



CITY OF DAHLONEGA

Council Meeting Minutes

December 7, 2020, 6:00 PM

Gary McCullough Chambers, Dahlonega City Hall

<p>PRESENT Mayor Norton Council Member Mitchell Ridley Council Member Ron Larson Council Member JoAnne Taylor Council Member Roman Gaddis Council Member Johnny Ariemma Council Member Helen Hardman</p>	<p>PRESENT Director Melody Marlowe City Manager Bill Schmid Director Kevin Herrit</p>	<p>PRESENT City Attorney Doug Parks Tourism Director Sam McDuffie</p>
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CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Mayor Norton called the Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Norton called for a motion to move the meeting to the Lumpkin County Park and Recreation Building at 6:01 p.m.

Motion made by Council Member Ridley to move the meeting as stated, seconded by Council Member Taylor. Voting Yea: Council Member Hardman, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Ridley, Council Member Larson, Council Member Ariemma, Council Member Gaddis.

Mayor Norton suspended the Meeting at 6:01 p.m.

Mayor Norton reconvened the Meeting at the Park and Recreation Building at 6:08 p.m.

PRAYER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

Mayor Sam Norton led the Prayer and Council Member Gaddis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Norton called for a motion to approve the agenda as written.

Motion made by Council Member Taylor seconded by Council Member Hardman. Voting Yea: Council Member Hardman, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Ridley, Council Member Larson, Council Member Ariemma, Council Member Gaddis

PUBLIC COMMENT – PLEASE LIMIT TO THREE MINUTES

- Tom Gordon, 329 N Chestatee - Thankful for community and progressive County.
- Theryl West, 236 Warwick Street - Lives adjacent to the property considered for rezoning; concerns include lights, traffic, and noise.
- George Butler, (Represents 1st Baptist Church), read letter from Signet to Council.
- Jim Gibbon, 250 & 257 Hawkins Street. – Destructive to neighborhood. He does not trust promise of Signet. Gates will be noisy, loud music and parties.
- Wynn Mott, 229 Hawkins Street – Presented map for traffic flow. This is an inappropriate place for growth.

- Citizen at 315 Church Street – Concerns: noise, traffic, crime, and parties.
- Ethan Underwood, (Attorney for Signet Developers) – Willing to put promise in writing, will meet all standards and will put property on tax digest.
- Citizen- Does not believe UNG needs housing.
- David West, 236 Hawkins Street – Does not want to see big builders in his neighborhood. UNG enrollment dropped. Does not suit the area.
- Affidavit of Spencer Hyatt presented for City record.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES -

- a. City Council Meeting Minutes – November 2, 2020
 Mayor Norton called for a motion to approve the City Council Meeting Minutes on November 2, 2020, as written.
 Motion made by Council Member Larson, Seconded by Council Member Taylor.
 Voting Yea: Mayor Norton, Council Member Hardman, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Ridley, Council Member Gaddis, Council Member Larson, Council Member Ariemma

- b. Public Hearing Zoning Map Amendment – November 2, 2020
 Mayor Norton called for a motion to approve the City Council Work Session Minutes on October 19, 2020, as written.
 Motion made by Council Member Gaddis, Seconded by Council Member Taylor.
 Voting Yea: Council Member Hardman, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Ridley, Council Member Gaddis, Council Member Larson, Council Member Ariemma

RECOGNITION

1. Appointment of Joyce Westmoreland to the Planning Commission
 Mayor Norton thanked Ms. Westmoreland, who was in attendance, for her commitment and service to community of Dahlenega.
 Mayor Norton called for a motion to appoint Joyce Westmoreland to the City of Dahlenega Planning Commission.
*Motion made by Council Member Gaddis, Seconded by Council Member Ridley.
 Voting Yea: Council Member Hardman, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Ridley,
 Council Member Gaddis, Council Member Larson, Council Member Ariemma*

ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTION:

2. Ordinance 2020-28: Hawkins Street Rezoning
 City Manager Schmid position: remand the Hawkins Street Rezoning back to the Planning Commission for recommendation to R2 Zoning.
 Mayor Norton called for a motion to approve Staff recommendation to remand the Hawkins Street Rezoning back to Planning Commission for recommendation to R2 Zoning.
*Motion made by Council Member Ariemma, Seconded by Council Member Hardman.
 Voting Yea: Council Member Gaddis, Council Member Ariemma, Council Member Hardman, Council Member Larson.
 Voting Nay: Council Member Taylor, Council Member Ridley*

NEW BUSINESS

3. Final Plat for The Laurel “A Cottage Community” Condominium
Director Herrit presented the Final Plat for the Laurel “A Cottage Community” Condominium to the Council.

