

Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
City of Chattahoochee Hills, Georgia
June 2, 2020 / 6:00 p.m.

Call to Order

Mayor Reed called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Councilmembers in attendance were Richard Schmidt, Laurie Searle, Alan Merrill, and Troy Bettis. Councilmember Ruby Foster was absent. 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. Add presentation on Telecommunications & Right of Way Management Agreement by Darin Jenkins and Greg Fender (via Zoom)*
- 2. Agenda Item No. 20-014, Telecommunications & Right of Way Management Agreement with the Georgia Municipal Association.*

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

Approval of Minutes

- 1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 5, 2020*

Councilmember Schmidt made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 5, 2020. Councilmember Searle seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Presentations/Proclamations

- 1. Telecommunications & Right of Way Management Agreement – Darin Jenkins and Greg Fender, Georgia Municipal Association (via Zoom)*

Greg Fender and Darin Jenkins presented an overview of the services provided under the Telecommunications & Right of Way agreement. City staff had approached them about a potential land lease for a Verizon tower on property at Cochran Mill Park. IF the city enters into the agreement, they will negotiate on behalf of the city for a higher lease amount as well as a revenue sharing provision.

Public Comment

Mark Prater, 6345 Cochran Mill Road – urged the Council not to increase the parking at Cochran Mill Park. He owns property adjacent to the park and has issues with park users parking on his property, making U-turns, and leaving trash along the road. There are other areas in the city that could use the money. He said probably 0.05% of the people using the park are Chattahoochee Hills citizens, and he has a lot of heartburn spending money on things for people who do not pay taxes.

Staff Reports

Financial Update: City Manager Robbie Rokovitz

Mr. Rokovitz reported on the updated financials as of May 31, 2020. The city is 91 percent through the fiscal year. Revenues are 92 percent, and expenditures are 67 percent. There will be a Special Called meeting on June 11 at 6:00 p.m. for the second budget public hearing and adoption of the Fiscal Year 2021 budget.

Councilmember Schmidt asked if there would be a Work Session prior to the Special Called meeting to discuss the budget. After discussion among the Mayor and Councilmembers, the consensus was to hold a Work Session on June 11th at 5:00 p.m.

Fire Department Report: Greg Brett

Chief Brett gave an update on the COVID-19 status. He said Governor Kemp has extended the state of emergency until July 12th, and he has been having discussions with the State Department of Public Health, Fulton County Board of Health, and AFCEMA (Atlanta-Fulton County Emergency Management Agency) about a possible resurgence of COVID-19 in the fall. He met with the new Fire Chief of the City of South Fulton earlier in the day and is hopeful that there will be fast movement toward an automatic aid agreement with them.

Police Department Report: Jim Little

Chief Little reported since the COVID-19 restrictions have been relaxed, there has been an increase in activity. Dispatched calls are up and there were 112 citations issued. There was a significant increase in parking citations due to the parking situation at Cochran Mill Park. There are three open positions in the department, and he has given a conditional offer for one of the Uniform Patrol Division positions to Marcy Queen.

Public Works/Parks Report: Darold Wendlandt

Mr. Wendlandt reported that business is as usual but staff has spent a good amount of time in the parks to prepare for reopening and to stay on top of extra maintenance due to the increase of visitors. He also reported that the graffiti on the rocks along the parkway has been removed.

Councilmember Searle requested that the bathrooms at Rico Park be unlocked and that the outside spigot be turned on for use by cyclists. There was general consensus among Councilmembers, and Mr. Wendlandt said it would be done.

Community Development: Mike Morton

Mr. Morton reported that there were six new building permits for May 2020. He also said that Imagine Musical Festival had submitted plans for the music festival planned for September but has not submitted the signed contract. He also gave an update on the Campbellton Master Plan process and the Zoning Ordinance rewrite. The next Planning

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.

Commission is on June 11th at 6:30 p.m. The only item for the agenda is a concept plan proposal for a section of Serenbe adjacent to the farmettes.

Public Hearing

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

1. **Item 20-011:** Public Hearing and Action on an Ordinance to Approve a Special Use Permit for a Personal Care Home in the RL (Rural) District and for All Other Purposes Related Thereto – property is located at 3915 Cascade Palmetto Highway.

Community Development Director Mike Morton presented the item. The property is a 5-acre lot with an existing single-family home. The proposal is for a personal care home that will serve four patients.

Mayor Reed opened the public hearing.

The following person spoke in support of the item:

1. *Andrea Cargill, 8835 Northcutt Road, Fairburn, GA (applicant) – said the proposed home would provide care for four clients. The care they provide includes feeding, clothing, medication, and other similar needs. Staff will be onsite 24 hours a day.*

There was no other public comment.

Mayor Reed closed the public hearing.

Mayor Reed called for a motion on Item No. 20-011. Councilmember Searle made a motion to approve Item No. 20-011. Councilmember Merrill seconded.

After discussion between Councilmembers and the applicant, Mayor Reed called for an amended motion to include the conditions recommended by staff. Councilmember Schmidt made a motion to approve 20-011 with the recommended conditions. Councilmember Bettis seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

2. **Item 20-013:** Public Hearing on an Ordinance to Adopt the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget for Each Fund of the City of Chattahoochee Hills, Georgia Appropriating the Amounts Shown in Each Budget as Expenditures, Adopting the Several Items of Revenue Anticipations, Prohibiting Expenditures to Exceed Appropriations, and Prohibiting Expenditures to Exceed Actual Funding Available.

City Manager Robbie Rokovitz presented the item. The budget has been reduced in anticipation of a reduction in revenues, and there are no funds allocated to capital expenditures. The second public hearing is scheduled for June 11th at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Reed opened the public hearing.

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.

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.

There was no public comment.

Mayor Reed closed the public hearing.

No action was taken.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

New Business

1. **Item 20-014:** Approval of Telecommunications & Right of Way Management Agreement with the Georgia Municipal Association.

City Attorney Rick Lindsey recommended approval of the agreement now but that the 30-day advance notice of termination clause be changed prior to it being automatically renewed.

Mayor Reed called for a motion on Item No. 20-014. Councilmember Merrill made a motion to approve Item No. 20-014. Councilmember Schmidt seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor and Council Comments

Councilmember Schmidt said he appreciated how the city has functioned with everything that has been going on. He said we have very good people in every department and he appreciates everyone's hard work.

Councilmember Searle mentioned that a city staff member had repainted the Rico Community sign on his own time and said that it was so cool that staff cared that much.

Councilmember Merrill said we have an advantage of being a small city. It makes us a lot more efficient, and he appreciates the nimbleness with which collectively take action.

Councilmember Bettis said he would not be verbose and told everyone good job.

Mayor Reed said during times like these, you realize how lucky we are to live where we live. There is no place I'd rather have to shelter-in-place! And with the tensions in the Country, we are so lucky to have thoughtfully put in place the tempo that we have with our police department. We have a customer service focused police environment that treats people well. He also said he appreciates Chief Brett's involvement in COVID-19 response both within the city and his support around us. He also commented on the Public Works staff's hard work getting the park ready to open. The level to which our crew fights for the right things for their city is impressive.

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.

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 said the Fulton County Board of Education recently announced their plans for conducting school in the next school year. They have a variety of options available, so the charter school will be able to choose which option best suits their situation.

Executive Session

There was no Executive Session.

Adjourn Meeting

Councilmember Schmidt made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Bettis seconded. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Approved this 7th day of July, 2020.

Dana Wicher, City Clerk

Tom Reed, Mayor