

Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
City of Chattahoochee Hills, Georgia
November 12, 2013
7:00 pm

Call to Order

Mayor Reed called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Councilmembers present were Don Hayes, Faye Godwin, Richard Schmidt, John Taylor and Claire Williams. Mayor Reed declared that a quorum was present. Also present was the City Attorney Mr. Lindsey. Mayor Reed led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Hayes, seconded by Ms. Godwin, and unanimously adopted to approve the agenda for the meeting with two additions (Executive Session and Item 13-651: Resolution No. 13-11-155 Controlled Access on East End of Upper Wooten Road).

Approval of Minutes

1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 1, 2013
 2. Minutes of the Special Called Meeting of October 16, 2013
- A motion was made by Ms. Godwin to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of October 1, 2013 and the special called meeting of October 16, 2013 and Ms. Williams seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

Executive Session

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to enter an Executive Session to discuss a legal matter and Ms. Godwin seconded. The motion passed unanimously and Council entered Executive Session at 7:10pm.

1. Discussion of Property Matters

Mr. Taylor made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session and Mr. Schmidt seconded. The motion passed unanimously and Executive Session adjourned at 7:23pm.

Mr. Hayes made a motion to reconvene the Council Meeting and Ms. Godwin seconded. The meeting reconvened at 7:25pm.

Public Hearing

1. Controlled Access on East End of Upper Wooten Road

Shawn Davis, representative for the petitioners, gave a history of the road which has been gated for many years and problems associated with the current placement of the gate. He stressed that no one is asking the City to abandon the road, just asking to limit motorized access. He presented a sign that would go on the gate giving pedestrians, equestrians and bicyclist permission to use the road. The gate would block most of the road with a pass-through to one side to accommodate allowed traffic. He proposed that the road could be reopened by the City or on the request of the property owners at any time.

Diana Wilson, speaking on behalf spoke in favor of the new placement of the gate. She suggested that due to the safer riding area it would be an opportunity to attract more tourism and equestrian traffic to the park. It could also be the pilot segment for the city's portion of the proposed regional trail system with very little cost involved.

Mr. Hayes expressed that this is road ties two city parks together and should not be closed.

Ms. Williams stated that many of the citizens ride four wheelers on the road and feel they are losing something if it is closed.

Mr. Taylor expressed sympathy for the land owners and that he is in favor of moving the gate.

Mr. Schmidt stated that many roads in the City have issues with trash and dumping. He feels that a gate is unwelcoming, even with a sign.

Ms. Godwin stated that this could be an asset to Cochran Mill Park.

Mayor Reed reiterated that the City is not giving up ownership of the road. The road is one lane with blind corners and not suitable for vehicular access.

Unfinished Business (None scheduled)

New Business

1. (Added item) Item No. 13-651: Resolution No.13-11-155 Controlled Access on East End of Upper Wooten Road

Ms. Godwin made a motion to approve Resolution No.13-11-155 and Mr. Taylor seconded. The motion passed with a vote of three (3) in favor and two (2) opposed (Hayes, Schmidt)

Public Comments

Diana Wilson thanked the City for their assistance with Chatt Fest. Fifteen (15) bicycles and over thirty (30) horses participated in the ride down Upper Wooten Road. She gave a special thank you to the Public Works Department for the improvements made to the park and road.

Maribeth Wansley thanked the City for holding the event and also expressed thanks to Diana Wilson for organizing the equestrian riders and Pete Edmondson for organizing the bicycle ride. She also recognized the hard work of the Public Works Department in getting the park ready for Chatt Fest.

Mayor and Council Comments

Ms. Godwin commended Public Works for the outstanding work done to Cochran Mill Park and Upper Wooten Road.

Mr. Hayes echoed Ms. Godwin's comments and expressed how much he enjoyed Chatt Fest.

Mayor Reed announced the new location of the charter school. The location is on Rivertown Road and is close to the Cochran Mill Nature Center. He also thanked all of those from Friends of the Parks and the Parks Commission that had a hand in organizing Chatt Fest.

Staff Reports

Mr. Williams asked if it would be possible, due to the high cost, to continue without a sound system at this time. After a brief discussion it was decided that purchase of a new sound system could be delayed.

Chief Matt Rook commended Public Works for the preparations for Chatt Fest. He announced that K-9 Toby tracked a prisoner that was apprehended.

Chief Ronnie Lyle reported on classes he is taking as the City's designated Safety Coordinator. These classes will allow for the City to get grants up to \$12,000.

Cindy Hanson reported the election results for District 4. (Faye Peek Godwin: 139, Alton C Powell: 45).

Adjourn Meeting

Ms. Godwin made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Schmidt seconded. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

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.

Approved this ____ day of _____, 2013.

Cynthia Hanson, City Clerk

Tom Reed, Mayor

(Seal)

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