

City of Byron
Mayor and Council Minutes
April 13, 2026

The City of Byron Mayor and Council met in regular session in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Complex. Mayor Michael Chidester and Council Members Michael Chumbley, James Richardson, and Rusty Adams were in attendance. Council Members Chris Hodges and Alan Dorsey were absent. City employees that attended were City Administrator Tiffany Sandefur, City Clerk Telina Allred, Chief Court Clerk Dede Thibodeaux, Deputy Clerk Elissa Lee, and Chief Wesley Cannon. City Attorney Brian Causey attended the meeting as did 33 visitors. Representatives from the Leader Tribune and Byron Buzz attended the meeting also.

Mayor Michael Chidester called the meeting to order at 6:00pm, asked James Richardson to give the invocation, and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

RECOGNITION OF RETIREMENT: Mayor Michael Chidester presented Rick Smith with a recognition and plaque for achieving 38 years of dedicated service to the City of Byron. Everyone joined in the great stories and milestones over the years of Rick's service to the city and thanked him for a job well done!

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion made by Michael Chumbley, seconded by Rusty Adams to approve the minutes of the Mayor and Council Meetings held on March 9 and March 16, 2026. Unanimous.

PLANNING & ZONING MINUTES: Motion made by Michael Chumbley, seconded by Rusty Adams to approve the minutes of the Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting held on April 7, 2026. Unanimous.

CITIZEN TIME TO ADDRESS COUNCIL: Ms. Cherie Giles who heads up the Little Free Library informed Mayor and Council of the grand opening of the Toomerville Little Free Library. She stated that the Ribbon Cutting Celebration would be April 29th at 3:30pm at the old Community Center. She wanted to extend the invitation to everyone and thanked them for their time.

Tonya Miller and husband David Kleffarth addressed council regarding hearsay of a planned data center that may be coming to the Boy Scout Camp area which is next to their property on Juniper

Creek Road. They expressed worries about heavy water use, noise pollution and being against it in their small city.

Carol Lafferty also spoke regarding her comments of a data center on the Boy Scout Property that is one mile away from their home. She commented on harming the ecosystem in that area with the long leaf pines, gopher tortoises, and indigo snakes. Ms. Lafferty stated that she feels very strongly about keeping the land unharmed and will fight to keep it that way. Mr. Lee Lafferty stated that he wanted everyone to consider in the scheme of things what is right, not who is right. Mayor Chidester stated that the only item being up for a vote this evening was to consider annexing the property. He further stated that there has been no paperwork submitted to the city regarding a data center.

ORDINANCE #2026-1 REGARDING ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY:

Second reading was held of Ordinance # 2026-1 regarding the annexation of the property along Boy Scout Road. Motion made by Michael Chumbley, seconded by Rusty Adams to adopt Ordinance 2026-1. Unanimous.

ORDINANCE #2026-2 REGARDING ANNEXATION OF MAP/PARCEL 044B 020A:

First reading was held of Ordinance # 2026-2 regarding the annexation of the property located at Tract B, Peach Parkway; tax map 044B 020A.

RESOLUTION CONCERNING RECERTIFYING AS A CITY OF ETHICS:

Motion made by James Richardson, seconded by Rusty Adams to approve the following Resolution for the City of Byron to be recertified as a City of Ethics. Unanimous. (Resolution on file in the City Clerk's office at the Municipal Complex.)

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BYRON, GEORGIA TO SUBSCRIBE TO ETHICAL PRINCIPLES AND TO PLEDGE TO CONDUCT ITS AFFAIRS ACCORDINGLY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Georgia Municipal Association has established a
Certified City of Ethics program; and

WHEREAS, the City of Byron wishes to be recertified as a Certified City of Ethics under the
GMA Program; and,

WHEREAS, part of the recertification process requires the Mayor and Council to subscribe to

the ethics principles approved by the GMA Board;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the governing authority of the City of Byron,

Georgia, that as a group and as individuals, the governing authority subscribes to the following principles and pledges to conduct its affairs accordingly:

- Serve Others, Not Ourselves
- Use Resources with Efficiency and Economy
- Treat All People Fairly
- Use the Power of Our Position for the Well Being of Our Constituents
- Create an Environment of Honesty, Openness and Integrity

SO RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Byron, Georgia,

this 13th day of April, 2026.

RESOLUTION CONCERNING AGREEMENT WITH THE BATTLE OF BYRON: Motion made by Rusty Adams, seconded by James Richardson to approve the following Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Battle of Byron. Unanimous. (Resolution on file in the City Clerk's office at the Municipal Complex.)

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BYRON, GEORGIA AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN BATTLE OF BYRON, INC. AND THE CITY OF BYRON; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Byron, Georgia and it is hereby so resolved by the authority of same that the Mayor is authorized to execute an Agreement with the Battle of Byron, Inc. in substantially the same form as the attached Exhibit "A" which by this reference is made a part of this resolution.

Mayor and Council Minutes
April 13, 2026
Page 4, cont'd.

All Resolutions or portions of Resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**SO RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BYRON,
GEORGIA ON THE 13th DAY OF APRIL, 2026.**

UPDATE LETTER FROM RAFB 21st CENTURY PARTNERSHIP: Motion made by James Richardson, seconded by Rusty Adams to approve the assessed amount of support for Byron at \$1618.41. Unanimous.

LMIG 2026 LRA FUNDS: Motion made by Michael Chumbley, seconded by Rusty Adams to tentatively approve the Housers Mill Road Project for use of the 2026 Local Maintenance Improvement Grant Local Road Administration Funds subject to approval from the governor. Unanimous.

STREETLIGHTS AT BILL GREEN DRIVE: Motion made by Michael Chumbley, seconded by James Richardson to authorize the Mayor to execute a Lighting Service Agreement with Georgia Power for the installation and monthly service of eight (8) streetlights along Bill Green Drive. Unanimous.

CLOSED SESSION: At 6:35 pm, motion was made by Michael Chumbley, seconded by Rusty Adams that the Mayor and Council go into closed session, all allowed by O.C.G.A. 50-14-2 for the purpose of discussing potential litigation.

MOTION APPROVED

Those voting in favor of the motion for closure: Council Members Michael Chumbley, James Richardson and Rusty Adams. Those voting against the motion for closure: None.

Those attending the Closed Session were Mayor Michael Chidester, Council Members Rusty Adams, James Richardson, and Michael Chumbley. City employees that attended the meeting were City Clerk Telina Allred, City Administrator Tiffany Sandefur, Deputy Clerk Elissa Lee, Chief Wesley Cannon and City Attorney Brian Causey.

OPEN SESSION: Motion made by Michael Chumbley, seconded by Rusty Adams to return to open session at 6:56. Unanimous.

Mayor and Council Minutes

April 13, 2026

Page 5, cont'd.

SCOUTS OF AMERICA TROOP 620: Troop 620 entered the council chambers after the meeting reopened and took turns asking various questions to Mayor and Council. Scout Patrol Leader Jacob Gales asked questions regarding the Boy Scout Land. Assistant SPL Lucas Kamrowsi and scouts Max Gamble, Caleb Goss, and Silas Beam asked questions about how many times they had been sued and where that money gets paid from to pay a lawsuit. Mayor and Council explained that they work very hard not to be involved in a lawsuit especially when that money comes out of city funds. The Mayor stated that there is insurance in place that covers certain things that arise, but the goal is to never have to use it. The Council thanked them for their questions and told them to come again.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by Michael Chumbley, seconded by James Richardson to adjourn the meeting at 7:17pm. Unanimous.

Telina Allred

Clerk of Council