

Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
City of Chattahoochee Hills, Georgia
March 13, 2018 / 6:00 p.m.

Call to Order

Mayor Reed called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Councilmembers in attendance were James Stephens, Richard Schmidt, Claire Williams, Alan Merrill, and Don Hayes. All members were present. Also present was City Attorney Rick Lindsey.

Review and Approval of Agenda

Mayor Reed requested that the agenda be amended by removing the following items:

- 1. Item 18-941, Resolution appointing members to the Planning Commission*
- 2. Item 18-942, Approval of the Planning Commission meeting schedule for April 2018 – March 2019*

Councilmember Schmidt made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Councilmember Stephens seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

- 1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 6, 2018*
Councilmember Stephens made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 6, 2018. Councilmember Hayes seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Presentations/Proclamations *(None)*

Staff Reports

Financial Update: City Manager Robbie Rokovitz

Mr. Rokovitz reported the city is 67.95 percent through the fiscal year as of March 5th. 89 percent of property tax revenues have been collected. Overall, 104 percent of revenues have been collected; however, this includes cash reserves that will be used for capital projects that have not occurred yet. Expenditures are 60 percent, not including capital expenditures.

Fire Department Report: Greg Brett

Chief Brett introduced "C" Shift Firefighters in attendance at the meeting – new hire Kyle McElroy, Kevin Fleming, Coley Jones, Josh Whitley. The South Fulton Zone Patient Transport contract will be open for bid beginning April 26th. He continues to receive calls from residents regarding homeowner's insurance increases due to the protective class rating. The Hurricane Irma recovery process is ongoing.

Police Department Report: Stoney Mathis

Chief Mathis reported Officer Mark Shelley is a new hire to replace an officer that

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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.

resigned in February. Officer Michelle Lam is currently in K-9 School in south Georgia. The statistics for February include seven investigations, 184 citations, 233 warnings, 28 parking citations, 7 arrests, 40 reports, and 124 dispatched calls. He also commented on a burglary investigation that took place in March.

Public Works/Parks Report: Darold Wendlandt

Darold Wendlandt reported that his department has developed a detailed plan for maintaining the rights-of-way over the cutting season. He has two recent new hires, and his departments are now fully staffed. The weather continues to delay grading and ditching the gravel roads. The March 3rd Peak Racing event at Cochran Mill Park was successful with 200 runners in attendance. Other upcoming events in the parks include SORBA and REI trail classes April 7th and 8th, Rico Park ball season starting on March 24th, and Campbellton Park clean up on April 7th.

Community Development: Mike Morton

Mr. Morton reported there were 14 single family and a total of 22 building permits issued in February. There also were two Certificates of Occupancy issue and 90 inspections completed. Upcoming special events are the Serenbe Trail Race on April 14th, VeloCity bike ride on May 5th, and May Day on May 6th. The agenda for the Planning Commission meeting on March 15th will include public hearings for the HC District Zoning amendments and the Serenbe Inn Pool variance.

Public Comment

Lynn Merrill, 560 Tabb Way – encouraged everyone to support the Chattahoochee Hills Charter School. She also invited everyone to attend the charter school event “Blueprint for Success” on March 22nd.

Diana Wilson, 8130 Cochran Mill Road – invited everyone to the Chattahoochee Riverkeepers “Sweep the Hooch” clean-up event at Campbellton Park on April 7th from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Public Hearings

- 1. Item 18-930:** Public Hearing and Action on an Ordinance to annex 88.76 +/- acres in Coweta County under the 100% method.

City Attorney Rick Lindsey read the rules for the public hearing.

Mike Morton presented the item. The applicant is Serenbe CH Properties, LLC. The property is approximately 88.76 landlocked acres bordering the other Serenbe property in the city. Upon approval of the annexation ordinance, the property would be rezoned to RL Rural, would be designated “Preferred Agricultural and Rural Residential Area” on the Future Development map, and would be given the voting designation of Council District 4. The Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval at their February 15th meeting.

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Mayor Reed opened the public hearing.

There were no public comments in favor or opposed to the item.

Laurie Searle, 12600 Whiteside Road – said she did not object to the item but was concerned about a public comment made in the Planning Commission meeting that there may be burial grounds on the property. In 2009, she worked on a project documenting all cemeteries in Chattahoochee Hills. Condor Cemetery was surveyed and recorded on the adjoining Serenbe property. She asked the applicant for permission to access this property to determine if there is a burial ground and, if so, volunteered to survey and record the site. Prior to the meeting, Ms. Searle had submitted a written copy of her comments for the record.

Steve Nygren (applicant) – said the neighboring landowner made him aware of a pile of rocks on the property and he welcomed Laurie Searle to investigate it.

