



CITY OF DAHLONEGA
Council Meeting- Amended Minutes
October 04, 2021, 6:00 PM
Gary McCullough Chambers, Dahlonega City Hall

PRESENT

Mayor Sam Norton
Council Member Roman Gaddis
Council Member Ron Larson
Council Member Johnny Ariemma
Council Member Joel Cordle

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Norton called for approval of the agenda as presented.
Motion made by Council Member Larson, Seconded by Council Member Cordle.
Voting Yea: Council Member Gaddis, Council Member Larson, Council Member Ariemma,
Council Member Cordle

PRAYER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

Councilmember Cordle led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Councilmember Ariemma led the prayer.

PUBLIC COMMENT – PLEASE LIMIT TO THREE MINUTES

Tyler Barnes of Accent Cellars reminded Council of his desire to move forward to amend the alcohol law for consumption of beer on-premise for his establishment.

Kathy Garner commented on her disagreement with the Stormwater Fee.

Rick Beat, Vice President of the Summit Board of Directors, read a statement from Bill Rath, President – The Summit Board of Directors regarding Ordinance 2021-12.

Andrew Galecki, a developer of The Ridge, discussed his understanding of the recommendations for Ordinance 2021-12 and left an opportunity for Council to ask any questions.

Danny Otter, the seller of the Anderson Property, reiterated that the Anderson family is concerned about what happens with the property.

JoAnne Taylor commented that she does not agree to have Short-Term Rentals in a PUD.

Sandy Carpani voiced her concern for Short-Term Rentals regarding Ordinance 2021-12.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Danna Foster, Assistant City Clerk

- a. Board of Zoning Appeals Minutes - September 20, 2021
- b. Public Hearing Agenda Minutes - September 20, 2021
- c. Work Session Minutes - September 20, 2021
- d. Special Called Meeting Minutes - September 20, 2021

Mayor Norton called for a motion to approve all the presented meeting minutes.

Motion made by Council Member Gaddis to approve all minutes as presented, Seconded by Council Member Larson. Voting Yea: Council Member Gaddis, Council Member Larson, Council Member Ariemma, Council Member Cordle

APPOINTMENT/RECOGNITION

1. Appointment Main Street / Downtown Development Authority - Wendi Huguley-Routhier

Mayor Norton presented Ms. Huguley-Routhier's application to the Council and asked for a motion to approve.

Motion made by Council Member Ariemma, Seconded by Council Member Cordle.

Voting Yea: Council Member Gaddis, Council Member Larson, Council Member Ariemma, Council Member Cordle

Mayor Norton commented that volunteering to a committee is the highest level of Community Service, thanks to Ms. Huguley-Routhier.

Mayor Norton administered the Oath of Office to Ms. Huguley-Routhier and invited Council to take a photo with Ms. Huguley-Routhier.

ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTION:

1. Ordinance 2021-12: Summit PUD Phase 2 with Conditions, Doug Parks, City Attorney

City Attorney Parks presented the Ordinance with Comments from Jameson Kinley, Planning and Zoning Administrator, who outlined modifications to stipulations numbering 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11.

Council discussed the outlined modifications of the Ordinance with no changes.

Mayor Norton called for a motion.

Councilmember Larson called for a motion to accept staff recommendations for Ordinance 2021-12 as presented. Seconded by Council Member Cordle.

Voting Yea: Council Member Gaddis, Council Member Larson, Council Member Ariemma, Council Member Cordle

Mayor Norton called for a 5-minute recess of the Council Meeting at

Mayor Norton resumed the Council Meeting at 6:40

ANNOUNCEMENT/CITY REPORTS:

2. August 2021 - Financial Report, Allison Martin, Finance Director
Presented by City Manager Bill Schmid

Mayor Norton reminded Council and attendees the Budget is a dynamic document that requires refinement.

Council discussed different aspects of specific items in the Budget report

Mayor Norton called for a motion to accept the August F2021 Financial Report as presented.

Motion made by Council Member Larson, Seconded by Council Member Ariemma.

Voting Yea: Council Member Gaddis, Council Member Larson, Council Member Ariemma, Council Member Cordle

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Head House Update- Bill Schmid, City Manager

City Manager Schmid informed the Council of the upcoming bid process for this project on October 15 with recommendations for awarding the project as the next step at a future Council Meeting. There is a 6-month clock on the contract that requires 180-day performance.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business

COMMENTS – PLEASE LIMIT TO THREE MINUTES

Other Department Comments

MainStreet Program – Ms. Ariel Alexander indicated that progress continues with creating the 2022 MainStreet Annual Assessment plan, which requires a strategic work plan. Joel Cordle and Jessica Reynolds from DCA are to assist in developing transformation strategies for the work plan. Our Volunteer Appreciation Dinner planned for October 12, 2021, is to be rescheduled.

Mr. Robb Nichols, President of the Chamber of Commerce, commented on this year's Six-Gap Race that included 1,191 riders and good support from local EMS. Candidate forums scheduled at the Park and Rec Building: City of Dahlonega on October 12, Lumpkin County District 1 on October 14, the State of the Chamber Lunch on October 21, and our Annual Dinner on November 5.

Ms. Mary Csukas reminded the Council early voting on Saturday, October 16, 2021, occurs during the annual Gold Rush event, which will require two voting stations' locations on this one day.

City Manager Schmid announced that Ms. Mary Csukas had included DDA / MainStreet Director for the City as an additional role.

City Attorney had no comments.

City Council Comments

Councilmember Ariemma stated that the funds used to purchase and update the Head House for Historic preservation were a worthwhile endeavor.

Councilmember Gaddis agrees the Head House is a good location as the City values Historic Preservation, and congratulations to Ms. Csukas on her promotion.

Councilmember Gaddis thanked Ms. Garner for her comments and stated that the Council's decisions are not taken lightly. When we instituted stormwater utility fees, we had aging pipes and annual expenses reaching \$800,000 in costs. Collection of stormwater fees from all properties exempt and non-exempt contribute to these yearly expenses. We made very sure that the amount to a billpayer was not significant for a residential home. The City started talking about it in 1998, and it has taken many years to come to this decision.

Councilmember Larson encouraged everyone to get out and vote. The City of Dahlonega averages 20-25% voter participation. Take it seriously; please go out and vote.

Councilmember Cordle congratulated Ms. Csukas on her promotion and thanked the Main Street/DDA Staff for their work in these last months.

Mayor Norton thanked Ariel Alexander and Skyler Alexander for all the work they do to make the MainStreet Program; they do a lot to keep our Downtown Vibrant and alive so our businesses can prosper. We will be addressing the concept of low-speed vehicles on city streets and the reduction of seats on City Council in an upcoming Work Sessions.

Mayor Norton motioned for adjournment at 7:00 pm.

Motion made by Council Member Gaddis, Seconded by Council Member Cordle.

Voting Yea: Council Member Gaddis, Council Member Larson, Council Member Ariemma, Council Member Cordle