

Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
City of Chattahoochee Hills, Georgia
March 1, 2016 / 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, Claire Williams, Faye Godwin, and Don Hayes. Councilmember Schmidt was absent. Also present was City Attorney Rick Lindsey. Mayor Reed led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Review and Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Minutes

1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 2, 2016

Councilmember Williams made a motion to approve minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 2, 2016. Councilmember Godwin seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Staff Reports

Financial Update: Kyle Jones

Mr. Jones said he would be happy to answer any questions about the financials. The FY2017 Budget Retreat is being held on March 4th at 8:30 a.m. at city hall. Business license renewals are due March 31st.

Fire Department Report: Greg Brett

Chief Brett was not present. No report was given.

Public Works Report: Greg Brett (serving as Interim Public Works/Parks Director)

Chief Brett was not present. No report was given.

Police Department Report: Donnie Keeter

Interim Chief Keeter reported there were no changes in personnel or training, and there were no major purchases during the previous month. There were ten arrests and 120 citations. One vehicle unit is out for body damage repairs. Investigator Dyer made an arrest that helped clear up six open burglary cases. He presented Investigator Dyer with a letter of commendation.

Community Development: Mike Morton

Mr. Morton gave the Mayor and Council a report of the building permits issued in February. The Planning Commission has scheduled a Special Called Work Session on March 3rd at 6:00 p.m. to discuss a number of topics related to open space. The first Comp Plan Steering Committee meeting was held on February 23rd. The first city-wide Comp Plan Public Meeting is scheduled for March 22nd, and the first of the Rico Crossroads Community meetings is scheduled for March 15th. The Rico Crossroads Community meeting will gauge the community's interest in possible crossroads development. If there is not enough interest, the process will not go any further.

Presentations/Proclamations (None)

Public Comment

Maribeth Wansley, 9895 Brazell Road – said a day of service was held on Saturday, February 20th in honor of Lt. Mike Vogt, who was killed in the line of duty six years ago. Interim Police Chief Keeter, Melea Brett, and Mayor Reed spoke at a ceremony and there was a moment of silence. Following the ceremony, 23 volunteers picked up 59 bags of litter along Highway 70 and Cochran Mill Road, 14 volunteers worked on the trails at Cochran Mill Park, and two volunteers worked on the concession stand at Rico Park. She thanked Fire Chief Brett, Interim Police Chief Keeter, and Corporal Lipham for their help. She said her hope was that this will become an annual event and that more volunteers will contribute in such a positive way.

Marcia Lee, 6530 Rico Road – said that the Work Session on February 25th was used to slander the former police chief's name. She said that the subject of the ownership of the K-9s came up in the work session. Don Hayes purchased K-9 Toby for the city as a private citizen by donating half of the money to buy him, and the former chief provided the rest of the money. The backlog of three years of uncollected parking tickets was also brought up at the work session. She said that the court or the city clerk is responsible for processing the tickets and it was not the former chief's responsibility. The City Manager also brought up the two breathalyzers at the work session. She said the first breathalyzer was obtained by a grant and was not necessary because the city uses Douglas County's breathalyzer. The second breathalyzer was on loan from the state and was probably packed up with other TomorrowWorld equipment. She said the former chief was head hunted because he was a friend of the mayor and the three majority votes on the city council felt threatened by this. She also said that the mayor should have taken a stand to defend the former chief. Ms. Lee submitted a copy of her comments for the record.

Susan Tillander, 9900 Woodruff Road – said that she Googled the newly hired Police Chief's name and found reports of sex scandals while he was Deputy Police Chief at Henry County Police Department. She said that there were internal investigation reports

that indicated misconduct and lack of trust in the executive leadership of the Henry County Police Department. She said there was an attempt to make a case against the former Police Chief by bringing up parking tickets, intoxilyzers, and the K-9's. She said even if the things brought up against the former chief are true, they are still not as bad as a sex scandal. She asked the Mayor and Council to bring back Matt.

Lynn Merrill, 560 Tabb Way – invited the public to a community wide blood drive in honor of residents Gordon and Linda Ramsey. Gordon Ramsey recently had to have major surgery while out of the country. The blood drive will be held at the Bosch Center on Sunday, March 20th @ 11:00 a.m.

