
- ❖ Working on Strategic plan
- ❖ Possible hearing in May to discuss budget
- ❖ GICH Retreat Pine Mountain February 21-23 Callaway Gardens
- ❖ Norfolk Southern Railroad- Wanting to close 2 roads Council will be asked to decide at the March 13, 2018 meeting

IX. Mayor Updates

- Mayor Yeomans thanked each Councilmember for doing a great job in getting work done at the Retreat in McRae.

POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE:

Monthly report was provided in the packets that were handed out earlier in the week. Chief Coley asked if anyone had questions, he would be glad to answer. He gave a brief summary on the Biking Bleckley event that is scheduled to take place.

FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE:

Fire Chief Kevin Noles stated the monthly report was delivered to earlier in the week in the packets. He asked for any questions and stated he would be happy to answer. He stated The Fire Department were selling tickets for Spaghetti Plates at Biking Bleckley. The tickets are \$8.00 and plates were to be picked up on February 23 behind the Chamber of Commerce.

PUBLIC WORKS UPDATES: None

CITY CLERK UPDATES: Mrs. Jones stated she has attended training to get her Clerks Certification and will continue her education farther to receive her Masters.

CODE ENFORCEMENT UPDATE:

Willie Farrow stated Cochran was approved for the Scrap tire project. This will be reimbursed by EPA and he gave brief summary of the project.

SKIP LAYTON UPDATES:

Skip Layton, City Engineer, provided Council with a monthly report on projects going on at this time. GEFA CWSRF 15-002, GEFA DWSRF 15-019, DWSRF 15-009, CDBG 2015, CDBG 2016, Cochran/Bleckley Recreation Complex, & Cochran Storm Drainage Improvements.

There were no other department updates.

X. Council Discussion Items

XI. Announcement of Upcoming Meetings and Events

- GICH Meeting Tuesday March 6, 2018 @ 10 AM City Hall
- Zoning Committee Meeting Thursday March 8, 2018 Community House
- Work Session March 13, 2018 @ 6:00 pm
- Regularly Scheduled City Council Meeting – March 13, 2018 @ 7:00 pm

Councilmember Thrower made the motion to adjourn and Councilmember Keith Anderson seconded the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor.

Adjourn @ 8:07.

(SEAL)

Tracy B Jones
City Clerk