

TOWN OF COHUTTA
Council Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2026

Present: Mayor Ron Shinnick, Council Members: Andy Lopez, Shane Kornberg, Sand Clayborne, and Randy Stanton, and Town Attorney Bryan Rayburn

Meeting was opened by a prayer led by Dean Thompson.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Bill Morgan.

The Mayor presented the minutes of the January 13, 2026, Council meeting. *The Mayor asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2026, Council Meeting.* At that time an addendum of the minutes from the January 13, 2026, council meeting were presented by members of council. *Shane Kornberg moved to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2026, Council Meeting. Andy Lopez seconded the motion. All members of the Council voted in the affirmative. Motion passed. Andy Lopez made a motion to approve the addendum to the minutes from the January 13, 2026, council meeting. Randy Stanton seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.*

Chief Fowler presented the Public Safety Report. Chief Fowler discussed the new cameras that will be installed in the new courtroom. Mayor Ron Shinnick asked the chief about the possibility of adding outside cameras. *Andy Lopez made a motion to approve the purchase and installation of outdoor cameras to town hall. Shane Kornberg seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion approved.*

America 250 Committee Report was given by Melissa Warner, Andy Lopez, and Shane Kornberg.

Mayor Ron Shinnick discussed the right of way agreement through the cemetery for the cell phone tower to be built off of Mt. Olivet Road. *Andy Lopez made a motion to approve the right of way agreement. Sandy Clayborne 2nd the motion. All approved.* Bryan Rayburn collected the signatures required on the agreement.

Mayor Ron Shinnick discussed the \$7500 in grant money to be used for traffic safety, especially improvements to the four way stop. He asked Andy Lopez to investigate other safety items that the remaining funds could be used for.

Mayor Ron Shinnick informed the council and citizens present that the franchise payment from GA Power was received and asked Attorney Bryan Rayburn about the status of an agreement with Dalton Utilities Franchise payments. Bryan Rayburn is working on an agreement with Dalton Utilities.

Court Officer Bill Morgan informed council that Sandy Springs, GA, donated chairs, a podium, and tables for the new court room. He also requested the town conduct a forensic audit. Attorney Bryan Rayburn stated that a forensic audit had been passed by council previously.

Matters of information:

- A building permit has been issued for the end of Long Street.
- State of GA has accepted the town audit.
- LMIG paperwork has been submitted.
- The Prorated agreement for the sewer ends March 17, 2026.
- House Bills
 - HB 1384
 - HB 244
 - HB 437
 - HB 140

No February Financial Report was presented. *Shane Kornberg made a motion to table the February Financial Report. Andy Lopez 2nd the motion. All approved. Motion passed.*

Andy Lopez made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sandy Clayborne 2nd the motion. All in favor.

Next Meeting: **April 14, 2026**

Melissa Warner, Assistant Town Clerk

Mayor Ron Shinnick