

Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
City of Chattahoochee Hills, Georgia
April 11, 2017 / 6:30 p.m.

Call to Order

Mayor Reed called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Councilmembers in attendance were Richard Schmidt, Claire Williams, Faye Godwin, and Don Hayes. Councilmember James Stephens was absent. Also present was City Attorney Rick Lindsey. Mayor Reed led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Reed introduced Officer Honea and K-9 Officer Aris.

Review and Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Schmidt made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilmember Godwin seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 7, 2017
Councilmember Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 7, 2017. Councilmember Hayes seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Presentations/Proclamations

1. Greystone Right-Of-Way Cutting Update – Tim Williams, Bill Sharpton, and Wayne Glover, GreyStone

Mr. Sharpton gave an update on the Hutcheson Ferry Road right-of-way project. GreyStone is improving the line along Hutcheson Ferry Road from Carlton Road to Atlanta Newnan Road. The upgraded service should help minimize the disruption of power outages due to falling trees.

2. "State of the City Address" – presented by Mayor Reed

Staff Reports

Financial Update: City Manager Robert Rokovitz

Mr. Rokovitz gave an update on the financials. The city is approximately 73 percent through the fiscal year. Revenue collections are at 84 percent and expenditures are at 64 percent. The first public hearing for the Fiscal Year 2018 Budget will be held at the May 2, 2017 City Council Meeting and the second public hearing and adoption will be at the June 6, 2017 City Council Meeting.

Fire Department Report: Greg Brett

Chief Brett reported that he is now providing more incident details on his monthly report and directed everyone to review the report. The department had vehicle extrication

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training March 20th – 22nd and had to use it two days later when an individual required extrication from a vehicle accident on South Fulton Parkway. Paramedic/Firefighter Josh Whitley is the new “Training Division Director”. The burn ban begins May 1st. He directed everyone to look at the five bullet points under the Emergency Medical Services delivery section of the monthly report, which highlights refinements to the service level agreement currently being negotiated.

Police Department Report: Stoney Mathis

Chief Mathis reported there have been no personnel changes. There were two investigations in March – one burglary and one theft. Other statistics for March were 123 citations, 185 warnings, 18 parking citations, 13 arrests, and 22 reports.

Public Works/Parks Report: Darold Wendlandt

Mr. Wendlandt said baseball season has started. Alan Merrill, Fire Chief Greg Brett, and Lila Rhyne were great help in getting everything at Rico Park ready. Work continues on the gravel roads, weather permitting, and staff has been having to hit the bad spots on several roads. He also said the Fire Department puts in a lot of time when storms occur and is a big help to the Public Works department. Several trees went down in Cochran Mill Park during the recent storm. Volunteers worked hard to clear all of the trails quickly.

Community Development: Mike Morton

Mr. Morton reported there were eight new residential construction permits, one commercial permit, and one sign permit for a business in Serenbe in March. There are two production events tentatively scheduled for the end of April and beginning of May. Upcoming Special Events are the Tough Mudder event and the May Day event. Activity can be expected in the near future in two of the empty subdivisions – Heatherwood Estates on Cedar Grove Road and the Estates of Cedar Grove.

City Attorney gave an update on the Fulton County Service Delivery Strategy. After years of negotiations and a lawsuit, a Fulton County Service Delivery Strategy agreement has been reached. Staff will be asking Council to approve it at the May Council meeting.

Public Comment

Laurie Searle, 12600 Whiteside Road – invited everyone to attend the history event at the Beavers House on April 30th from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. There will be a history play, as well as other activities. The Beavers House and historic Campbellton Masonic Lodge will be open for tours. She also thanked Public Works and Parks Manager for his work on the roads.

Public Hearings

City Attorney Rick Lindsey read the rules for the Public Hearings.

The City of Chattahoochee Hills Mayor and City Council encourage citizen participation in the government process. Should you by reason of a disability need a special accommodation or need accessibility information, please contact the City Clerk’s office at 770-463-8881.

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- 1. Item 17-875:** Public Hearing and Action to consider an application for a Special Event Limited Pouring License – Wine and Malt Beverages. The name in which the License is to be issued – Tough Mudder, Inc./Licensee – Nicholas Pennink. The location of the special event – 9445 Browns Lake Road, Chattahoochee Hills, GA.

Mayor Reed opened the Public Hearing.

