

**Minutes  
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council  
City of Chattahoochee Hills, Georgia  
March 5, 2019 / 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**

*Councilmember Stephens made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilmember Merrill seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Approval of Minutes**

1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 5, 2019
  2. Minutes of the Special Called Meeting of February 13, 2019
- Councilmember Merrill made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 5, 2019 and the Special Called Meeting of February 13, 2019. Councilmember Hayes seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Public Comment**

*Mark Prater, 6345 Cochran Mill Road – spoke against the proposed ordinance allowing small breweries, wineries, and distilleries in the RL District. He said these businesses are not agriculture-based businesses and the ordinances will allow commercial entities in rural areas. He suggested the city work with the consultants that are working on the zoning audit to help tweak the ordinance before approving it.*

**Presentations/Proclamations**

*There were no presentations or proclamations.*

**Staff Reports**

Financial Update: City Manager Robbie Rokovitz

*Mr. Rokovitz presented the updated financials through February 28, 2019. The city is 65.5 percent through the fiscal year. Revenues are 92.1 percent including reserves, and expenditures are 53 percent for the general fund.*

Fire Department Report: Greg Brett

*Chief Brett reported on the house explosion that happened at 4520 Cochran Mill Road, the residence of Chuck Miller. The investigation remains open. He also spoke about the emergency management role of the Fire Department. He said the monitoring of weather and other emergency concerns is on-going every day around the clock.*

**Police Department Report: Jim Little**

*Chief Little reported the statistics for February. There were 87 dispatched calls, 230 self-initiated calls, 81 citations, 176 warnings, 30 parking citations, 7 misdemeanor arrests, 4 felony arrests, 14 accident reports, 183 business checks, 181 residence checks, and two investigations. New hire Officer DeBisschop started on February 25<sup>th</sup>, and there is one open position to fill.*

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

*Mr. Wendlandt reported there have been a lot of down trees because of recent rains. He also reported that the Cochran Mill Park Trail Race held on March 2<sup>nd</sup> was a success. He received several compliments on the condition of the park and thanked volunteers for their trail maintenance work. Greystone will begin their right-of-way cutting soon.*

**Community Development: Mike Morton**

*Mr. Morton reported there were a total of 6 permits, with two of them for single family dwellings, and 5 Certificates of Occupancy issued in February. The next Planning Commission meeting will be Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup> but there is currently nothing for the agenda.*

**Public Hearing**

- 1. Item 19-014:** Public Hearing and Action to consider an application for an Alcohol Beverage License for Off Premise Package Sales – Wine and Malt Beverages. The name in which the license is to be issued – The Wine Shop at Serenbe, LLC/Licensee – Lucas Barry. The location of the premises – 9135 Selborne Lane, Unit B.

*City Clerk Dana Wicher presented the item. The application is for a wine and malt beverage package sales license at 9135 Selborne Lane, Unit B. The application has been reviewed and approved by staff.*

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

*Mayor Reed opened the public hearing.*

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

- 1. Lucas Barry (applicant), 370 Anders North*

*There was no other public comment. Mayor Reed closed the public hearing.*

*Mayor Reed called for a motion on Item No. 19-014. Councilmember Merrill made a motion to approve Item No. 19-014. Councilmember Stephens seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

## **Unfinished Business**

- 1. Item 19-003:** Ordinance to revise and amend Chapter 35, Zoning, to allow for small craft breweries, wineries, and distilleries.

*City Planner Mike Morton presented the item. The proposed ordinance adds zoning land use and zoning regulation to allow small craft breweries, wineries, and distilleries. Mr. Morton presented the changes discussed at the February 13, 2019 Work Session. The Planning Commission recommended approval 3-1, and staff recommends approval.*

*Mayor Reed called for a motion on Item No. 19-003. Councilmember Stephens made a motion to approve Item No. 19-003. Councilmember Merrill seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

- 2. Item 19-004:** Ordinance to revise and amend Chapter 4, Alcohol Beverages, Articles I, II, V, VI and VII to create a new license for breweries, distilleries, and to provide for the sale of alcoholic beverage at breweries, farm wineries and distilleries.

