



MINUTES
Cochran City Council
Tuesday, July 18, 2017
Regular Meeting @ 7:00 PM

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

Present: Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem Andrew Lemmon, Regina Gooch, Keith Anderson & Jon Thrower

Absent: Councilmembers Fleming Gilman, & Charles Cranford

Call to order by Mayor Pro Tem Andrew Lemmon

The invocation was given by Mayor followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilmember Jon Thrower. Mayor Pro Tem Andrew Lemmon made a motion and Councilmember Keith Anderson seconded the motion to approve the Agenda. Motion passed unanimously with all voting in favor.

Mayor Ates entertained a motion to adopt Minutes from June 13, 2017 Regular Session Meeting. Councilmember Jon Thrower made a motion to approve June 13, 2017 minutes and Mayor Pro Tem Andrew Lemmon seconded the motion. Motion was passed with all voting in favor.

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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

Consider appointment of the Library Board to replace Mr. Dale Jones, whose term ended on June 30. Appointment would be for a four-year term. Councilmember Jon Thrower made the motion to appoint Daphne Jones to serve on the Library Board and Mayor Pro Tem Andrew Lemmon seconded the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor 4 to 0.

ITEM #2 – Presented by Nicole Ward, President and CEO, Bleckley Cochran IDA

Consider adopting a Resolution, to be a joint resolution with Bleckley County, to increase the membership of and set the terms of the Directors of the Bleckley-Cochran Development Authority to make them concurrent with the terms of the Bleckley-Cochran IDA. Councilmember Regina Gooch made the motion to adopt the resolution with Councilmember Jon Thrower seconded. Motion passed with all voting in favor 4 to 0.

ITEM # 3- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider appointment to Zoning Committee to replace Mr. Jim Parks. Councilmember Jon Thrower made the motion to appoint Jimmy Jones to the Zoning Board to replace Jim Parks. Mayor Pro Tem Andrew Lemmon seconded the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor 4 to 0.

ITEM # 4 – Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider approval of contract with DBT Transportation Services for installation of AWOS tower at Cochran Airport. Mr. Bill Coody explained what the AWOS tower was, what AWOS stands for (Automated Weather Observation System), what it is used for and how tall the tower would be. Councilmember Jon Thrower made the motion to approve the contract with DBT Transportation to install tower with Mayor Pro Tem Andre Lemmon seconded the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor 4 to 0.

ITEM# 5 – Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider approval of engagement letter with Giddens, Bennett and Company to provide consulting services in preparation for the City's FY 2017-18 audit. Mr. Richard Newbern explained the letter and read the letter to Council. He also answered questions Council had in regards to the letter. Councilmember Jon Thrower made the motion to approve the letter of engagement to Giddens and Bennett with Mayor Pro Tem Andrew Lemmon seconded. Motion passed with all voting in favor 4 to 0.

ITEM # 6- Consider approval of a Resolution to submit a 2017 application to Georgia DCA and the University of Georgia for participation in the Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (GICH) program. Mr. Richard Newbern explained the initiative for GICH and the benefits the city would receive from the program. He answered any question that Council had in regards to GICH. Mayor Pro Tem made the motion to approve the resolution to submit a 2017 application for the GICH with Councilmember Keith Anderson seconded. Motion was passed with all voting in favor 4 to 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.)

VIII. Mayor Updates

IX. City Manager Discussion/Items/Updates –

- Mr. Newbern discussed the Civic Group Sign, Resurfacing Bid opening on Friday, July 21, 2017 @ 2PM, presented a Power Point Presentation of the Financial Report and he discussed a new accounting procedure that would be effective for Department Heads budget.

FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE:

Fire Fighter Position open until July 26, 2017. CFD is working on the training center and the material list has been turned in the Chief Kelly with the Bleckley Co. Fire Department.

PUBLIC WORKS:

No updates to note.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

No updates to note.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

Gave paperwork handout to all Councilmembers. He mentioned to have James from The Cochran Journal come to the sites that have been cleared and take pictures for the paper with the Councilmember whom represents that district. They all agreed that would be a great idea.

Skip Layton:

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 Storm Drainage Improvements.

There were no other department updates.

X. Council Discussion Items

- Councilmember Jon Thrower asked several questions about issues he was eager to find answers for. Questions include tabled items at City Council Meetings, SPOLST payments, street lights, issues at Susan Coody White resident, pruning and placing pine straw around crape myrtles the City planted several years ago. Mr. Newbern stated he was working on the prior concerns and will work on the recent concerns.

No other Councilmember had any concerns or comments.

XI. Announcement of Upcoming Meetings and Events

- Regularly Scheduled City Council Meeting ó August 8, 2017 @ 7:00 pm

Councilmember Thrower made the motion to adjourn and Mayor Pro Tem Andrew Lemmon seconded the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor 4 to 0.

Adjourn @ 9:09 PM.

(SEAL)

Tracy B Jones
City Clerk