

City of Byron
Mayor and Council Minutes
June 8, 2026

The City of Byron Mayor and Council met in regular session in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Complex. Mayor Michael Chidester, Council Members Michael Chumbley, James Richardson, Chris Hodges, Alan Dorsey, and Rusty Adams were in attendance. City employees that attended were City Administrator Tiffany Sandefur, City Clerk Telina Allred, Chief Court Clerk Dede Thibodeaux, Captain Bryan Hunter, Police Officer Chris Moore, Fire Chief Josh Riley, and Fire Captain Doug Kelley. City Attorney Brian Causey and City CPA Will Bennett attended the meeting as did 60 visitors. Representatives from the Byron Buzz and Leader Tribune attended the meeting also.

Mayor 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.

AGENDA AMENDED: Mayor Chidester asked that the agenda be amended so as to add as item (12), an Intergovernmental Agreement for a renewed TSPLOST to be on the ballot for November 2026.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion made by Michael Chumbley seconded by Chris Hodges to approve the minutes of the Mayor and Council Meeting held on May 11, 2026. Unanimous.

PLANNING & ZONING MINUTES: Motion made by Michael Chumbley, seconded by Alan Dorsey to approve the minutes of the Planning & Zoning Commission Meetings held on May 18 and June 3, 2026. Unanimous.

CITIZEN TIME TO ADDRESS COUNCIL: Tonya Miller spoke to Mayor and Council regarding the 1,000 people she has spoken with and the signatures she had gathered for petitions regarding the Data Center. Her concerns included sound barriers for generators, damaging high/low frequency noise, and wastewater being safe before it goes back into the ground. She stated that rezoning agricultural land is not okay. She further stated that she had spoken with City Administrator Tiffany Sandefur on natural sound barriers. Her question was whether there will be a referendum so the public can vote on the item of allowing data centers. She wanted to know how the public could be more involved in the process and Mayor Chidester stated that there will be a series of meetings which will be advertised. The Mayor also stated that a lawsuit is now prohibiting him and Council from discussing the Data Center. A citizen asked if there had been a

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nondisclosure agreement that was signed to which the mayor responded no. The property owner has not applied for a Data Center, the Mayor told the public again. The Mayor stated that there will be no significant impact to the water supply, any wastewater would go into a treatment system, power rates could be decreasing in the coming years due to the complaints of astronomical rates with power companies, more tax revenue on properties and also revenue generated by franchise fees, which he stated could eliminate city taxes altogether. The public asked if he was in favor of a Data Center to which he replied yes. As the crowd began to all talk at one time stating what they saw on Chat GPT, Google, and AI, a citizen stood up from the audience and looked at them stating that the very thing they have been using and looking at is exactly why the data centers are coming! She urged everyone to just listen to what you are saying! A citizen asked if a Phase 1 environmental study had been done. Ms. Sandefur answered with a yes and that it is in the hands of the developers. If she gets that, she stated that she will get that to them. She also stated that any questions or concerns that she can further answer, she would give everyone her business card with information to contact her, and she would be happy to share any information with them. Citizens in direct proximity of Juniper Creek were very concerned stating that a “worse” piece of land could not have been chosen to build on because of its ecological important. The city was asked to have a 3rd party environmental study done by someone who is non-bias about the property. Council Member Rusty Adams stated that the Boy Scouts are not coming back, and everyone needs to know that. Council Member James Richardson assured everyone that their concerns had been heard. Council Member Michael Chumbley spoke as well reassuring all that no application has been filed. A citizen stated they feared it would be just like the Grow Center in Peach County where neighboring homeowners were told they would be unaffected and they are very affected! Amber and Will Davies spoke about loving Byron and being in Byron for years stating that Mayor and Council should be very mindful of their decisions. Carol Lafferty wanted to ask if the Mayor and Council really cared about its citizens, to which they assured her they do. After about 45 minutes of questions and heated moments from the public, the Mayor stated that it was time to get back to the agenda and thanked everyone for coming.

RESOLUTION REGARDING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FY2025:

Motion made by Chris Hodges, seconded by Michael Chumbley to approve the following Resolution authorizing the various Supplemental Appropriations regarding the FY2025 Audit. Unanimous. (Resolution on file in the City Clerk’s office of the Municipal Complex.)

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BYRON,
GEORGIA TO SUPPLEMENT THE GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS**

RESOLUTION PASSED BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL, THE 9th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2024 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council did by Resolution on the 9th day of December, 2024, adopt a budget for the operations of the City's functions for Fiscal Year 2025; and

WHEREAS, various supplemental budget adjustments are necessary to conduct the affairs of the City and to implement the policies of the governing body as set out on the attached Exhibit "A", which by this reference is hereby made a part of this Resolution.