Public Hearings

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

- 1. Item 16-787:** Public Hearing to consider an Ordinance to Amend and Revise Chapter 22, Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, Section 9.2.B.

Mayor Reed opened the public hearing.

City Planner Mike Morton presented the item. Section 9.2.B covers the way preservation areas can be used. The proposed amendment corrects a drafting area to reflect the original intent.

There was no public comment.

Mayor Reed closed the public hearing.

- 2. Item 16-787:** Action to consider an Ordinance to Amend and Revise Chapter 22, Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, Section 9.2.B.

Councilmember Stephens made a motion to approve Item No. 16-787. Councilmember Williams seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- 3. Item 16-788:** Public Hearing to consider a Special Use Permit (Petition No. 15U-001) request from Emily Ewing for Pet Care Services in an HM-MU District located at 9057 Selborne Lane.

Mayor Reed opened the public hearing.

Emily Ewing, applicant, presented her request to operate a Pet Care services business at 9057 Selborne Lane. She said the business will offer pet grooming, doggy daycare, and dog walking services. There will be a maximum of 8-10 dogs. She will apply acoustic

foam to the walls, temperament test all dogs, and use a cleaning product on any dog urine or excrement in the gravel courtyard area.

City Attorney Rick Lindsey read letters of support from the following people:

- 1. Sharon Crews*
- 2. Randy Boulter*

The following person spoke in support of the item:

- 1. Michael Taylor, 9073 Selborne Lane*

No one spoke in opposition of the item.

Mayor Reed closed the public hearing.

City Planner Mike Morton presented the item. He stated the Planning Commission recommended approval of the Special Use Permit with the following conditions:

- 1. Addition of noise reducing curtains or wall treatments*
 - 2. One-year expiration of the permit with a reapplication for a Special Use Permit at expiration.*
 - 3. Temperament testing of the dogs.*
- 4. Item 16-788:** Action to consider a Special Use Permit (Petition No. 15U-001) request from Emily Ewing for Pet Care Services in an HM-MU District located at 9057 Selborne Lane.

Councilmember Godwin made a motion to approve Item No. 16-788 with the conditions recommended by the Planning Commission. Councilmember Williams seconded.

Councilmember Hayes said that it is difficult to build a new business and he recommends leaving off the condition of expiration after one year.

Mayor Reed asked the Councilmembers if they were in agreement to leave the condition requiring temperament testing of the dogs. The Councilmembers agreed unanimously.

Mayor Reed asked the Councilmembers if they were in agreement to leave the condition requiring the addition of noise reducing curtains or wall treatments. The Councilmembers agreed unanimously.

Mayor Reed asked the Councilmembers if they were in agreement to remove the condition of the one-year expiration of the permit with reapplication for a Special Use Permit at expiration. The Councilmembers agreed unanimously.

Councilmember Godwin made a motion to approve Item No. 16-788 with the following conditions:

- 1. Addition of noise reducing conditions or wall treatment*
- 2. Temperament testing of the dogs*

Councilmember Stephens seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussions *(None)*

Unfinished Business *(None)*

New Business

- 1. Item 16-794:** Resolution Declaring Surplus Property and Sale of Surplus Property.

Finance Director Kyle Jones presented the item. Staff recommends the surplus sale of four police vehicles. If approved by Council, he will work with Interim Police Chief Keeter to sell the vehicles through GovDeals.com. Councilmember Hayes made a motion to approve Item No. 16-794. Councilmember Williams seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- 2. Item 16-795:** Resolution Declaring Surplus Property and Trade of Surplus Property.

Interim City Manager Mike Jackson presented the item. He said this is a housekeeping item necessary to bring inventory and the books in line. Councilmember Godwin made a motion to approve Item No. 16-795. Councilmember Stephens seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor and Council Comments

Mayor Reed said that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners will be considering an action on the Beaver House property at their meeting on March 2nd. He invited the public to attend to show support of the property being sold to the city.

Adjourn Meeting

Councilmember Godwin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Stephens seconded. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

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.

Approved this 12th day of April, 2016.

Dana Wicher, City Clerk

Tom Reed, Mayor

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.