



CITY OF DAHLONEGA

Council Meeting- Amended Minutes

February 07, 2022 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.

PRESENT

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

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

PRAYER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

Councilmember Roman Gaddis led the Prayer
Councilmember Ryan Reagin led the Pledge of Allegiance

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Taylor called for a motion to approve the agenda.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT – PLEASE LIMIT TO THREE MINUTES

Vicki Moye, Skyline Drive stated she objects to the rezoning of 60 Skyline Drive and does not see any need for a business at the beginning of the neighborhood.

Emily Lewy, Sky Country voiced her concern with leash law enforcement. She has been speaking with City and County people since November about dog issues and has a concern with the wireless fences that allow dogs to come to the edge of the curb. She is very concerned with the safety of people walking the neighborhood.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES -

- a. Board of Zoning Appeals Minutes November 1, 2021

Danna Foster, Assistant City Clerk

City Attorney Parks reminded Council that only the Board of Zoning Appeals could approve the Minutes and they would need to be brought to the next Board of Zoning Appeals. Councilmember Gaddis inquired if we needed to amend the agenda to remove

item a. and made a motion to amend the agenda and remove item a from the approval of minutes. Councilmember Larson to second the motion. Voting Yea: Councilmember Larson, Councilmember Ariemma, Councilmember Reagin, Councilmember Shirley
Voting Abstaining: Councilmember Gaddis

- b. Council Meeting Minutes January 4, 2022
Danna Foster, Assistant City Clerk
- c. City Council Public Hearing Minutes, January 18, 2022
Danna Foster, Assistant City Clerk
- d. Council Work Session Meeting Minutes, January 18, 2022
Danna Foster, Assistant City Clerk
- e. City Council Special Called Meeting Minutes January 18, 2022
Danna Foster, Assistant City Clerk

Councilmember Gaddis made a motion to approve the minutes and listed them by name items b-e. Councilmember Larson to second the motion. Voting Yea: Councilmember Larson, Councilmember Ariemma, Councilmember Reagin, Councilmember Shirley, Councilmember Gaddis

APPOINTMENT/RECOGNITION

- 1. Certified City of Ethics Program - Board Member Appointment

JoAnne Taylor, Mayor

Mayor Taylor stated an important part of our mission as public servants is being ethical in our dealings. As a certified City of Ethics, when there is a change in Mayor or Councilmembers, we reappoint Board of Ethics representatives. Mayor Taylor read the principles of Public Service Ethics.

Mayor Taylor asked the members of the Board of Ethics Pool to approach and gather for their oath of office. Mayor Taylor read the Oath of Office to the members present: Sam Johnson, Fiona Bagley, Dr. Alice Sampson, Ryan Jones, and Elizabeth Teal.

Mayor Taylor thanked the participants for their willingness to serve.

Mayor Taylor called for a motion to ratify the existing Ethics Board Pool as some members were not present

Councilmember Reagin made a motion to ratify the existing pool. Councilmember Larson to second the motion. Voting Yea: Councilmember Larson, Councilmember Ariemma, Councilmember Reagin, Councilmember Shirley, Councilmember Gaddis

- 2. Councilmember Candidate Post 5

JoAnne Taylor, Mayor

Mayor Taylor announced the intention of the Council to appoint a candidate to fill the open City Council Post 5 term through December 31, 2023. Applicants must be a resident of the City for at least 1 year before being appointed and are required to stay as a resident of the City through the duration of their term. Applications will be taken through February 21st, 2022. We hope to make an appointment for this post at the March 7, 2022 Council Meeting. Those that are interested can find the application online at www.dahlonga.gov

ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTION:

3. Ordinance 2022-03: Rezoning for Don and Chris Head REZN 21-6

Doug Parks, City Attorney

Mayor Taylor asked the City Attorney if there were any changes to the Ordinance as written.

City Attorney Parks indicated a recommendation to add to condition 5 the following language – “The Zoning Administrator may waive this requirement if a suitable equivalent is deemed acceptable.” This allows an alternative to the new survey if deemed acceptable by the Zoning Administrator. City Attorney Parks felt the applicant was acceptable subject to that item.

Mayor Taylor began to request a motion when Councilmember Gaddis indicated he had been contacted by the seller’s agent, and the buyer contacted his family and he felt he needed to recuse himself from the vote. A quorum was still present with Councilmember Gaddis’ recusal. Councilmember Ariemma made a motion to be approved for Don and Chris Head for Ordinance 2022-03. Seconded by Councilmember Larson. Mayor Taylor called for any discussion. City Attorney Parks commented if this motion includes the additional language as discussed and Councilmember Ariemma confirmed.