BE IT RESOLVED by Mayor and Council of the City of Byron, Georgia and it is hereby so resolved by the authority of same that the additional sums of money itemized on the attached Exhibit "A", for the various operations of the City of Byron General Fund be hereby appropriated, and those sums in parenthesis are hereby disappropriated for any line item appearing opposite the same.

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

SO ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BYRON, GEORGIA ON THE 8th DAY OF JUNE, 2026.

RESOLUTION REGARDING SENIOR CENTER LEASE AGREEMENT: Motion made by Chris Hodges, seconded by Alan Dorsey to approve the following Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a Lease Agreement with Heart of Georgia Community Action Agency, Inc regarding the Senior Center. Unanimous. (Resolution on file in the City Clerk's office of the Municipal Complex.)

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BYRON, GEORGIA AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF BYRON AND THE HEART OF GEORGIA COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY, INC REGARDING A SENIOR CENTER; 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 a lease agreement with Heart of Georgia Community Action Agency, Inc. in substantially the same form as the attached Exhibit "A" which by this reference is made a part of this resolution.

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 8th DAY OF June, 2026.

RESOLUTION REGARDING ACCOUNTING SERVICES: Motion made by Michael Chumbley, seconded by Rusty Adams to approve the following Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an Agreement with Bennett Financial Services, LLC for Certified Public Accountant Services with the City of Byron. Unanimous. (Resolution on file in the City Clerk's office of the Municipal Complex.)

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BYRON, GEORGIA AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF BYRON AND BENNETT FINANCIAL, LLC.; 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 Bennett Financial, LLC. in substantially the same form as the attached Exhibit "A" which by this reference is made a part of this resolution.

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 8th DAY OF JUNE, 2026.

ORDINANCE (#2026-3) REGARDING LAND DEVELOPMENT: First reading was had of Ordinance (#2026-3) regarding land development.

ORDINANCE #2026-4 REGARDING ROADS FOR SPEED DETECTION DEVICES: Second reading was held of AN ORDINANCE (#2026-4) OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BYRON, GEORGIA, TO AMEND AND UPDATE SUBSECTION 38.2 OF CHAPTER 38, TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF BYRON, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Motion was made by Chris Hodges, seconded by Michael Chumbley to adopt Ordinance 2026-4. Unanimous.

MANCHESTER PROJECT:

Motion made by James Richardson, seconded by Chris Hodges to approve Helix Grading & Utility, LLC as the low bidder per recommendation of Georgia Water & Environmental Services (GWES) for the Manchester Project. Unanimous.

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WRATS FY2027:

Motion made by Alan Dorsey, seconded by Chris Hodges to approve the FY2027 Warner Robins Area Transportation Study pro rata share of the match for Byron at \$2074.78. Unanimous.

SURPLUS REQUEST: Motion made by Rusty Adams, seconded by Chris Hodges to approve the request from the Fire Department to surplus 27 Interspiro in-service air packs and 28 Interspiro out-of-service air packs; further requesting that proceeds from the sale of old air packs go towards the purchase of new Scott air packs /equipment. Unanimous.

RESOLUTION REGARDING THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR THE 2026

TSPLOST: Motion made by Rusty Adams, seconded by James Richardson to approve the following Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an Intergovernmental Agreement between Byron, Peach County, Fort Valley, Perry and Warner Robins regarding the renewed TSPLOST to be on the ballot November 2026. Unanimous. (Resolution on file in the City Clerk's office of the Municipal Complex.)

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BYRON, GEORGIA AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF BYRON , PEACH COUNTY, FORT VALLEY, PERRY AND WARNER ROBINS; 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 intergovernmental agreement between the City of Byron, Peach County, Fort Valley, Perry, and Warner Robins in substantially the same form as the attached Exhibit "A" which by this reference is made a part of this resolution.

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 8th DAY OF JUNE, 2026.

CLOSED SESSION: At 7:01 pm, motion was made by Michael Chumbley, seconded by Chris Hodges that the Mayor and Council go into closed session, all allowed by O.C.G.A. 50-14-2 for the purpose of discussing litigation.

MOTION APPROVED

Those voting in favor of the motion for closure: Council Members Michael Chumbley, James

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Richardson, Rusty Adams, Chris Hodges, and Alan Dorsey. Those voting against the motion for closure: None.

Those attending the Closed Session were Mayor Michael Chidester, Council Members Rusty Adams, James Richardson, Michael Chumbley, Chris Hodges, and Alan Dorsey. City employees that attended the meeting were City Clerk Telina Allred, City Administrator Tiffany Sandefur, and City Attorney Brian Causey.

OPEN SESSION: Motion made by Chris Hodges, seconded by Michael Chumbley to return to open session at 7:18. Unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by Michael Chumbley seconded by Chris Hodges to adjourn the meeting at 7:19pm. Unanimous.

Telina Allred
Clerk of Council