



MINUTES
Cochran City Council
April 13, 2021
Regular Scheduled Meeting @ 7PM

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

Present: Mayor Billy Yeomans, Mayor Pro Tem Gary Ates
Councilmembers: Carla Coley, Keith Anderson, Jimmy Jones, Andrew Lemmon, Rufus Veal

Call to order by Mayor Billy Yeomans @ 7:02PM

The invocation was given by Councilmember Veal followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilmember Coley.

Mayor called for a motion to approve the April 13, 2021 agenda as presented.

Councilmember Jones made the motion to accept the agenda as presented with Councilmember Mayor Pro Tem Ates seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 6-0

Mayor called for a motion to approve the minutes from March 9, 2021. Mayor Pro Tem Ates made the motion to accept 3/9/21 minutes with Councilmember Jones seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 6-0

- 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

Employee of the Month – Employee of the month was presented by Public Works Director, Willie Farrow. Mr. Farrow presented the award to Isaac Evans. Isaac works with the Water Department for the City.

ITEM #2 – Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Public Hearing on rezoning request from Isabel and Ascencion Moreno to rezone a 2.03-acre parcel at 273 W. Dykes Street from R-1 Residential to B-1 Neighborhood Business District. Mayor stated he spoke with Mrs. Moreno April 12, 2021; her and her husband would like to table this action of rezoning application at this time until she can address some concerns that came up at the Zoning meeting April 8, 2021. Mrs. Moreno is requesting Council to allow her 90 days (July 11, 2021) to resolve the issues. Councilmember Coley made the motion to table the action on Isabel & Ascencion Moreno's Rezoning application which was scheduled for a Public Hearing April 13, 2021 so that they can address some of the concerns that were expressed at the Zoning Committee hearing on Thursday, April 8, 2021. The 90-day table action on their application will expire July 11, 2021. Failure to meet this 90-day timeframe will result in their tabled rezoning application having to be re-submitted to the Zoning Committee for their review and recommendation with Mayor Pro Tem Ates seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 6-0

ITEM # 3- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider Resolution of support and documentation for the application from Low Country Housing Communities, LLC for federal LIHTC assistance to construct Havenwood Gardens II, a 50-unit apartment complex to be located north of Havenwood Gardens I on Daisy Adams Road. Max Elby gave brief presentation of the additional Havenwood Gardens II apartment complex. Councilmember Ates made the motion to approve the resolution of support and documentation for the application from Low Country Housing Communities, LLC for federal assistance with Councilmember Jones seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 6-0

ITEM # 4 - Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider amendment to Zoning Ordinance to stagger the terms of the five (5) members of the City Planning Commission. With this amendment, three (3) members' terms would expire in April 2023 and two would have their terms expire in April 2025. Councilmember Jones made the motion to approve the amendment to stagger the terms of five members of the City Planning Commission with Councilmember Lemmon seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 6-0

ITEM # 5- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Appoint five (5) member Planning Commission. Mr. Newbern explained the nominees and the sample ballot. City Clerk Tracy Jones passed out a ballot for Council to vote. After the voting was tabulated the results were Russel Odom, Debra Turner, Edna Allen, Ray Knighton and Lane Purser.

ITEM # 6- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider amendment to the FY 2020/21 DDA budget. This was a proposed amendment to the 20/21 budget to allow DDA to use the funds from the remaining unspent DDA Director salary for a line item entitled "murals and other improvements". The \$12,478.26 total included funds from unspent salary, as well as benefits, and other personnel expenses. Jackie Bowen, DDA board member, gave a brief statement in regard to the amendment of the Fy20/21 DDA budget. Councilmember Jones made the motion to allow DDA to redirect the monies to pay for murals and other projects in the amount of \$12,478.26 with Councilmember Lemmon seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 6-0

ITEM # 7- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider establishing two (2) Corporal positions within the Police Department. Council was asked to consider establishing two Corporal position within the Police Department. City Manager explained the Corporal position would have a pay range of \$17.74-27.02 per hour. These positions would be added to the Police structure. Chief Trawick and Council had a discussion concerning the Corporal Positions. Councilmember Ates made the motion to establish two Corporal positions within the Police Department with Councilmember Anderson seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 6-0

ITEM #8 - Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider appointing two Council members to serve as the City’s voting delegate on the Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia’s Election Committee. City Manager explained to Council the election committee for MGAG. Council is voting to give someone the credentials to vote on behalf of the City. Councilmember Jones and Mayor Pro Tem Ates were nominated. Councilmember Anderson made the motion that Councilmember Jones will be the voting delegate with mayor Pro Tem Ates as the alternative with Councilmember Veal seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 6-0

Council Discussion Items:

District 1 (Anderson/Ates) – Anderson Appreciate everything the City employees are doing, outstanding job on several roads that are being paved, great job on the cleanup in the areas around town.

Ates- thank all the workers of the City, don’t believe everything you hear on Facebook, All Department heads are doing a great job, firm believer of taking care of employees.

District 2 (Veal/Coley)- Coley- (Nothing) Veal Suggested a speed break on Lewis Street

District 3 (Jones/Lemmon)- Jones Appreciate newly paved streets Lemmon- Thanked the City crews and City Supervisors, keep up the good work.

Mayor Pro Tem Ates made the motion to adjourn with Councilmember Jones seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 6-0 8:17pm


Tracy B Jones
City Clerk

