



CITY OF DAHLONEGA

Council Work Session Minutes

October 17, 2022, 4:00 PM

Dahlongega 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 Dahlongega's resources.

PRESENT

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

ABSENT

Councilmember Lance Bagley

OPEN MEETING

Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order at 4:04 pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

BOARDS & COMMITTEES:

1. Cemetery Committee—September 2022
Chris Worick, Committee Chairman
Director Buchanan stated there was a new surveillance camera at Mount Hope Cemetery.
2. Downtown Dahlongega – September 2022
Ariel Alexander, Downtown Manager
Mayor Taylor asked if there was anything additional to report. Manager Alexander stated that the Agenda indicated the report was August 2022, but it is September 2022.

TOURISM: Sam McDuffie, Tourism Director

Mayor Taylor announced that the renovation of the Visitors Center's restrooms would begin soon, and it would be a 4-week project with completion before Thanksgiving.

A conversation was had regarding the LED lights at Hancock Park. Mayor Taylor noted Robb Nichols in the audience, and the new CVB is ready to go on January 1st.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

3. Community Development – September 2022
Jameson Kinley, Planning and Zoning Administrator
4. Finance and Administration Department – September 2022
Allison Martin, Finance Director
5. Dahlonga Police Department – September 2022
George Albert, Chief of Police
6. Public Works—September 2022
Mark Buchanan, PW Director/City Engineer
7. Water & Wastewater Treatment Department Report - September 2022
John Jarrard, Water/Wastewater Treatment Director

Mayor Taylor asked Council for any questions about the reports.

Council discussed some activities with the Police Department, the Kayak Ramp silt build-up and some water sample processes explained.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

8. UCBI Banking Service Contract Renewal
Allison Martin, Finance Director
Mayor Taylor announced the item.
Director Martin explained that the bank had offered a new rate, and the staff recommended extending this contract.
Mayor Taylor announced that the item would be brought to the next Council meeting.
9. Project # 2022 – 017 Wimpy Mill Road Sidewalk Repair and Replacement
Vince Hunsinger, Capital Projects Manager
Mayor Taylor announced the item.
Manager Hunsinger announced that the bid opening was on October 4th. The low bid was \$374,859, and \$120,000 was budgeted for this project. He discussed that funds could be moved for the sidewalk from the picnic area project to the reservoir project. A grant could be applied for in 2025 for future projects.
Council discussed the cost, the location, and the importance of sidewalk safety. There was also a discussion about alternatives.
10. Housing Needs Assessment Update
Jameson Kinley - Planning and Zoning Administrator
Mayor Taylor announced that this item was a pre-quill to the meeting tonight.
Administrator Kinley announced the status of the Assessment. KB Advisory Group will give the presentation at Park and Rec Center. There will be public input afterward.
Mayor Taylor added that there would be several smaller stakeholder meetings after tonight's meeting to understand projections of UNG student attendance over the next several years. Mayor Taylor thanked Administrator Kinley's work on this.

COMMENTS – PLEASE LIMIT TO THREE MINUTES

City Clerk Csukas had no additional comments.

Interim City Manager Bill Lewis reminded Council there would be an open house for the Park Street project, including water, sewer, stormwater, paving, and sidewalk. The public input opportunity at Lumpkin County Community Center, 365 Riley Road, on November 9th from 6:30-8:30 pm to answer questions.

City Attorney Parks had no additional comments.

Councilmember Shirley commented on the weekend and saw many city employees downtown.

Councilmember Ariemma commented that there was our fair share of Tourism.

Councilmembers Gaddis, Larson, and Reagin had no additional comments.

Mayor Taylor hoped everyone would attend the event this evening and thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Taylor indicated she would entertain a motion to adjourn at 4:41 pm

Motion made by Councilmember Ariemma, Seconded by Councilmember Shirley.

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