



**MINUTES**  
**Cochran City Council**  
**Tuesday, April 25, 2017**  
**Special Called Meeting @ 5:00 PM**

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*City Hall 112 West Dykes Street, Cochran, GA 31014*

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Present: Mayor Gary Ates, Mayor Pro Tem Andrew Lemmon, Councilmembers Regina Gooch, Jon Thrower, Keith Anderson, Fleming Gilman and Charles Cranford.

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

Mayor Pro Tem Lemmon made a motion and Councilmember Thrower seconded the motion to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously with all voting in favor.

**Agenda Items**

**Item #1 – Presented by City Manager Richard Newbern**

Alcohol Business License Violation Hearing- Richard Newbern stated the Alcohol Business Violation Hearing would be conducted by Chief Chris Coley. He then turned the hearing over to The Police Chief. Chief Coley stated he would go over each case and if any of the business owners had any questions or comments, they would be given the opportunity at the end of each case. Chief Coley explained what the ordinance states about the fines and probationary periods. He suggested 12 months probation and a \$1,000.00 fine to be paid to the City of Cochran. Cases are as follows:

1. **Walmart** ó March 21, 2017 at 6:08 PM Brian Brody sold 1- 16 oz. Miller light to the minor without asking for an ID. Council asked if Mr. Brady was still employed with Walmart. Chief Coley stated Mr. Brady is no longer employed. Council also ask Mr. Brady if he went through training about selling alcohol to minors. Mr. Brady stated he did. Council concluded 12 months probation and \$1000 fine would be sufficient. Councilmember Regina Gooch made the motion for a 12 months probation and \$1000 fine to be paid by the business owner and Councilman Fleming Gilman seconded the motion. Motion passed 5 voting yes & 1 voting no.
2. **Flash Foods** at 148 East Dykes St. March 21, 2017 at 6:24 PM ó Matthew Beard sold 1-16 oz. Coors Light to a minor. Ashlee, General Manager for this area, was in attendance. She stated Mr. Beard was employed recently and attended training on this matter. He was also provided a memo a few days prior to this incident. Ashlee stated he is no longer employed with Flash Foods. Councilmember Jon Thrower made the motion for 12 months probation and \$1,000.00 to be paid by the business owner to the City Clerk. Councilmember Regina Gooch seconded the motion. Motion passed 5 yes votes and 1 no vote.

3. **S & P Quick Stop** – March 21, 2017 @ 5:59 A Jay Patel sold 1 -16oz Bud Light to a minor. Mr. Patel was present and stated he would not allow this to happen again. Councilmember Jon Thrower made a motion for 12 months probation and \$1,000.00 fine to be paid to the City Clerk. Mayor Pro Tem Andrew Lemmon seconded the motion. Motion was passed with all 6 in favor.
4. **Flash Foods** ó Located at 113 N 2<sup>nd</sup> St.- March 21, 2017 6:43pm Jonathan Collmar sold 1-16oz of Seagrams Jamacian Me Happy. Ashlee, General manager for this area, was present and stated Mr. Collmar was terminated as a result. Councilmember Jon Thrower made the motion for 12 months probation and \$1000.00 fine to be paid to the City Clerk. Councilmember Regina Gooch seconded. Motion passed with all in favor voting. 6 to 0.
5. **Cochran Bait & Tackle** - March 21, 2017 @ 6:49 pm Dinesh Kumar Patel sold 1-16 oz. Bud Light to a minor. Mr. Patel, nor did a representative, from Cochran Bait and Tackle attend meeting. Councilmember Jon Thrower made the motion for 12 months probation and \$1000.00 fine to be paid to the City Clerk. Councilmember Regina Gooch seconded. Motion passed with all in favor voting. 6 to 0.

Chief Chris Coley stated the business owners has 30 days to pay this fine and must be paid to the City Clerk. Payments must be made by May 24, 2017. A letter will be drafted and sent to the businesses who are in violation.

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

Mr. Newbern asked the council to consider dates for budget sessions. He handed out budget paperwork for council to review. Mr. Newbern went through all the line details and explained each of them to council. Budget Sessions will be scheduled in the near future.

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

Consider changing location of City Council Meeting from Community House to the City Auditorium. Several issues were noted about the advantages & disadvantages and of changing council meetings. This was tabled until more research could be done on the pros and cons of moving.

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

Consider adopting Proclamation of Bleckley County Hospital and National Hospital Week May 7 ó 13, 2017. Mr. Newbern read the proclamation and asked council to proclaim National Hospital Week. This will be presented at the meeting planned for May 8, 2017 at the hospital. Motion was made by councilmember Jon Thrower and seconded by Regina Gooch.

City Manager Richard Newbern gave the following updates:

- Zoning Committee meeting May 4, 2017 @ 6:30 located at the Community House.
- Clean Up Day May 20, 2017.
- Bible Readyng Marathon on Courthouse steps April 8, 2017.

City Council Discussion Items:

Councilmember Thrower:

- Requested an onsite visit with Susan Coody White about a drainage issue. This meeting will be scheduled and Councilmember Thrower will be notified.
- Water standing on 118 Kay Drive. Requested an onsite meeting with resident also.
- Street light and Honeysuckle Drive, @ the corner of Lakeshore Drive and Willow Creek. Requesting light repair.

Councilmember Gooch:

- Requested a light at Mrs. Fussell house. City Manager Richard Newbern stated he has identified two locations for street lights and have reported it to the proper person.

Councilmember Lemmon:

- Asked about the update on the pipes around the hospital; City Manager Richard Newbern stated it has been approved for this year. He also asked about paving around the Dollar Tree area. This also will be done this year.

Councilmember Gilman:

- Asked who purchased K3 building. Mrs. Ward stated this building was purchased by Woody Butts Jr.
- Inquired about the sign going into Dykesboro? Chief Chris Coley stated he was not aware of a different sign but would look into it.

Annexation was discussed and Mayor Gary Ates explained it must be on the next meeting agenda to be able to discuss and /or vote on this matter.

Motion was made by Councilmember Jon Thrower to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Keith Anderson. Motion passed with all in favor voting yes.

Meeting adjourned @ 7:35pm

(SEAL)

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Tracy B Jones- City Clerk