

**Minutes**  
**Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council**  
**City of Chattahoochee Hills, Georgia**  
**March 10, 2020 / 6:00 p.m.**

**Call to Order**

*Mayor Reed called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. Councilmembers in attendance were Ruby Foster, Richard Schmidt, Laurie Searle, Alan Merrill, and Troy Bettis. All members were present. Also present was City Attorney Rick Lindsey.*

**Review and Approval of Agenda**

*Mayor Reed called for a motion to amend the agenda as follows:*

- 1. Remove Agenda Item 20-009, Resolution amending the City Council 2020 meeting schedule.*

*Councilmember Schmidt made a motion to approve the agenda as amended.*

*Councilmember Bettis seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Approval of Minutes**

- 1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 4, 2020*

*Councilmember Merrill made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 4, 2020. Councilmember Searle seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Public Comment**

*Lynn Merrill, 560 Tabb Way – said the Serenbe Community Care Network has mounted a campaign to raise funds to purchase a Lucas Chest Compression device for the Fire Department. The cost of the unit is \$19,600. She asked for support from each of the Council districts. She said they have been fundraising for two weeks and currently have raised \$8,312. Her goal is to turn over the full amount to the Fire Department at the next Council meeting.*

*Tom Swanston, 7650 Rico Road – said he lives at Rico Lake and is about to lose his internet service from Southern Internet, a local company that is going out of business. He also recently purchased the Masonic Lodge building just down the road and spoke to several companies about getting internet. Sprint quoted \$125,000 to run internet. He decided to go with a satellite internet provider. He said it seems like we are in a critical place to figure it out and get a handle on what is possible. He said internet is a utility, and we should be able to handle it as a city.*

**Presentations/Proclamations**

*There were no presentations or proclamations.*

## **Staff Reports**

### **Financial Update: City Manager Robbie Rokovitz**

*Mr. Rokovitz reported on the year-to-date financials as of March 2, 2020. The city is 66.3 percent through the fiscal year. General Fund revenues, including reserves, are 83.2 percent, and General Fund expenditures are 48.8 percent.*

### **Fire Department Report: Greg Brett**

*Chief Brett reported that Lieutenant Mike Allen retired on February 29<sup>th</sup>. He also spoke about the Coronavirus (COVID-19) threat. He said the city has a disaster management plan that includes a biological hazard incident response plan. He said the plan addresses how decisions would be made for services to continue or be downgraded and the training for all city departments.*

### **Police Department Report: Jim Little**

*Chief Little reported the statistics for February 2020. There were 120 dispatched calls, 1,217 self-initiated calls, 134 citations, 87 warnings, and 16 parking citations. The Ford F150 patrol vehicle has been received and upfitted and has been assigned to Sgt. Digou. A conditional offer has been made to a candidate to fill the open position. The department has been working on receiving their "Risk Reduction Certificate", and he expects to have it wrapped up within the next 30 days. This is the first step in state accreditation.*

### **Public Works/Parks Report: Darold Wendlandt**

*Mr. Wendlandt reported that Cochran Road and Jenkins Road been completed. Staff will be working on Garretts Ferry Road and Whiteside Road next. Crews have also been repairing washes and potholes on the gravel roads. He said there will be a fruit tree planting at Cochran Mill Park on Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, and he encouraged citizens to participate. The "Sweep the Hooch" clean up event at Campbellton Park and the Peak Racing trail race at Cochran Mill Park will both be held on April 4<sup>th</sup>.*

### **Community Development: Mike Morton**

*Mr. Morton reported that there were 16 total permits, with six of them for single family dwellings, issued in February 2020. The contract with Pond and Company for the Campbellton planning process is fully executed. There have been recent meetings with TSW regarding the zoning ordinance revisions. The Arbor Day event that was postponed has not been rescheduled yet because of the weather. The upcoming Planning Commission meeting on March 12<sup>th</sup> will have a preliminary plat and the April 2020 - March 2021 meeting schedule on the agenda.*

## **Public Hearing**

- 1. Item 20-006:** Public Hearing and Action on an Ordinance to Revise and Amend Chapter 30, Traffic and Roadways, Providing for the Revision and Amendment of Section 30-1(d) and Appendix A Thereto.

