

Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
City of Chattahoochee Hills, Georgia
September 12, 2017 / 6:30 p.m.

Call to Order

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

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 August 1, 2017
Councilmember Godwin made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 1, 2017. Councilmember Hayes seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Presentations/Proclamations

1. Fire Officer Promotion
Fire Chief Greg Brett announced that Mike Allen was being promoted as to permanent Lieutenant position for A shift. Chief Brett administered the Oath of Office to Mike Allen.

Staff Reports

Financial Update: City Manager Robbie Rokovitz

Mr. Rokovitz gave an update on the financials. The city is 16.99 percent through the fiscal year as of August 31st. The city has collected 43 percent of revenues. Included in the revenues are reserves from the prior year. Expenditures to date are 9.7 percent, including other financing uses such as Hotel Motel Fund and TSPLOST.

Fire Department Report: Greg Brett

Chief Brett said a final draft of the mutual aid agreement between the South Fulton municipalities should be available prior to the October City Council meeting. The South Fulton Fire Chiefs are attempting to have a new Emergency Medical Services Delivery agreement with American Medical Response drawn. He also gave an update on the Chattahoochee Hills Emergency Management Agency's response to Hurricane Irma. The city fared well. The Emergency Operations Center operated for two days and involved Public Works, Police, Fire, Administrative staff, and volunteer members of the community. Providence Baptist Church opened a fully operational Tier 2 emergency shelter.

Police Department Report: Stoney Mathis

Chief Mathis reported he has hired two personnel – one full-time officer and one reserve officer. Barry Durham is the new full-time officer. Officer Amber Graham and Court Clerk Shannon Stroup attended GCIC training last month. Other statistics for August were 185 citations, 200 warnings, 31 parking citations, 38 arrests, 87 dispatched calls, and 48 reports. The Police Department was involved with a drug bust just inside Palmetto city limits that stemmed from a traffic stop by Officer Lynch. The Cochran Mill Park drowning investigation will be presented to the District Attorney's office later this week or next week. There will be a Female Self Defense Class on October 14th.

Public Works/Parks Report: Darold Wendlandt

Mr. Wendlandt reported that there were a lot of trees down due to the storm. He said emergency operations ran very well having Fire Chief Brett as the one point of contact. During the emergency operations, one of the trailers had a flat tire. Many businesses were closed, so he took the tire to the Wal-Mart in Union City, and they replaced the tire at no charge. Right of way cutting continues. Staff spent about a week cutting the right of way on Creel Road because it was in such bad shape. The electricity to the bath house at Cochran Mill Park had to be repaired. Staff replaced 300 feet of underground electrical wire.

Community Development: Mike Morton

Mr. Morton reported there was one new single family residence permit issued in August. Overall, permits issued in August are slightly down from August of last year. There are a few special events coming up in August, including Ray Day at Serenbe and a 5k walk/run being held by the Chattahoochee Hills Charter School.

Public Comment

Laurie Searle, 12600 Whiteside Road – invited everyone to the Chatt Fest Country Fair being held at Hutcheson Ferry Park on November 12th. It is the city's 10th anniversary celebration. There will also be an essay contest and photo contest, a time capsule, vendors, and music.

Public Hearings

Mayor Reed said the applicant requested to withdraw Items 17-898 and 17-899. Action by the City Council was required to allow the applicant to withdraw 17-898. No action is required for 17-899. The Public Hearing will still be held.

- 1. Item 17-898:** Public Hearing and Action on an Ordinance to Amend the Official Zoning Map to rezone 63.57 acres from the RL (Rural) District to the HM-MU (Mixed-Used Hamlet) District – rezoning request from Serenbe CH Properties, LLC for property located at 10455 & 0 Atlanta Newnan Road.

These minutes are provided as a convenience and service to the public, media, and staff. It is not the intent to transcribe proceedings verbatim. Any reproduction of this summary must include this notice. Public comments are noted and heard by Council, but not quoted. This is an official record of the City of Chattahoochee Hills City Council Meeting proceedings.

Councilmember Godwin made a motion to approve the applicant's request to withdraw Item No. 17-898. Councilmember Williams seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- 2. Item 17-899:** Public Hearing and action on an Ordinance for a Variance to the minimum required width of the District Buffer in the HM-MU (Mixed-Use Hamlet) District – variance request from Serenbe CH Properties, LLC for property located at 10455 & 0 Atlanta Newnan Road. *No action taken.*

3.

Mayor Reed opened the Public Hearing for Item No. 17-898 and Item No. 17-899.

There was no public comment.

Mayor Reed closed the Public Hearing.

- 4. Item 17-900:** Public Hearing and Action on an Ordinance for a Variance to the required Stream Buffer and Impervious Setback – variance request from Thomas and Gail Swanston for property located at 7650 Rico Road #2.

Mayor Reed opened the Public Hearing for Item No. 17-900.

The following person spoke in favor of the item:

- 1. David Robinson, 7650 Rico Road, Lot #1 – said he is a neighbor of the Swanstons and is the Vice President of the Rico Lake Corporation. The Rico Lake Board has approved the plan and as a neighbor he supports the plan.*

There was no other public comment.

Mayor Reed closed the Public Hearing.