Councilmember Larson clarified the ordinance stated condition number 1 states: Any site plan approved shall reflect that no driveway or other vehicular access shall be provided from Skyline Drive and shall also comply with all relevant zoning and development regulations of the City including but not limited to the elements set forth in Section 2102 and other requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Dahlonega. He also added item 2 The only approved vehicular access to the property shall be from North Grove Street under permitting by the Georgia Department of Transportation and the City of Dahlonega.

Mayor Taylor reminded the public that the meeting packets were available ahead of time for public viewing on the City’s website.

Motion made by Councilmember Ariemma, Seconded by Councilmember Larson.

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

Voting Abstaining: Councilmember Gaddis

4. Ordinance 2022-04: An ordinance to provide a curfew for Wimpy Mill Park

Doug Parks, City Attorney

Mayor Taylor detailed this action as an update to the Ordinance to include hours for the Wimpy Mill Park.

Councilmember Gaddis stepped out of the meeting and returned prior to the vote.

Councilmember Larson made a motion to amend Ordinance 2022-04 to provide curfew hours consistent with the other City parks, Seconded by Councilmember Ariemma.

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

5. Proclamation Arbor Day 2022

Skyler Alexander, Downtown Coordinator

Mayor Taylor read the Proclamation and proclaimed February 22, 2022, as Arbor Day and encouraged the planting of trees. The City will celebrate Arbor Day by planting a large Fir

Tree at a location to be disclosed at a later date. Mayor Taylor signed the Proclamation into effect.

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

ANNOUNCEMENT/CITY REPORTS:

6. December 2021 - Financial Report

Allison Martin, Finance Director

Director Martin reviewed the Financial Report and answered questions for Council.

Motion to accept the Financial Report made by Councilmember Gaddis, Seconded by Councilmember Reagin. Voting Yea: Councilmember Larson, Councilmember Gaddis, Councilmember Ariemma, Councilmember Reagin, Councilmember Shirley

OLD BUSINESS:

7. Cyber Security Plan Update

Allison Martin, Finance Director

Director Martin stated there were no changes since this was last presented to Council.

Motion made by Councilmember Larson to approve the plan presented by Director Martin, Seconded by Councilmember Reagin.

Councilmember Gaddis clarified open records rules for Government organizations and clarified a report by the Nugget indicating that former Mayor Sam Norton's email was hijacked was did not happen, but a phishing attempt was made by someone using his name. Councilmember Gaddis added our IT provider does a very good job and we have a strong system.

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

8. Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant (LMIG) Resurfacing 2022-001

Vince Hunsinger, Capital Projects Manager

Presented by Mark Buchanan, Public Works Director/City Engineer

Director Buchanan described this resurfacing job does all North Hall Road and the side streets. Colditz won the bid on both items 8 and 9.

Motion made by Councilmember Shirley, Seconded by Councilmember Gaddis.

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

9. Asphalt Leveling and Resurfacing of City Streets in Dahlonega, GA In House Project # 2022-002

Vince Hunsinger, Capital Projects Manager

Presented in item 8 by Director Buchanan.

Motion made by Councilmember Larson, Seconded by Councilmember Shirley.

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

10. Georgia Mountains Regional Commissions Council Position

Mary Csukas, City Clerk

Mayor Taylor described the role of the Georgia Mountains Regional Commissions and announced that Councilmember Johnny Ariemma has volunteered to serve and represent our city.

NEW BUSINESS: no new business, no other additions to the agenda

COMMENTS – PLEASE LIMIT TO THREE MINUTES

The City Clerk had no comments at this time.

City Manager Bill Schmid shared with the community the Council's attendance in Atlanta two weeks ago. He indicated the Head House renovations were progressing.

City Attorney Doug Park stated that on the Department of Revenue's website, the alcohol applications are operational. The fillable application is being created and it appears the process will be effective.

Councilmember Reagin commented he thinks everyone is doing great and it's appreciated.

Councilmember Larson and Councilmember Gaddis had no comments.

Councilmember Ariemma asked for clarification regarding the phishing of previous Mayor Sam Norton's email and Councilmember Gaddis responded with the typical process of social engineering with public information.

Councilmember Shirley had no additional comments.

Mayor Taylor thanked everyone for coming and thanked volunteers of the Ethics Board Pool for coming and serving. We take our Ethical situations seriously.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Taylor called for a motion to adjourn at 6:40 pm

Motion made by Councilmember Ariemma, Seconded by Councilmember Larson.

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