Mayor Norton called for a motion to approve the Final Plat.

*Motion made by Council Member Taylor, Seconded by Council Member Larson.
Voting Yea: Council Member Hardman, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Ridley,
Council Member Gaddis, Council Member Larson, Council Member Ariemma.*

4. Nonresidential Solid Waste Exemption Request

City Manager Schmid presented exemption requests to the Council and Mayor.

Mr. Shannon Sims, owner of Mobile Mind was offered an opportunity to address the Mayor and Council with his request for an exemption; his small office in downtown has little waste footprint and requests exemption from service fee.

City Manager Schmid recommends approval to Lumpkin County Elections and denies all other exemption requests at this time.

Mayor Norton called for a motion to vote on each exemption request separately.

*Motion made by Council Member Gaddis, Seconded by Council Member Ariemma.
Voting Yea: Council Member Hardman, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Ridley,
Council Member Gaddis, Council Member Larson, Council Member Ariemma.*

- Lumpkin County Elections
Motion made by Council Member Ridley to deny the request, Seconded by Council Member Larson.
Voting Yea: Council Member Hardman, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Ridley, Council Member Larson, Council Member Ariemma.
Voting Nay: Council Member Gaddis
- Mobile Mind
Motion made by Council Member Larson to deny the request, Seconded by Council Member Taylor.
Voting Yea: Council Member Hardman, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Ridley, Council Member Larson, Council Member Ariemma
Voting Nay: Council Member Gaddis
- Dahlonga Walking Tour & Dahlonga Tours & More, LLC
Motion made by Council Member Larson to deny the request, Seconded by Council Member Ridley.
Voting Yea: Council Member Hardman, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Ridley, Council Member Larson, Council Member Ariemma
Voting Nay: Council Member Gaddis
- 27 Park Place Hotel
Motion made by Council Member Larson to provide service and deny the request, Seconded by Council Member Taylor.
Voting Yea: Council Member Hardman, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Ridley, Council Member Gaddis, Council Member Larson, Council Member Ariemma

5. Head House Feasibility Study

City Manager Schmid presented Mayor and Council a copy of an email from Arcolab, the selected architect for the Head House project

Mayor Norton called for a motion to proceed with remodeling the Head House immediately without a feasibility study.

Motion made by Council Member Hardman, Seconded by Council Member Ariemma. Voting Yea: Council Member Hardman, Council Member Ariemma.

Voting Nay: Council Member Ridley, Council Member Gaddis, Council Member Larson, Council Member Taylor.

Motion denied.

Mayor Norton called for a motion to proceed with the feasibility study, including restaurant option.

Motion made by Council Member Taylor, Seconded by Council Member Larson. Voting Yea: Council Member Ridley, Council Member Gaddis, Council Member Larson, Council Member Taylor.

Voting Nay: Council Member Hardman, Council Member Ariemma.

6. 2021 Alcoholic Beverage License Renewal

Staff recommendation is approval of the listed Alcoholic Beverage License Applicants.

Mayor Norton called for a motion to approve renewal of the listed Alcoholic Beverage License applicants.

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

Voting Yea: Council Member Hardman, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Ridley, Council Member Gaddis, Council Member Larson. Recused: Council Member Ariemma.

7. 2021 Meeting Dates – Public Notice

Staff recommendation is approval of the 2021 Meeting Date Notice.

Mayor Norton called for a motion to approve the 2021 Meeting Dates Notice.

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

Voting Yea: Council Member Hardman, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Ridley, Council Member Gaddis, Council Member Larson, Council Member Ariemma

COMMENTS – PLEASE LIMIT TO THREE MINUTES

Clerk Comments – No comments

City Manager Comments – Dahlonga is on the Georgia Cities Magazine Cover

City Attorney Comments – Commended the City Clerk for the alcohol renewals

City Council Comments

- Council Member Ridley requests prayers for former Mayor McCullough and Angi McDonald and families.
- Council Member Ariemma stated that Council does not always agree but a common desire for the community is recognized.

Mayor Comments – Council Member Hardman is relocating to White County and will no longer be serving on the Council. A temporary Council Member needs to be appointed.

Many thanks to Council Member Hardman for her hard work as a member of the Dahlonga City Council. The audience applauded Council Member Hardman.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Norton called for a motion to adjourn the Meeting at 7:42 p.m.

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

Voting Yea: Council Member Hardman, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Ridley,
Council Member Gaddis, Council Member Larson, Council Member Ariemma

Approved this _____ day of _____, 2020.

_____ Sam Norton, Mayor

Attest: _____ Mary Csukas, City Clerk