

Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
City of Chattahoochee Hills, Georgia
October 2, 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, Claire Williams, Alan Merrill, and Don Hayes. Councilmember Richard Schmidt was absent. Also present was City Attorney Rick Lindsey.

Review and Approval of Agenda

Mayor Reed requested that the agenda be amended to add Item No. 18-985, Revise Work Session meeting time. Councilmember Merrill made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Councilmember Stephens seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Presentations/Proclamations

There were no presentations or proclamations.

Approval of Minutes

1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 11, 2018
Councilmember Hayes made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 11, 2018. Councilmember Merrill seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Tom Blum, 9226 Selborne Lane – spoke in support of Item No. 18-983. He said that he recently has taken up kayaking and looks forward to being able to access the Chattahoochee River from Campbellton Park.

Staff Reports

Financial Update: City Manager Robbie Rokovitz

Mr. Rokovitz reported that the city is 25 percent through the fiscal year. Revenues are at 35.8 percent including fund balance, and expenditures are 20 percent.

Fire Department Report: Greg Brett

Chief Brett reported that incident statistics for 2018 are trending to be the same as 2017. The burn banned was lifted on October 1st, and the new fire engine should go into service October 15th. The Fire Department has free, ten-year Kidde smoke detectors available to residents with inoperable or old units. Grady Healthcare ambulance services continue to yield good response times.

Police Department Report: Jim Little

Chief Little reported the statistics for September. There were 106 citations, 243 warnings, 2 parking citations, 7 arrests, 28 reports, 88 dispatched calls, 388 self-initiated calls, and 188 business and residence checks. There were also 7 investigations and 24 code enforcement cases. Sergeants Dyer and Digou attended Active Shooter training, and Chief Little and Sergeant Dyer attended Leadership Training through the Atlanta Police Leadership Institute.

Public Works/Parks Report: Darold Wendlandt

Mr. Wendlandt reported that the grading contractor had started work on Jones Ferry Road. He said he is monitoring the work, and it is going well.

Community Development: Mike Morton

Mr. Morton reported there were a total of 10 building permits issued in September, with three of them being for new single-family residences. There also were two Certificates of Occupancy issued and 92 inspections were completed. There are several ongoing Production Permits and upcoming Special Events scheduled for October and November.

Public Hearings

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

1. Item 18-979: Public Hearing and Action on a Variance to the Minimum Side Yard Setback in the RL (Rural) District.

City Planner Mike Morton presented the item. The applicant is seeking a variance to reduce the side setbacks of 39 lots from 25 to 15 feet.

Mayor Reed opened the public hearing.

The following person spoke in favor of the item:

James Nicholson, 114 Village Circle, Senoia, GA (applicant) – he said the reduction of the side yard setback from 25 feet to 15 feet will allow for a larger home, with a higher price point.

There was no other public comment.

Mayor Reed closed the public hearing.

Councilmember Merrill made a motion to approve Item No. 18-979. Councilmember Williams seconded.

City Planner Mike Morton presented the staff recommendation. Staff recommends approval of the variance with the four conditions recommended by the 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.

Councilmember Stephens made a motion to approve Item No. 18-979 with the four conditions. Councilmember Williams seconded. Councilmember Merrill asked if the applicant agreed to the four conditions, and Mr. Nicholson confirmed. The motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business

There was no Unfinished Business.

New Business

- 1. Item 18-983:** Resolution approving the Boat Ramp Operation and Maintenance Agreement with the Department of Natural Resources.
Parks Commission Chair Diana Wilson presented the item. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will design, engineer, and construct a boat ramp at Campbellton Park at no cost to the city. The city must enter into a 25-year lease agreement with the DNR and maintain the ramp and leased area. The Parks Commission voted unanimously to recommend approval of the item at their September 18th meeting. Councilmember Stephens made a motion to approve Item 18-983. Councilmember Hayes seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- 2. Item 18-984:** Resolution approving the submission of a grant application for the Assistance to Firefighter Program for the purchase of hostile event protective gear.
Fire Chief Greg Brett presented the item. The request is for the purchase of six hostile event protective gear sets totaling \$18,000. There is a five percent match. The application will be submitted as a regional grant application with the City of Palmetto. Councilmember Merrill made a motion to approve Item No. 18-984. Councilmember Stephens seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- 3. Item 18-985:** Revise Work Session meeting time.
Mayor Reed presented the item. He recommended changing the Work Session meeting time to 6:00 p.m. Councilmember Hayes made a motion to approve Item No. 18-985. Councilmember Merrill seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor and Council Comments

Councilmember Williams commented on the new bridge at Cochran Mill Park and thanked Diana Wilson for spearheading the project and for all the other volunteering that she does. She also thanked Tom Blum for all his volunteer time doing roadside trash pick-up.

Councilmember Merrill said he misspoke at the last meeting regarding bridge repaving being included in the Atlanta Newnan Road paving project. It is not part of the project, but the city is working on finding a way to repair the bridge.

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.

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Mayor Reed commented on the Cochran Mill Park bridge opening ceremony. He said it was rewarding to have one of the prettiest views at the park opened back up for people to enjoy. He welcomed Police Chief Jim Little to his first Council meeting and said he appreciates Chief Little's thoughtfulness on integrating into the community. He also reported that he had recently met with Fulton County, the Atlanta Regional Commission, and a firm that will help out with updates to the zoning.

Executive Session

There was no Executive Session.

Adjourn Meeting

Councilmember Merrill made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Williams seconded. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Approved this 13th day of November, 2018.

Dana Wicher, City Clerk

Tom Reed, Mayor