



DRAFT MINUTES

APRIL 9, 2026

Cochran City Council

Work Session Meeting 5:30 PM

City Auditorium, 102 N Second Street, Cochran, GA 31014

City Council

City Staff

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| Carla D Coley, Mayor | Angela Redding, Interim City Manager |
| Trecia Gardner Council Member <i>(District 1, Post 1)</i> | Tiffany Fowler, Deputy City Clerk |
| Gary Ates, Council Member <i>(District 1, Post 2)</i> | Jim Elliott, City Attorney |
| Rufus Veal, Council Member <i>(District 2 Post 1)</i> | |
| Lonnie Tedders, Council Member <i>(District 2, Post 2)</i> | |
| Dianne Lester Council Member <i>(District 3, Post 1)</i> | |
| Shane Savant, Council Member <i>(District 3, Post 2)</i> | |

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Carla D. Coley called the work session to order at 5:34 pm

2. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Invocation was led by Councilman Veal, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Present:

- Mayor Carla D. Coley
- Councilmember Trecia P. Gardner
- Councilmember Rufus Veal
- Councilmember Dianne Lawson Lester
- Councilmember Lonnie Tedders

Absent:

- Councilmember Shane Savant
- Councilmember Gary Ates

Staff Present:

- Interim City Manager Angela Redding
 - Deputy City Clerk Tiffany Fowler
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4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (AMENDED)

Agenda Amendments:

- **Removed Item #3:** Rezoning request for 241 East Dykes Street (determined unnecessary) Motion made by Councilwomen Lester Second by Councilman Veal

Passed Unanimously

- **Removed Item #7:** Review of Purchasing Ordinance (to be discussed at department meeting) Motion made by Councilman Tedders Second by Councilwoman Gardner

Passes Unanimously

- **Removed Item #8:** Police Department work review (information not yet available) Motion by Councilman Tedders Second by Councilman Veal

Passes Unanimously

- **Added Item:** Discussion of House Bill 1570 (Airport Authority charter adjustments) Motion made by Councilman Tedders Second by Councilwoman Lester

Passes Unanimously

Motions:

- Motion to remove Item #3 – Passed
- Motion to remove Item #7 – Passed
- Motion to add House Bill 1570 – Passed
- Motion to amend agenda to remove Item #8 – Passed

Final Motion:

Motion to approve the agenda as amended by Councilman Veal second by Councilman Tedders

Passes Unanimously

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Appointment of Interim City Manager

Mayor Coley introduced Angela Redding, noting her 20+ years of municipal government experience and recent involvement with the city.

Council members introduced themselves and welcomed Ms. Redding.

Ms. Redding addressed the Council, expressing appreciation for the opportunity and noting her enthusiasm for assisting the city.

Action:

Motion made by councilwoman Lester and seconded by councilman Tedders to appoint Angela Redding as Interim City Manager based on the contract provided.

Vote: Passed unanimously

B. Budget Discussion (Introduction)

The mayor stated that due to the departure of former City Manager Richard Newbern, the city engaged the Heart of Georgia-Altamaha Regional Commission for assistance in preparing the budget.

Initial work sessions had already begun, including a lengthy meeting to start organizing financial data and planning.

6. OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS

- House Bill 1570 (Airport Authority Charter adjustments) was introduced for discussion only; no vote was taken.
 - Police Department work review will be moved to the next regular meeting pending receipt of information.
 - Council expressed preference for discussion items to occur during work sessions when possible.
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7. ADJOURNMENT at 6:34 pm