



MINUTES
Cochran City Council
August September 14, 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, Andrew Lemmon, Jimmy Jones
Absent: Rufus Veal

Call to order by Mayor Billy Yeomans @ 7:00PM

The invocation was given by Mayor Pro Tem Ates followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilmember Anderson.

Mayor called for a motion to approve the August 17, 2021; agenda as presented.

Mayor Pro Tem made the motion to accept the agenda as presented with Councilmember Lemmon seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

Mayor called for a motion to approve the minutes from August 17, 2021. Mayor Pro Tem Ates made the motion to accept 8/17/21 minutes with Councilmember Anderson seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

- 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 awarded to Larry Brown. Public Works Director, Willie Farrow presented Larry with a \$100 check along with a certificate of appreciation.

ITEM #2 - Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consideration of joining MGAG gas appliance financing program. Richard explained to Council about the finance program for natural gas customers to purchase new appliances. The property owners who are natural gas customers, as well as non-gas customers can purchase water heaters, stoves, and other appliances if they qualify for the MGAG program. The City will handle the transaction between MGAG and the property owner. Mayor Pro Tem Ates made the motion to accept the recommendation from the City Manager regarding MGAG gas appliance financing program with Councilmember Jones seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

ITEM #3 - Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consideration on purchasing and installing additional garbage cans for downtown and Second Street. Richard addressed the Council to explain the many requests throughout the city for additional public garbage cans. The cans will be strategically placed so the public can conveniently place garbage in the receptacles. The metal design will match the ones already around town. The two questions for Council were to approve the purchase of the receptacles and where to place them throughout the city. Motion was made by Councilmember Coley to purchase the 10 extra cans in the amount of \$7,300 with Councilmember Lemmon seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

ITEM #4- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider establishing CHIP Program selection criteria for new CHIP grant. Richard expressed the eligible CHIP areas are in 7902 and most recently added 7903. The amendment has been submitted for the 7902 area and the City is awaiting approval from DCA. At this point the way the homeowners are selected is the Council's decision. Council was given several choices of how to choose the applicants for rehabilitation. Council discussed the eligibility for the CHIP grants selections. Mayor Pro Tem Ates made the motion to wait until the DCA approves the 7902 tract with Councilmember Anderson seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

ITEM #5- Presented by City Manager, Richard Newbern

Consider resolution to approve Recreation Trails Grant application for walking trail to be submitted to GA DNR. This pre application will be to help finance a 1/3-mile walking trail that will extend from Havenwood Gardens to the Hwy 26. Mr. Newbern stated this walkway could cost approx. \$265,000. City Engineer, Skip Layton, explained this walkway would be a multi-use path. This will be larger than a regular sidewalk. Councilmember Jones made the motion to authorize the filling of GA DNR Recreational Trails Grant with Mayor Pro Tem Ates seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

City Manager Update:

1. Plan First – City was awarded Plan First
2. GICH Retreat October 5-7

Council Discussion Items:

District 1 (Anderson- None) (Ates -None)

District 2 (Veal/Coley)-(Coley) Thank you to Willie and the Prison team for making the sidewalks and curbing looking better

**District 3 (Jones-None)
(Lemmon-None)-.**

Public Comments:

Andy Ravleker – Came before Council to introduce the idea of opening a liquor store.

Ethel King 110 Palm Street Concerned about the position of the speed bump in front of her house.

Josette Scott – Work Order concerns. Broken pipe concerns. Trail path and park issues.

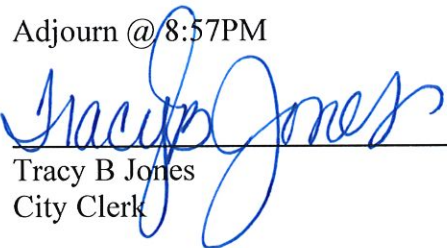
Mayor stated Council will pause for 5 minutes and then go into executive session.

Mayor Yeomans entertained a motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Ates to go into executive session with Councilmember Anderson seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ates to go into regular session with Councilmember Jones seconding the motion. Motion passed with all voting in favor. 5-0

Motion was made to adjourn by Councilmember Jones with Mayor Pro Tem seconding. Motion passed with all voting in favor 5-0

Adjourn @ 8:57PM



Tracy B Jones
City Clerk