City Planner Mike Morton presented the item. The request is for a variance to the stream buffer setbacks. The applicant's proposal includes mitigating features. The house was built before the city's existence and before the stream buffer requirements. The applicant needs to expand to accommodate one of the residents. The proposal is to expand to the side of the structure and it will not be any closer to the lake. Staff recommends approval, and the Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend approval at their August 10, 2017 meeting. Councilmember Stephens made a motion to approve Item No. 17-900. Councilmember Schmidt seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business

- 1. Item 17-902:** An Ordinance to revise and amend Chapter 18, Offenses, Article I, In General, Section 18-7, Noise.

City Manager Robbie Rokovitz presented the item. Decibel levels and time regulations have been added to the ordinance to allow for easier enforcement. He said the goal of the ordinance is to get compliance. Councilmember Stephens made a motion to approve Item

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No. 17-902. *Councilmember Godwin seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

New Business

1. Item 17-904: *An Ordinance to Fix the Ad Valorem Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2018. City Manager Robbie Rokovitz and Mayor Reed presented the item. The proposed millage rate is 10.00 mills, which is a decrease of 0.958 mills. Mayor Reed said this rollback to 10.00 mills in the year of the city's 10th Anniversary is a reflection of the city's greatly improved financial position. Councilmember Godwin made a motion to approve Item No. 17-904. Councilmember Schmidt seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

2. Item 17-905: *Award Bid for Emergency Transport Vehicle to Reliant Emergency Specialties, Inc. Fire Chief Greg Brett presented the item. Staff recommends the vehicle be purchased from Reliant Emergency Specialties, Inc. based on their lowest bid amount for a configuration that most closely matches the RFP specifications. Mayor Reed said that staff initially thought a unit could be purchased for \$80,000, but as staff went through the process, it became apparent the vehicle that staff was looking at would not be sufficient. A citizen has offered to make a \$30,000 donation to fill the gap. Councilmember Stephens made a motion approve Item No. 17-905. Councilmember Godwin seconded.*

Mayor Reed said the city's foremost responsibility is public safety. This vehicle will allow the city to do medical transport under certain criteria when American Medical Response is not able to have a unit respond.

Councilmember Hayes said the city does not need the liability of operating a medical transport unit. He supports the Fire Department and would rather see the money put toward a new fire truck.

Mayor Reed called for the vote. The motion passed 4-1, Councilmember Hayes opposed.

3. Item 17-906: *Approve purchase of Physio Brand Heart Monitor. Fire Chief Greg Brett presented the item. This unit is a replacement unit and is required to for Chattahoochee Hills Fire Rescue to maintain "Advanced Life Saving" certification. The purchase is a sole source provider for the amount of \$27,216.66. Councilmember Hayes made a motion to approve Item No. 17-906. Councilmember Stephens seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

4. Item 17-907: *Approve purchase of Ford Interceptor Patrol Vehicle. Police Chief Stoney Mathis presented the item. Staff recommends purchasing one Ford Interceptor patrol vehicle. Councilmember Stephens made a motion to approve Item No. 17-907. Councilmember Schmidt seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

5. Item 17-908: Approve purchase of Brush Chipper.

Public Works and Parks Manager Darold Wendlandt presented the item. The request is for the chipper that was discussed during the budget process. Staff recommends purchasing a brush chipper through a State Contract for \$37,204. Councilmember Schmidt made a motion to approve Item No. 17-908. Councilmember Godwin seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Item 17-909: Authorize City Manager to initiate the RFP process for a Gateway Sign.

City Manager Robbie Rokovitz presented the item. The RFP will be to design, fabricate, and construct a Gateway Sign. Four locations were identified in the Our Town Grant, with one of them being on South Fulton Parkway at Rivertown Road. The City Council will approve the design and funds from the Hotel Motel Tax Fund will be used. Councilmember Godwin made a motion to approve Item No. 17-909. Councilmember Williams seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Item 17-910: An Ordinance Granting a Franchise Agreement to Comcast of Georgia/Virginia, Inc.

City Attorney Rick Lindsey presented the item. The fee is 5% of gross revenues and the term is for ten years. The city previously had a franchise agreement with Comcast that had expired, but Comcast has continued to pay the franchise fee to the city. Councilmember Hayes made a motion to approve Item No. 17-910. Councilmember Godwin seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Item 17-911: Authorize the City Manager to initiate the RFP process for a hunting lease at Jones Ferry Park.

City Manager Robbie Rokovitz presented the item. The hunting lease has been a one-year contract with an option to renew two years. After discussion between Councilmembers, the consensus was that the hunting lease needs to be readdressed. Councilmember Godwin made a motion to approve Item No. 17-911 with a one-year lease and no renewal option. Councilmember Schmidt seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Reed asked that the hunting lease discussion be added to a Work Session agenda for further discussion.

Mayor and Council Comments

Councilmember Hayes complimented Public Works, Police and Fire on the outstanding job with emergency operations related to Hurricane Irma.

Councilmember Godwin said she agrees with Councilmember Hayes.

Councilmember Williams agreed and thanked the community and Providence Baptist Church for their work during the storm.

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Councilmember Stephens said everyone did a great job.

Councilmember Schmidt commended the staff. He said that they are staff that the city has been trying to get into place, and they need to be allowed to do their job.

Mayor Reed commented on the great leadership in the city and asked David Goode to pass along his thanks to Providence Baptist Church and Kay Long.

Executive Session (None)

Adjourn Meeting *Councilmember Godwin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Williams seconded. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.*

Approved this 3rd day of October, 2017.

Dana Wicher, City Clerk

Tom Reed, Mayor