



# CITY OF DAHLONEGA

## City Council Special Called Meeting Minutes

August 15, 2022, 4:00 PM

Gary McCullough Chambers, Dahlongega City Hall

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In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodation for Council meetings should notify the City Clerk's Office at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at 706-864-6133.

Vision - To be an open, honest, and responsive city, balancing preservation, and growth, and delivering quality services fairly and equitably by being good stewards of Dahlongega's resources.

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### PRESENT

Mayor JoAnne Taylor  
Councilmember Roman Gaddis  
Councilmember Ron Larson  
Councilmember Johnny Ariemma  
Councilmember Ryan Reagin  
Councilmember Ross Shirley  
Councilmember Lance Bagley

### CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order at 4:51 pm.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Taylor indicated a change to the agenda to remove the executive session.

Motion made by Councilmember Gaddis, Seconded by Councilmember Larson.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Gaddis, Councilmember Larson, Councilmember Ariemma, Councilmember Reagin, Councilmember Bagley, Councilmember Shirley

### NEW BUSINESS

1. Housing Needs Assessment

JoAnne Taylor, Mayor

Mayor Taylor called for a motion.

Motion to approve made by Councilmember Gaddis, Seconded by Councilmember Larson.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Gaddis, Councilmember Larson, Councilmember Ariemma, Councilmember Reagin, Councilmember Bagley

Voting Nay: Councilmember Shirley

2. Recipient of the First Licensing Cycle Distilled License

Doug Parks, City Attorney

Mayor Taylor announced the item and turned the item over to City Attorney Parks, who indicated last week that the lottery process was completed. Gold Rush Spirits LLC was the first awardee. He asked that the Council approve the City License for this.

Motion to approve the Distilled Spirits Package for Gold Rush Spirits LLC made by Councilmember Shirley, Seconded by Councilmember Reagin.

Mayor Taylor asked for any discussion.

Council discussed options for the building on the application and their opportunity to change locations. They also discussed the process of changing location, the option of a second drawing, and the process if the first recipient defaults within their 8-month opening time frame. Council also congratulated Gold Rush Spirits LLC and welcomed them to the community.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Gaddis, Councilmember Larson, Councilmember Ariemma, Councilmember Reagin, Councilmember Bagley, Councilmember Shirley

3. Ordinance 2022-10: An ordinance to provide for further clarification regarding prohibited signage

Doug Parks, City Attorney

Mayor Taylor announced a minor change to the signage ordinance and offered City Attorney Parks to share the details. City Attorney Parks reminded the Council of the discussion at a prior Work Session. This item is being referred to the Planning Commission for discussion on the particulars of signage. City Attorney Parks clarified that the motion is to refer.

Mayor Taylor called for a motion to refer.

Motion to refer made by Councilmember Ariemma, Seconded by Councilmember Reagin.

Council discussed the reason to refer to Planning Commission. City Attorney Parks clarified that sign regulations are the nature of land use regulation. To adopt a sign regulation, the law requires you to follow the zoning procedures for anything relevant to land use regulation. The Planning Commission must be presented the item to satisfy the regulations pertaining to land use law. City Attorney Parks explained further that a Supreme Court case known as the Reed case

Voting Yea: Councilmember Gaddis, Councilmember Larson, Councilmember Ariemma, Councilmember Reagin, Councilmember Bagley, Councilmember Shirley

4. Public House of Dahlonoga

Doug Parks, City Attorney

Mayor Taylor began the introduction of this item, and Councilmember Reagin recused himself from the item. Mayor Taylor continued introducing the item as the Application for Consumption on Premise Alcohol Beverage License for the Public House of Dahlonoga.

City Attorney Parks explained this has been done in the past where there were delays on the final background checks and asked to approve a motion to allow subsequent administrative approval of the license for Public House of Dahlonoga once the favorable background checks on one remaining partner come back. When it comes in, the license can be issued.

Mayor Taylor called for a motion.

Motion to approve the Consumption on Premise Alcohol Beverage License to Public House made by Councilmember Shirley, Seconded by Councilmember Larson.

Mayor Taylor and City Attorney Parks indicated the need to restate the motion conditional to the receipt of a favorable background check.

Councilmember Shirley restated his motion to approve the Consumption on Premise Alcohol Beverage License to the Public House of Dahlonga with conditions of approved results of a pending background check of a Partner of the Public House of Dahlonga. Seconded by Councilmember Larson.

Mayor Taylor called for any discussion, and there was none.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Gaddis, Councilmember Larson, Councilmember Ariemma, Councilmember Bagley, Councilmember Shirley

Vote abstaining: Councilmember Reagin

5. Resolution 2022-13

Allison Martin, Finance Director

Mayor Taylor introduced the item.

Director Martin advised Council that this was the Resolution for approval of the 2023 Budget. She thanked Council for their time in reviewing the budget and providing feedback. Received the latest allocation on ARPA, which will go to the Park Street Project.

Mayor Taylor called for a motion.

Motion to approve made by Councilmember Ariemma, Seconded by Councilmember Reagin

Council and Director Martin commended the staff for their input and cooperation.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Gaddis, Councilmember Larson, Councilmember Ariemma, Councilmember Reagin, Councilmember Bagley, Councilmember Shirley

6. 2022 Tax Digest and Millage Rate

Allison Martin, Finance Director

Mayor Taylor announced the item and turned it over to Director Martin.

Director Martin stated she reviewed the calculated rollback and indicated it would generate about \$9k less, which she was able to adjust for in the budget. Director Martin discussed that she looked hard for a further reduction to the milage rate. The City is taking the full rollback.

Councilmember Bagley made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-14 approving the use of the county assessment for the tax year 2022, establishing a millage rate of 4.558 for the tax year 2022, and authorizing the County Tax Commissioner to bill and collect property tax on behalf of the City. Seconded by Councilmember Larson.

Mayor Taylor called for discussion, and there was none.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Gaddis, Councilmember Larson, Councilmember Ariemma, Councilmember Reagin, Councilmember Bagley, Councilmember Shirley

7. Executive Session-Personnel Matters- this item was removed from the Agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Taylor called for a motion to adjourn at 5:15 pm

Motion to adjourn made by Councilmember Shirley, Seconded by Councilmember Gaddis.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Gaddis, Councilmember Larson, Councilmember Ariemma, Councilmember Reagin, Councilmember Bagley, Councilmember Shirley