Mayor Reed Closed the public hearing.

Councilmember Stephens made a motion to approve Item No. 18-930. Councilmember Williams seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business (None)

New Business

- 1. Item 18-933:** First reading of an Ordinance for variances to the permitted location of accessory structures and the minimum front yard setback in the RL (Rural) District.

City Planner Mike Morton presented the item. The variance request is to allow a swimming pool at the Inn at Serenbe, 10950 Hutcheson Ferry Road, less than sixty feet from the Hutcheson Ferry Road right-of-way. The first public hearing will be held at the Planning Commission Regular Meeting on March 15th. No Action was taken.

- 2. Item 18-934:** First reading of an Ordinance for to amend and revise Chapter 35 City of Chattahoochee Hills Zoning Ordinance and to change the Zoning Map. *City Planner Mike Morton presented the item. The proposed ordinance establishes an HC Historic Crossroads District and changes the zoning on approximately 7.66 acres at the north corner of Highway 154 and Highway 92 from RL to HC. The first public hearing will be held at the Planning Commission Regular Meeting on March 15th. No action was taken.*

- 3. Item 18-935:** Ordinance revising the Personnel Policy Handbook to allow employees to carry a firearm on their person and/or in a city vehicle.

City Manager Robbie Rokovitz presented the item. The proposed policy would allow non-sworn personnel that have met certain parameters to carry an approved concealed firearm in their vehicle and/or on their person. Councilmember Hayes made a motion to decline Item No. 18-935. There was no second. The item died for lack of motion.

4. Item 18-936: Ordinance revising the Personnel Policy Handbook replacing the current vacation and sick time policy with a Paid Time Off (PTO) policy.

City Manager Robbie Rokovitz presented the item. The proposed revision would replace the current vacation and sick time policy with a Paid Time Off (PTO) policy and would establish an incremental accrual rate that increases with years of service. Councilmember Hayes made a motion to table Item. No. 18-936. Councilmember Merrill seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Item 18-937: Resolution authorizing the Georgia State Legislature to create an act to establish a Convention and Visitors Bureau Authority for the city.

Mayor Reed presented the item. He said the resolution included in the packet is not the version being considered. The resolution will state that the Mayor and Council request the Legislature to create an act to allow the city to establish a Convention and Visitors Bureau Authority. Councilmember Williams made a motion to approve Item No. 18-937. Councilmember Merrill seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Item 19-938: Resolution accepting the donation of artwork for the display in city hall – “Sunflowers” by Adrienne Anbinder.

Councilmember Merrill presented the item. The artwork entitled “Sunflowers” is being donated by Adrienne Anbinder. Councilmember Merrill made a motion approve Item No. 18-938. Councilmember Schmidt seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Item 18-939: Resolution appointing members to the Parks Commission.

Mayor Reed presented the item. He is reappointing Diana Wilson, Kay Long, Roland Alston, Laurie Searle, and Tom Blum. Councilmember Merrill made a motion approve Item No. 18-939. Councilmember Hayes seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Item 18-940: Approval of the Parks Commission meeting schedule for April 2018 – March 2019.

Councilmember Merrill made a motion approve Item No. 18-940. Councilmember Hayes seconded. The motion passed unanimously

9. Item 18-941: Resolution appointing members to the Planning Commission. *Removed from agenda.*

10. Item 18-942: Approval of the Planning Commission meeting schedule for April 2018 – March 2019. *Removed from agenda.*

Mayor and Council Comments

Councilmember Hayes commented on an outing earlier in the day taken with staff and Parks Commission members.

Councilmember Schmidt said he received a call from a citizen commenting on the great job staff is doing on the right-of-way. He also complimented Chief Mathis on the good work of the police department.

Councilmember Schmidt said it was good to see the new Medical Response Unit at city hall this evening. He also said the city has a responsibility to protect its citizens.

Councilmember Merrill commented on the new format of the meetings and said he hoped the citizens will feel better informed because of the changes.

Mayor Reed thanked everyone for bearing with the Council and staff as everyone adjusts to the new format.

Executive Session

Councilmember Merrill made a motion to move to Executive Session to discuss legal matters. Councilmember Hayes seconded. The motion passed unanimously at 7:35 p.m.

Councilmember Merrill made motion to come out of Executive Session. Councilmember Hayes seconded. The motion passed unanimously at 7:40 p.m.

Councilmember Schmidt made a motion to reconvene the Regular Meeting. Councilmember Williams seconded. The motion passed unanimously at 7:45 p.m.

Adjourn Meeting

Councilmember Schmidt made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Stephens seconded. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Approved this 10th day of April, 2018.

Dana Wicher, City Clerk

Tom Reed, Mayor