



CITY OF DAHLONEGA

Council Meeting Minutes

June 03, 2024, 6:00 PM

Gary McCullough Chambers, Dahlonega City Hall

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 – Dahlonega will be the most welcoming, thriving, and inspiring community in North Georgia

Mission Statement - Dahlonega, a City of Excellence, will provide quality services through ethical leadership and fiscal stability, in full partnership with the people who choose to live, work, and visit. Through this commitment, we respect and uphold our rural Appalachian setting to honor our thriving community of historical significance, academic excellence, and military renown.

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Mayor Taylor called the June 3, 2024, City Council Meeting to order at 6:35 P.M.

PRESENT

Mayor JoAnne Taylor
Councilmember Roman Gaddis
Councilmember Johnny Ariemma
Councilmember Ross Shirley
Councilmember Lance Bagley
Councilmember Daniel Brown

Absent

Councilmember Ryan Reagin

PRAYER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

Mayor Taylor asked Councilmember Shirley to lead the pledge and Councilmember Gaddis to lead the prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Taylor called for a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion made by Councilmember Shirley, Seconded by Councilmember Bagley.

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

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Taylor called for a motion to approve the consent agenda.

The motion was made by Councilmember Shirley and seconded by Councilmember Brown.

Councilmember Bagley questioned if item three had been changed. Ms. Csukas, City Clerk, stated that items were added for the council's review. The items were in the work session packet but did not transfer to the meeting packet.

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

1. Axon Camera Quote

Allison Martin, City Manager

Strategic Priority - Communication

2. Living Waters Winery & Vineyard, Inc. – Tasting Room License

Doug Parks, Attorney & Mary Csukas, City Clerk

Strategic Priority - Communication

3. Project 2024-006 City of Dahlonega Plaza Improvements

Vince Hunsinger, Capital Projects Manager

Strategic Priority - Infrastructure

PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA SPECIFIC / THREE MINUTE LIMIT

Mayor Taylor stated that some work will be done in front of the Welcome Center. She stated it is an emergency-type project that is very important to the city. There have been issues at the plaza, such as slippery tile and backups in the restrooms. She stated that everyone will continue to see more construction on the square. She hopes that there will be no more construction on the square after this project is completed.

Mayor Taylor opened the floor to public comments.

Mr. Worwick asked if HPC agreed to the clock on the square. He asked if a COA should have been completed for the donated clock.. He felt the Nugget wrote an article that inferred the COA was already handled.

Mr. Gibbons stated that the council is doing a great job, and some people are concerned that their thoughts are not always being addressed.

Ms. McClendon stated that she does not want inflatables in our town.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Taylor called a motion to approve the Council Meeting Minutes and Public Hearing Minutes on May 6, 2024.

The motion was made by Councilmember Ariemma and seconded by Councilmember Brown.

Motion made by Councilmember Ariemma, Seconded by Councilmember Brown.

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

- a. City Council Meeting Minutes - May 6, 2024
Assistant City Clerk, Sarah Hunsinger
- b. City Council Public Hearing Meeting Minutes - May 6, 2024
Assistant City Clerk, Sarah Hunsinger

APPOINTMENT, PROCLAMATION & RECOGNITION:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CITY REPORTS:

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution 2023-06 Amendment Three Limited Moratorium Extension
Doug Parks

City Attorney Parks stated that The Planning Commission held two meetings regarding sign regulation changes instead of the one anticipated, and the City Council continued the Public Hearing to June 3rd, so the adoption schedule needs adjusting. The moratorium is set to expire on June 3rd so there is now a need for a further extension of the limited moratorium up through June 18th. That is one day after the date upon which

action on an adoption ordinance will be taken. Approval of the extension is requested at the June 3rd meeting. He stated that staff recommended approval of the extension.

Mayor Taylor called for a motion to extend the Moratorium Extension.

Motion made by Councilmember Shirley to extend the Moratorium Extension, Seconded by Councilmember Bagley.

Councilmember Bagley stated that people have commented on spending a lot of time on something that seems minor. He states that he doesn't want to have a resolution for everything, but he wants everyone to be pointed in the same direction and know that Dahlonge is a great town to live in.

Councilmember Shirley stated that he thinks it is better to go through a long process and get input on some issues. He stated while they seem minor, he wants to take time to go through a process like this.

Councilmember Brown echoed what others said and stated that he appreciated the comments and the business owners coming out to give comments.

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

CONTRACTS & AGREEMENTS:

OTHER ITEMS:

COMMENTS – PLEASE LIMIT TO THREE MINUTES

Clerk Comments

City Manager Comments

City Attorney Comments

City Council Comments

Mayor Comments

City Clerks had no comments.

City Manager Martin stated that the North Square Project is going well. The Park Street Project should start very soon. She also stated that The Gold Dome Update is being worked through and will be discussed at the next Work Session.

City Attorney Parks had no comments.

Councilmember Ariemma commented on the Police Department and Public Works Department.

Councilmember Bagley commented on the sidewalk improvement on the square. Suggested possibly adding signs with names to the trees in town.

Councilmember Brown thanked everyone for coming this evening and giving input.

Councilmember Gaddis had no comments.

Councilmember Shirley commented that our staff is doing great in the town construction areas.

Mayor Taylor discussed the system that the City is getting that notifies our water system when leaks occur. She also thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and thanked all the staff for the hard work they do.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Called for a motion to adjourn the City Council Meeting at 7:00 P.M.

Motion made by Councilmember Gaddis, Seconded by Councilmember Shirley.

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

Guideline Principles - The City of Dahlonaga will be an open, honest, and responsive city that balances preservation and growth and delivers quality services fairly and equitably by being good stewards of its resources. To ensure the vibrancy of our community, Dahlonaga commits to Transparency and Honesty, Dedication and Responsibility, Preservation and Sustainability, Safety and Welfare ...for ALL!

Approved this 8th _____ day of July _____, 2024.

DocuSigned by:

Mayor JoAnne Taylor

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JoAnne Taylor, Mayor

DocuSigned by:

Sarah Waters

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Attest:

Sarah Waters, City Clerk.