City Clerk Dana Wicher presented the item. The application is for the Tough Mudder event being held April 29th – 30th. The application was approved by staff; however, the applicant did not get the public hearing sign posted by the deadline. Staff recommends continuing the Public Hearing at a Special Called Meeting on April 18, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. The applicant was present at the meeting and available to answer any questions.

There was no public comment.

Mayor Reed said the Public Hearing would be continued to the Special Called Meeting scheduled for April 18, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.

- 2. Item 17-871:** Public Hearing and Action on an Ordinance to Revise and Amend the City of Chattahoochee Hills Sign Ordinance, Articles 4, 18, 19 and 27 to Comply with the Recent Supreme Court Decisions and for Other Purposes.

City Planner Mike Morton presented the item.

The following amendments were made to the ordinance that was originally advertised:

- 1. Changes to prohibited portable signs in Article 19, Prohibited Signs and Devices, to allow promotional or identifying information on vehicles that are registered, operable, and regularly driven in the normal conduct of business*
- 2. Changes to setbacks as applied to Standard Informational Signs in Article 23, Sign Location.*
- 3. Addition of a definition of “Commercial” which would then be used in the header of the Table in Article 27. Adding “Commercial” to the Agriculture/institution column would allow rural area businesses to have the same types of signs as a farm, church, or school.*
- 4. Changes to Wall Sign regulations by location. For Agriculture/Institution uses in the Rural area one (1) maximum 32 square foot wall sign or two (2) maximum 16 square foot single faced signs then there is no residential use on the property would be allowed. For Residential uses, wall signs would only be permitted on accessory buildings.*

Mayor Reed opened the Public Hearing.

Betty Ferdinand, 10985 Hutcheson Ferry Road – said the schoolhouse sign on the residence at 10975 Hutcheson Ferry Road is in violation of the existing sign ordinance and the proposed amended ordinance. She said the schoolhouse sign is a calling card, and she read

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a listing for the property from the Airbnb website. A Special Administrative Permit and an Occupational Tax Certificate are required to operate this type of business, but the owners have not applied for either. This city has allowed the illegal sign to remain for 10 months. She asked the city to direct that the schoolhouse sign be removed immediately and to enforce the codes before irreparable harm is done to the community.

There was no other public comment.

Mayor Reed closed the public hearing. Councilmember Godwin made a motion to approve Item No. 17-871 as amended. Councilmember Hayes seconded. Councilmember Godwin and Mayor Reed both said they would like future discussions and meetings to clean up the sign ordinance. The motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business (None)

New Business

- 1. Item 17-876:** Request for approval of overnight hours for the Tough Mudder event.

City Planner Mike Morton presented the item. Tough Mudder organizers are requesting permission to add an overnight race to the year's event. Rules governing special events allow City Council to approve events outside the allowed hours of operation without a variance.

Councilmember Hayes made a motion to approve Item No. 17-876. Councilmember Williams seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- 2. Item 17-877:** Award contract for Fire Station Roof Replacement.

City Manager Robert Rokovitz presented the item. Two bids were received. Staff recommended awarding the contract to the lowest bid, which was Drain Right Gutter and Roofing for \$39,798. Councilmember Schmidt made a motion to approve Item No. 17-877. Councilmember Williams seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- 3. Item 17-878:** Resolution approving the issuance of bonds by the Public Finance Authority and a plan of finance for the Chattahoochee Hills Charter School.

City Attorney Rick Lindsey presented the item. The charter school is refinancing its debt obligations under the bonds it issued last year. A public hearing was held April 11, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. There is no guarantee given by the city and there is no obligation for the city to make payment on the bonds.

Councilmember Godwin made a motion to approve Item No. 17-878. Councilmember Hayes seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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4. Item 17-879: Approval of the Parks Commission 2017/2018 meeting schedule. City Clerk Dana Wicher presented the item. Councilmember Hayes made a motion to approve Item No. 17-879. Councilmember Godwin seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Item 17-880: Approval of the Planning Commission 2017/2018 meeting schedule. City Clerk Dana Wicher presented the item. Councilmember Godwin made a motion to approve Item No. 17-880. Councilmember Williams seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor and Council Comments

Councilmember Hayes thanked everyone for coming. He also said that the Council needs to talk about the noise ordinance. Mayor Reed said it will be on the next Work Session agenda.

Mayor Reed thanked everyone for attending.

Executive Session (None)

Adjourn Meeting Councilmember Schmidt made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Williams seconded. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Approved this 2nd day of May, 2017.

Dana Wicher, City Clerk

Tom Reed, Mayor