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

*Mayor Reed opened the public hearing.*

*The following people spoke in support of the item:*

- 1. Bob Simpson, 8735 Watkins Road – said he is in favor of lowering the speed limits on Watkins Road and Atlanta Newnan Road. He said the roads are too narrow and winding for speed limits of 35 or 45 mph.*
- 2. Hope Harrison, 9158 Selborne Lane – said when she moved here 12 years ago, she loved to run along the rural roads. About two years ago, she stopped doing it because it had gotten too unsafe. She said by reducing the speeds, it will slow people down and make it safer.*
- 3. Steve Nygren, 9070 Selborne Lane – said Atlanta Newnan Road is a main cut through from Tommy Lee Cook Road and it is posted at 35 mph on the Coweta County side. He said there have been several near misses for people crossing at the Art Farm and a 35-mph speed limit will help. He also said that installing a crosswalk at that location would increase safety.*

*There was no other public comment.*

*Mayor Reed closed the public hearing.*

*Mayor Reed called for a motion on Item No. 20-006 as amended at the work session. Councilmember Merrill made a motion to approve Item No. 20-006 as amended. Councilmember Foster seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

### **Unfinished Business**

*There was no unfinished business.*

### **New Business**

- 1. Item 20-007:** Approval of a contract with Imagine Festival, LLC and/or Code 4 Event Management for the Imagine Festival 2020 special event. *Community Development Director Mike Morton presented the item and introduced Glenn and Madeleine Goodhand with Imagine Festival, LLC. He said the contract is 95 percent negotiated but there are still a few items to finalize.*

*Glenn and Madeleine Goodhand presented their proposal for the music festival. The dates are September 18 – 20, 2020, with early arrivals on September 17<sup>th</sup>. They are expecting about 25,000 attendees per day and the plans have been designed so there is minimal impact on residents.*

*Mayor Reed called for a motion on Item No. 20-007 authorizing the Mayor to sign a final agreement that has been approved by city staff and the city attorney.*

*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 Merrill made a motion to approve Item No. 20-007. Councilmember Schmidt seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

**2. Item 20-008:** Resolution declaring two (2) Kustom ProLaser 3 handheld speed detection devices as surplus property.

*Police Chief Jim Little presented the item. The devices are over ten years old and the batteries, which are \$140 each to replace, are no longer operational. Newer units now operate off of AA batteries.*

*Mayor Reed called for a motion on Item No. 20-008. Councilmember Searle made a motion to approve Item No. 20-008. Councilmember Foster seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

**3. Item 20-009:** Resolution amending the City Council 2020 meeting schedule.  
*Removed from the agenda.*

### **Mayor and Council Comments**

*Councilmember Searle thanked City Manager Robbie Rokovitz and Judy Walker for the new city newsletter.*

*Councilmember Foster thanked the staff for their hard work.*

*Mayor Reed said there was a recent ray of hope around the quality of development on the south side and the fight against the warehouses. He said the Mayor of East Point recently contacted him for advice about a potential warehouse development. There is now a moratorium in place, and they did not let it move forward. He said somebody finally put a stake in the ground in the fight for higher quality development.*

### **Executive Session**

*Councilmember Schmidt made a motion to move to into Executive Session to discuss real estate matters. Councilmember Bettis seconded. The motion passed unanimously at 7:10 p.m.*

*Councilmember Schmidt made a motion to convene the Executive Session. Councilmember Bettis seconded. The motion passed unanimously at 7:12 p.m.*

*Councilmember Searle made motion to come out of Executive Session. Councilmember Schmidt seconded. The motion passed unanimously at 7:36 p.m.*

*Councilmember Schmidt made a motion to reconvene the Regular Meeting. Councilmember Merrill seconded. The motion passed unanimously at 7:41 p.m.*

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**Adjourn Meeting**

*Councilmember Merrill made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Schmidt seconded. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.*

**Approved this 5<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020.**

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**Dana Wicher, City Clerk**

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**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.*