

CITY OF COCHRAN
City Council Meeting
Cochran, Georgia
Tuesday, October 14, 2014

The regular meeting of Council was held this date at 7:00 P.M. in the Cochran Community House. The invocation was given by Councilmember Willie Basby and the Pledge of Allegiance by Councilmember Eric Bisher.

PRESENT: Mayor Michael Stoy
Councilmember Willie Basby
Councilmember Charles Cranford
Councilmember Tommy Guyton
Councilmember Andrew Lemmon
Councilmember Eric Bisher
Councilmember Gary Ates
Interim City Manager Jerry Murkerson

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Michael Stoy.

A motion was made by Councilmember Bisher and seconded by Councilmember Basby to adopt the Agenda. Motion carried unanimously with all voting in favor.

A motion was made by Councilmember Ates and seconded by Councilmember Lemmon to approve the September 9, 2014 Work Session Minutes, Regular Meeting Minutes and a motion was made by Councilmember Basby and seconded by Councilmember Ates to approve the September 22, 2014 Special Called Meeting Minutes. Motion carried unanimously with all voting in favor.

Item # 1 – Presented by Interim City Manager Jerry Murkerson

Ordinance 12-14; Approve millage rate of 9.767 for 2014. A motion was made by Councilmember Basby and seconded by Councilmember Ates to approve Ordinance 12-14. Motion carried unanimously with all voting in favor.

Item # 2 – Presented by Interim City Manager Jerry Murkerson

Resolution 37-14; Transfer funds from the Bond Sinking Fund and General Fund to the SPLOST account. A motion was made by Councilmember Ates and seconded by Councilmember Lemmon to approve Resolution 37-14. Motion carried unanimously with all voting in favor.

Item # 3 – Presented by Interim City Manager Jerry Murkerson

Resolution 38-14; Accept a bid and sign an agreement for the installation of project accounting on Cochran's existing server with QS1 Data Systems. Councilmember Basby made a motion and

Councilmember Bisher seconded the motion to accept Resolution 38-14. Motion carried unanimously with all voting in favor.

Item # 4 - Presented by Interim City Manager Jerry Murkerson

Ordinance 10-14; Amendment of ordinance setting forth budget for General Fund and Water/Sewer Fund for the City of Cochran for the year ending June 30, 2015. This Ordinance was read and passed at the September 22, 2014 Special Called Meeting. Ordinance was presented this night for Council to sign.

Item # 5 - Presented by Interim City Manager Jerry Murkerson

Ordinance 11-14; Set forth the jurisdiction for the Cochran Municipal Court to try misdemeanor hindering or obstructing officials, employees or agents of the City of Cochran. Councilmember Bisher made a motion and Councilmember Cranford seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 11-14. Motion carried unanimously with all voting in favor.

Item # 6 – Presented by Interim City Manager Jerry Murkerson

Louis Abbott with Cochran Insurance & Realty will present a proposal for vehicle and property insurance premiums. Council and Mr. Murkerson will check on a few items and Mr. Murkerson will contact Mr. Abbott for any changes.

Item # 7 – Presented by Mayor Stoy

Review the Strategic Management Plan. Council will review and come back to the November meeting for updates.

Mayor Updates

Mayor Stoy asked Council if they had any names to serve on a committee for the City/County Fire Services. Councilmember Guyton said that Randy Wyndam requested to serve on the committee.

Mayor Stoy reported on the City Manager position. The committee has narrowed the search down to the final three candidates. Interviews will be set up within the next week or two.

City Updates

Interim City Manager Jerry Murkerson stated that the City Municipal building needs work. Council wants to know how much money has been spent in the last five years on the building. Also, Mr. Murkerson reminded Council that this building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. There are certain guidelines that must be followed and approved. Kornegay Engineering, Inc. submitted a proposal to perform a visual structural inspection for an estimated fee of \$2000 to \$2500 depending on the number and severity of the problems they find.

Assured Guaranty has submitted policy information for bond insurance. City Attorney Leo Phillips has reviewed and approved the policy. Councilmember Lemmon made a motion and Councilmember Basby seconded the motion to approve Assured Guaranty for bond insurance.

Mr. Murkerson also noted that a Special Called Meeting will be held Wednesday, October 15, 2014 for a final bond resolution approval. This meeting will be held at the Community House at 6:00 pm. Mayor Stoy commended the staff for their help and dedication and also to Council for attending the called meetings.

GMA District 9 Fall Meeting will be held October 21, 2014 in Hazlehurst. The Mayor, City Manager and Public Works Director will attend.

Mr. Murkerson presented Council with handouts of each city department's updates.

The City is accepting proposals for a financial auditor.

Title searches are complete for nine dilapidated homes.

Council Discussions

Councilmember Tommy Guyton is a member of the Mayor's Public Safety Committee. Councilmember Guyton stated that Police Chief Coley approached the committee with a need to purchase two police vehicles. He stated that he would finance the vehicles through GMA as a lease purchase. After much discussion, Councilmember Guyton requested that Mr. Murkerson come back and make recommendations and discuss with Council at the next meeting.

Police Chief Coley stated that three seized vehicles are ready for auction. He will contract with L.W. Benton to auction the vehicles.

Public Comments

Eve Wilson inquired again about the city checking on the flooding of Johnson Street. Mr. Murkerson stated that he had tried to call her. He and Grady Shirey, Public Works Director will come by Mrs. Wilson's residence to check on this.

Catherine Guyton addressed Council concerning the purchase of police vehicles.

Councilmember Basby made a motion and Councilmember Lemmon seconded the motion to enter Executive Session at 7:55 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Ates made a motion and Councilmember Basby seconded the motion to exit Executive Session at 8:40 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Ates made a motion and Councilmember Bisher seconded the motion for the City to approach the Bleckley Board of Education about the seven acres of land that joins the City Cemetary. Motion carried unanimously with all voting in favor.

Councilmember Ates made a motion and Councilmember Lemmon seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously with all voting in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:48 pm.

Lisa Chastain
City Clerk

(CITY SEAL)