

**CITY OF COCHRAN**  
**City Council Meeting**  
**Cochran, Georgia**  
**Tuesday, July 8, 2014**

---

The regular meeting of Council was held this date at 7:00 P.M. in the Cochran Community House. The invocation was given by Mrs. Jeri Tuck, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

---

PRESENT: Mayor Michael Stoy  
Councilmember Willie Basby  
Councilmember Tommy Guyton  
Councilmember Andrew Lemmon  
Councilmember Charles Cranford  
Councilmember Eric Bisher  
City Manager Ray Gibson

ABSENT: Councilmember Gary Ates

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Michael Stoy.

A motion was made by Councilmember Basby and seconded by Councilmember Lemmon to adopt the Agenda. Motion carried unanimously with all voting in favor.

A motion was made by Councilmember Basby and seconded by Councilmember Lemmon to approve the June 10, 2014 Work Session Minutes the Regular Meeting Minutes and the corrected January 4, 2014 minutes. Motion carried unanimously with all voting in favor.

**Item # 1 – Presented by Interim City Manager Jerry Murkerson**

**Ordinance 06-14:** Adoption of Water and Sewer Rates.

This is an ordinance to enact proposed water rate revisions and proposed sewer rate revisions in accordance with the June 2014 rate study. Rates would be effective September 1, 2014 and September 1, 2015. Mayor Stoy indicated that reserves will need to be addressed and how this will be handled for the future. He asked that Council start thinking about this and come back with plans. Councilmember Basby made a motion and Councilmember Bisher seconded the motion to accept the adoption of water and sewer rates. Motion carried unanimously with all voting in favor.

**Item # 2 - Presented by Mayor Michael Stoy**

**Ordinance 05-14:** An ordinance to amend the City Charter.

This is the last reading of the amended City Charter. Amendments have been posted in the local Cochran Journal. Ordinance 05-14 passed with all in approval.

### **Item # 3 - Presented by Interim City Manager Jerry Murkerson**

The City of Cochran has been selected to receive free technical assistance from GEFA (Georgia Environmental Finance Authority) for water loss assistance. Reed & Shows Meter Repair and Supply Company has been selected to provide the free assistance. Councilmember Bisher made a motion and Councilmember Basby seconded to move forward with this agreement. Motion carried unanimously with all voting in favor.

### **Item # 4 - Presented by Interim City Manager Jerry Murkerson**

Change fiscal year back to July 1 – June 30.

Due to issues with the software upgrade and on the recommendations of Giddens & Bennett, the City is requesting to change its fiscal year back to July 1 – June 30. Council discussed changing back to a calendar year (January 1 – December 30) once the administration has implemented the software upgrade and the audit has been submitted and approved. Councilmember Bisher made a motion and Councilmember Basby seconded to change the fiscal year to July 1 – June 30. Motion carried unanimously with all voting in favor.

### **Public Comments**

Fleming Gilman addressed Council about the City Charter and the fact that Council receives retirement. He also questioned Council on getting paid when they are absent during monthly council meetings. Mayor Stoy told Mr. Gilman that he would need to raise his concerns to his councilmember and request to change the ordinance addressing retirement. Mr. Fleming stated that he wanted retirement taken out of the ordinance. Mayor Stoy stated that Mr. Fleming should have dialogue with his councilmember.

Catherine Guyton addressed Council and stated that she agrees with Mr. Gilman concerning the Council receiving retirement. Mrs. Guyton also wanted to address a problem with dogs entering her yard. She has spoken with Darryl Miller, the City's animal control officer. Mrs. Guyton has a photo of the dogs in her yard. Police Chief Chris Coley said that he would speak with Officer Miller and have him contact Mrs. Guyton for the photo. In order for the police to charge the owner of the dogs, Mrs. Guyton must be willing to go to court and testify. Mrs. Guyton said that she would be willing to testify in court.

Police Chief Coley recognized Officers Jamie Allen and Josh Nobles. These officers were recently honored for helping a family escape a house fire.

Police Chief Coley reported more Neighborhood Watch programs being formed in the city. Anyone interested in starting one in their neighborhood can contact Chief Coley or Lt. Heath Williams.

Jeri Tuck inquired about a vacant house near a house she owns in the city. The vacant house is dilapidated and dangerous. According to Councilmember Basby, this house is on the list of dilapidated houses to be torn down.

Councilmember Bisher made a motion and Councilmember Basby seconded the motion to enter Executive Session at 7:26 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Basby made a motion and Councilmember Lemmon seconded the motion to leave Executive Session at 8:08 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Basby made a motion and Councilmember Lemmon seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:09 pm.

---

Lisa Chastain  
City Clerk

(CITY SEAL)