*City Attorney Rick Lindsey presented the item. Changes to the proposed ordinance include reducing the quantities of the malt beverages and wine. If the Council wishes to reduce the quantity of distilled spirits to 250 gallons, the motion will need to reflect that change.*

*Mayor Reed called for a motion on Item No. 19-004. Councilmember Stephens made a motion to approve Item No. 19-004 with a maximum limit of 250 barrels of distilled spirits. Councilmember Merrill seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

- 3. Item 19-005:** Ordinance to set Alcohol Beverage License Fees for breweries, farm wineries, and distilleries.

*City Clerk Dana Wicher presented the item. The proposed annual fee for brewery licenses, distillery licenses, and farm winery licenses is \$1,300.00.*

*Mayor Reed called for a motion on Item No. 19-005. Councilmember Stephens made a motion to approve Item No. 19-005. Councilmember Merrill seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

## **New Business**

- 1. Item 19-015:** Resolution opposing House Bill 302 and Senate Bill 172, Preemption of Local Building Design Standards.

*Mayor Tom Reed presented the item. The proposed bills would take away a city's ability to adopt building design standards. The Georgia Municipal Association is opposed to the bills.*

*Mayor Reed called for a motion on Item No. 19-015. Councilmember Hayes made a motion to approve Item No. 19-015. Councilmember Stephens seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

**2. Item 19-016:** Ordinance to adopt a revised Bond and Fine Schedule.

*City Manager Robbie Rokovitz presented the item. The proposed bond and fine schedule adds a fee category for violations not listed by code section.*

*Mayor Reed called for a motion on Item No. 19-016. Councilmember Merrill made a motion to approve Item No. 19-016. Councilmember Stephens seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

**3. Item 19-017:** Resolution authorizing the sale of Police Canine "Aris".

*City Manager Robbie Rokovitz presented the item. The Canine Unit is no longer active due to the recent resignation of the handler, and there is no one on staff who has interest in becoming a handler.*

*Mayor Reed called for a motion on Item No. 19-017. Councilmember Hayes made a motion to approve Item No. 19-017. Councilmember Merrill seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

**4. Item 19-018:** Amend March 28, 2019 Work Session date and/or time.

*Mayor Reed presented the item. He requested changing the next Work Session to March 27<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. due to a scheduling conflict.*

*Mayor Reed called for a motion on Item No. 19-018. Councilmember Hayes made a motion to approve Item No. 19-018. Councilmember Merrill seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Mayor and Council Comments**

*Councilmember Merrill said that, in the last couple of months, a lot of work has been done by a lot of people on the set of alcohol ordinances that were on the evening's agenda. The ordinances were initiated in response to a request from an entrepreneur who will be submitting an application in the future. As a city, we did a good job of balancing responding to the request while still taking enough time deliberate and come up with what we think are the right numbers.*

*Mayor Reed spoke about the passing of Chuck Miller. Mr. Miller and, before she passed away, his wife were good friends. He was one of those volunteers that was involved in everything, including the Hutcheson Ferry Park Community Meeting on the Saturday before he passed away. He said it was a sad thing that Mr. Miller died in such an untimely way. He also commented on Fire Chief Greg Brett's handling of the incident and scene and said he appreciates the professional manner in which he led the charge at the scene.*

*Councilmember Merrill said he often gets asked what it is like to be on City Council. He said he has begun to understand the emotional toll it takes on the first responders and*

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*respects the sacrifices they make. He also congratulated Chief Brett on his five-year anniversary as Fire Chief.*

**Executive Session**

*There was no Executive Session.*

**Adjourn Meeting**

*Councilmember Merrill made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Stephens seconded. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.*

**Approved this 9<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2019.**

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**Dana Wicher, City Clerk**

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**Tom Reed, Mayor**