



**MINUTES  
Cochran City Council  
October 9, 2018  
Regular Meeting @ 7:00 PM**

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

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Present: Mayor Billy Yeomans, Mayor Pro Tem Fleming Gilman, Councilmembers Regina Gooch, Keith Anderson, Andrew Lemmon & Jon Thrower

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

The invocation was given by Councilmember Keith Anderson followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilmember Jon Thrower.

All Members were present

Mayor Yeomans asked if any corrections or additions needed to be made to the October 9, 2018 agenda. Mayor Yeomans requested a motion to approve the October 9, 2018 Agenda. Councilmember Andrew Lemmon made the motion to approve agenda Councilmember Regina Gooch seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0 Mayor asked for a motion to move Item #4 to next meeting on Tuesday, November 13, 2018. Councilmember Andrew Lemmon made the motion and Mayor Pro Tem Fleming Gilman seconded the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

Mayor Billy Yeomans asked if any corrections or additions needed to be made to the September 13, 2018 minutes. No corrections or additions were mentioned. Minutes were approved by Mayor Billy Yeomans.

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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**

Grant recognition-\$5,000 Police Department. A check was presented to the Cochran Police Department in the amount of \$5,000 from the Oconee EMC Foundation, Inc, from Dublin GA. The funds are to be used for a Patrol Car Mobile Video Camera System. Alexis Hughes presented the check to Police Chief Chris Coley.

### **ITEM #2 – Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern**

Recognition of Police Officer Tracy Hernandez. Police Chief Chris Coley recognized Officer Tracy Hernandez for her contribution to the Police Department and her community. He also spoke about the new Police Car graphics which support Breast Cancer.

### **ITEM # 3- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern**

Consider approving GDOT contract for cost associated with the engineering design for a 10 Unit T- hanger and DBE update FY 2018-2020 at the Cochran Municipal Airport. The T-Hanger will allow the Airport to rent- out plane space to area aviators. This grant is for the design only. Richard explained the T hanger will make the airport more accommodating to pilots and increase rental revenue. Councilmember Jon Thrower made the motion to accept the contract with GDOT with Councilmember Keith Anderson seconded the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

### **ITEM # 4 - Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern**

Consider contracting with an Insurance Brokerage firm for the provision of insurance services for FY 2018-19. This item was moved to following meeting on Tuesday, November 13, 2018. Motion was made Councilmember Andrew Lemmon with Mayor Pro Tem seconding the motion in the opening of the meeting.

### **ITEM # 5 - Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern**

Consider award of bid on sewer jetter machine to be funded with GEFA sewer funds. Richard explained to Council the City bid out the sewer jetter machine and received four (4) bids from dealers. This jetter machine is funded through the GEFA loan/grant program. Public Works Director Willie Farrow briefly went over the specs of the machine following the bid amounts. Mr. Farrow stated the City conducted on -site demos of all equipment. The City staff is recommending the sewer jetter machine to be purchased from P & H Supply. Motion was made by Councilmember Jon Thrower and seconded by Councilmember Regina Gooch to purchase jetter machine from P & H Supply. Motion was passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

### **ITEM # 6 - Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern**

Consider approving a loan to cover capital expenses at the Recreation Complex. The loan would be repaid with upcoming SPLOST funds. Mr. Newbern explained the Council is asked to authorize the preparation of a loan document, so the Recreation Commission can be provided with \$72,500 in anticipated City SPOLST revenues. The Recreation Commission can not borrow money, so they are asking the City and County to borrow funds to be paid back from SPLOST proceeds. Mr. Chan Jones spoke to the Council and asked them to consider approving this transaction. He stated he was awaiting an answer from Mr. Brockman with the County. The Recreation Commission asked the County as well as the City to participate together for the purpose of borrowing the money. Motion was made by Councilman Jon Thrower and seconded by Councilmember Regina Gooch to borrow the money in contingents that the County agrees as well. Motion was passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

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**ITEM # 7 - Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern**

Consider making appointment to the Tessie W. Norris/Cochran-Bleckley Library Board of Trustees to cover period from July 1,2018 until June 30,2022. Mayor Billy Yeomans explained to the Council the seat has expired and the Library is asking City Council to approve a individual to represent and serve in this seat. Mr. Yeomans nominated Mrs. Sandy Jarrett for this appointment. Motion was made by Councilmember Jon Thrower and seconded by Councilmember Regina Gooch to approve Mrs. Sandy Jarrett for the appointed seat with the Library Board. Motion was passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

**ITEM #8 - Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern**

Consider approving the process of amending the Ordinance to make a minute change to the Charter regarding the changes made July 2014. Discussion was revolved around the changing of the Ordinance City Charter lead by Councilmember Fleming Gilman. Councilmember Gilman would like some changes made to the Ordinance pertaining to the Charter. After several minutes of debate, Councilmember Gilman made a motion to rescind the Ordinance concerning the Charter. Mr. Newbern stated the Council would have to follow state requirements and procedures on how to make changes to the City Charter. Motion was made to rescind the Ordinance to change the Charter by Councilmember Fleming Gilman. Councilmember Keith Anderson voted No, Councilmembers Andrew Lemmon, Councilmember Jon Thrower and Councilmember Regina Gooch abstained. Mayor Yeomans stated a NO vote is counted as an affirmative vote. Mayor Yeomans stressed he would talk to Leo Phillips, City Attorney, to get clarification and a legal interpretation of the motion that was made.

**ITEM # 9- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern**

Approve Agreement and Resolution for contracting with Fire Department Recovery Services, Inc. Mr. Newbern stated this is the agreement along with a resolution authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to sign agreement. This will recover fire expenses through the homeowner's policy which has such expenses reimbursable. The Council approved this at the prior meeting in September 13, 2018. Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Fleming Gilman with Councilmember Andrew Lemmon seconded the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

**VIII. City Manager Discussion/Items/Updates**

- Very Successful GICH Fall Retreat in Athens GA in September,2018
- Storm approaching

**Council Discussion Items- NONE****IX. Announcement of Upcoming Meetings and Events**

- Work Session Prior to Council Meeting – November 13,2018 @ 6:00 pm
  - Regularly Scheduled City Council Meeting – November 13, 2018 @ 7:00 pm
- **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.)

- Nicole Ward – Mrs. Ward asked the Council to consider moving the February 2019 meeting in order for the Council, Commissioner and Economic Development/Chamber to take a trip to Atlanta to meet with Senator Larry Walker to talk about economic development in this area.
- Chan Jones- Mr. Jones spoke to the Council about the vacancy on the Recreation Board. Asked the Council to make a recommendation. Mr. Jones was also upset due to the fact he asked to take the Recreation Department Snobiz to the County Fest and was told he could not. He expressed the frustration of several of the volunteers who decided to work and Put the money back in the Recreation department who were told they could not. Mrs. Ward from the Chamber stated prior to Chan asking they already had a vendor to come in selling snow cones.
- Mike Stoy – Mr. Stoy stated he was not at all against changing the City Charter, but he suggested the Council go through the correct steps and take their time.
- Mary Pitts – Mrs. Pitts Expressed her concerns about the grocery stores and parks in the City.

Councilmember Regina Gooch made the motion to go in executive session and Councilmember Keith Anderson seconded the motion seconded. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

**Went into executive session at 8:35PM**

Came out of executive and back to regular session @9:17PM

Councilmember Andrew Lemmon made the motion to adjourn with Mayor Pro Tem seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor 5-0.

**Adjourn @ 9:23PM**

(SEAL)

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Tracy B Jones  
City Clerk