



CITY OF DAHLONEGA

City Council Special Called Meeting - Amended Minutes

March 20, 2023, 4:00 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 - To be an open, honest, and responsive city, balancing preservation, and growth, and delivering quality services fairly and equitably by being good stewards of Dahlonega's resources.

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Mayor Taylor called the City Council Special Called Meeting to order at 4:44 P.M.

PRESENT

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

ABSENT

Councilmember Johnny Ariemma

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Taylor called for a motion to approve the agenda.

Motion made by Councilmember Reagin, Seconded by Councilmember Shirley.

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

NEW BUSINESS

1. Oath of Office for a new appointee to the DDA, JoAnne Taylor, Mayor
Mr. Awtry Moore read his oath of office as the new appointee of the Downtown Development Authority. Council and Mayor had a photo-op with Mr. Moore.
2. Resolution 2023-01- Resolution for Participation in the "Certified City of Ethics" Program & Updated "City's Principles of Public Service Ethics." Allison Martin, City Manager

Mayor Taylor called for a motion to approve Resolution 2023-01- Resolution for Participation in the "Certified City of Ethics" Program & Updated "City's Principles of Public Service Ethics."

Mayor called for a motion to approve the updated Principles of Public Service Ethics.

Motion made by Councilmember Larson, Seconded by Councilmember Gaddis.

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

Mayor called for a motion to approve Resolution 2023-01 for Participation in the Certified City of Ethics.

Motion made by Councilmember Gaddis, Seconded by Councilmember Ryan.

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

3. Change to Open Container Footprint for the Bear on the Square Mountain Festival, Doug Parks, City Attorney, Ariel Alexander, DDA Director

Councilmember Gaddis stated the motion is to suspend enforcement of the open container laws of the City of Dahlonega, including but not limited to the following: The Code of the City of Dahlonega, Georgia, Chapter 22, Article II, Section 22-32, Section 22-33, Section 22-34, Section 22-35, within the geographical area set aside for alcohol sales and consumption within that specific festival special event permit application granted by the City to the Bear on the Square organizer, the duration of the suspension to run concurrently with the time of the permit granted, Seconded by Councilmember Shirley.

Council discussed this change as a positive step for festivals in Dahlonega.

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

4. Amendment to Professional Services Agreement for WSP USA Environment & Infrastructure Inc., formerly known as Wood Environmental and Infrastructure Solutions, Inc., Doug Parks, City Attorney

Mayor Taylor called for a motion to approve an amendment to the Professional Services Agreement for WSP USA Environment & Infrastructure Inc., formerly known as Wood Environmental and Infrastructure Solutions, Inc.

Motion made by Councilmember Reagin, Seconded by Councilmember Shirley.

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

5. Ordinance 2022-16: An ordinance to exclude off-street parking and loading requirements within the B-3 and CBD zones for restaurants, lounges, offices, and retail businesses, Doug Parks, City Attorney

Mayor Taylor called for a motion to approve Ordinance 2022-16, An ordinance to exclude off-street parking and loading requirements within the B-3 and CBD zones for restaurants, lounges, offices, and retail businesses.

Motion made by Councilmember Larson, Seconded by Councilmember Reagin

Director Jameson informed Council that the Planning Commission requested an entire plan for the parking plan, so their request was to have the Council table this ordinance.

Council understood that the current parking ordinance needed further discussion, but at this time, this move is the best for the town.

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

6. Zoning Changes Pursuant to HB 1405, Doug Parks, City Attorney

Mayor Taylor called for a motion to refer Zoning Changes Pursuant to HB 1405 to the Planning Commission.

Motion made by Councilmember Shirley, Seconded by Councilmember Reagin.

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

7. Project # 2023-003 Hancock Park Dumpster Pad Enclosure, Vince Hunsinger, Capital

Projects Manager

Mayor Taylor called for a motion to approve Project # 2023-003 Hancock Park Dumpster Pad Enclosure.

Motion made by Councilmember Gaddis, Seconded by Councilmember Larson.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Gaddis, Councilmember Larson, Councilmember Reagin, Councilmember Shirley, Councilmember Bagley

8. Project 2023-005 North Square Sidewalk Replacement, Vince Hunsinger, Capital Projects Manager

Mayor Taylor called for a motion to approve Project 2023-005 North Square Sidewalk Replacement.

Motion made by Councilmember Bagley, Seconded by Councilmember Gaddis.

Director Martin informed Council that unused funds would cover any shortfalls in the expected budget for this project from other Capital Projects.

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

9. Executive Session - Litigation

Mayor Taylor called for a motion to move into Executive Session- Litigation at 5:04 P.M.

Motion made by Councilmember Gaddis, Seconded by Councilmember Bagley.

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

Mayor Taylor called for a motion to exit the Executive Session at 5:52 P.M.

Motion made by Councilmember Gaddis, Seconded by Councilmember Larson.

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

Mayor Taylor stated that while no specific action was taken during the Executive Session, we have been diligently working with our County colleagues for the past few weeks and have had an excellent start to an agreement that will resolve many challenges and issues for the betterment of our citizens. With us tonight, Chairman Chris Dockery and Commissioner Stringer have been the main authors in a set of agreements that are not ready for public discussion yet as we continue to work through some agreements. The timeline set for these discussions is 60 days.

Chairman Dockery requested a Joint Executive Session with Council and the Commission in the next ten days. He stated that the letter presented to Council had a hard date of tonight for a vote to which Mayor Taylor stated the understanding was an open-ended date with our agreement. Chairman Dockery said he would discuss an extension with his Board at their meeting tomorrow night.

The agreed-upon date for the Joint Executive Session will be Thursday, March 30, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Taylor called for a motion to adjourn the City Council Special Called Meeting at 5:55 P.M.

Motion made by Councilmember Gaddis, Seconded by Councilmember Bagley.

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