



CITY OF DAHLONEGA  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 3, 2017  
6:00 PM

The Dahlonega City Council met in a scheduled Council Meeting on Monday, April 3, 2017 at City Hall. Members present were Mayor Gary McCullough, Michael Clemons, Bruce Hoffman, Sam Norton, Ron Larson and Mitchell Ridley. Council member Roman Gaddis was not present. City Attorney Doug Parks and City Manager Bill Schmid were also present. Mayor Gary McCullough called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. A prayer and the pledge to the American Flag were conducted.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Councilman Norton made the motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Councilman Hoffman. Mayor McCullough asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS – PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

There were no comments from the public.

**EARTH DAY – SAVE GEORGIA’S HEMLOCK PRESENTATION:**

Donna Shearer gave a presentation about Hemlock trees. Councilman Norton spoke about Earth Day and asked the City Manager to develop an itinerary for the event.

**CONSIDERATION OF APPRVAL OF ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LICENSES:**

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve the Ratification of Licenses issued to Kaitlyn Vanhoff, Jody Meldon and Tyler Barnes of Four Country Vineyards d/b/a Accent Cellars for Farm Winery Manufacturing and Farm Winery Tasting Room on March 6, 2017. The licenses previously issued shall be reissued with the date of issuance being reflected as April 3, 2017. Councilman Ridley made the motion, seconded by Councilman Clemons. Mayor McCullough asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion.

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve Chestatee Artists, Inc. d/b/a Dahlonega Arts and Wine Festival Special Event Alcohol Permit Wine Tasting and Wine Package Sales application. Councilman Hoffman made the motion, seconded by Councilman Larson. Mayor McCullough asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion.

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to table the Georgia Farm Wines, LLC d/b/a Taste Dahlonega for Wine Package Sales and Ancillary Wine Tasting application until the April Work Session to give staff and the City Attorney the chance to review the application request again. Councilman Norton made the motion, seconded by Councilman Larson. Mayor McCullough asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion.

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve the Sur De La Frontera for Beer, Wine and Distilled Spirits for Consumption on Premises application. Councilman Clemons made the motion, seconded by Councilman Norton. Mayor McCullough asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion.

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve Aramark Educational Services Off Premises Alcohol Catering Permits for Mountain Top Lectures Wine Reception 4/7/2017, Batter Up! Nighthawks Baseball Alumni Event 4/21/2017, All Alumni Mixer 4/22/2017 and Soccer Alumni Game & Cook-out 4/22/2017. Councilman Norton made the motion, seconded by Councilman Hoffman. Mayor McCullough asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion.

#### **MINUTE APPROVAL:**

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve the March 6, 2017 Regular Meeting minutes. Councilman Larson made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Councilman Norton. Mayor McCullough asked for any correction or additions, hearing none he asked all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion.

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve the March 16, 2017 Work Session minutes. Councilman Clemons made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Councilman Hoffman. Mayor McCullough asked for any correction or additions, hearing none he asked all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion.

#### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

Mayor McCullough stated the department reports were included in the Council packet for review.

#### **HEARING OF APPEAL:**

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion regarding the Appeal by Freddy Welch of Decision Rendered by Historic Planning Commission February 15, 2017 Denying Request to Paint Building Located at 198 North Grove Street. Councilman Ridley made a motion for the applicant to return to the Historic Preservation Commission for further review, seconded by Councilman Clemons. Mayor McCullough asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion.

#### **CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:**

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion regarding the Approval of Comprehensive Plan. Councilman Clemons made a motion, seconded by Councilman Larson. Mayor McCullough asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

Mayor McCullough clarified the fee of \$150 in item C is for 2017 only. Mayor McCullough asked for a motion regarding the Approval A. Intergovernmental Agreement between Lumpkin County and the City of Dahlonega for the 2017 Election for the City of Dahlonega, B. Public Safety - Increased use of off-duty deputies instead of contracted deputies, and C. Approval of Change in Fee for Special Events to \$150.00 and Addition of \$500 Refundable Deposit. Councilman Clemons made a motion, seconded by Councilman Ridley. Mayor McCullough asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion.

#### **EARLY RETIREMENT OPTION:**

City Manager Bill Schmid reported there is no additional information at this time.

**JOINT FUELING STATION:**

City Manager Bill Schmid reported there is no additional information at this time.

**ORDINANCES:**

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 2017-03 to repeal Ordinance 80-1. Councilman Norton made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Larson. Mayor McCullough asked for any correction or additions, hearing none he asked all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion.

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 2017-04 to repeal Ordinance 76-3. Councilman Larson made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Clemons. Mayor McCullough asked for any correction or additions, hearing none he asked all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion.

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 2000-6 Amendment 1. Councilman Clemons made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Larson. Mayor McCullough asked for any correction or additions, hearing none he asked all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion.

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 83-7 Amendment 10. Councilman Clemons made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Norton. Mayor McCullough asked for any correction or additions, hearing none he asked all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion.

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 85-4 Amendment 8. Councilman Clemons made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Ridley. Mayor McCullough asked for any correction or additions, hearing none he asked all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion.

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 81-5 Amendment 2. Councilman Norton made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Larson. Mayor McCullough asked for any correction or additions, hearing none he asked all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion.

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 93-2 Amendment 2. Councilman Clemons made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Larson. Mayor McCullough asked for any correction or additions, hearing none he asked all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion.

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 2008-2 Amendment 1. Councilman Clemons made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Norton. Mayor McCullough asked for any correction or additions, hearing none he asked all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion.

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 94-7 Amendment 14. Councilman Larson made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Ridley. Mayor McCullough asked for any correction or additions, hearing none he asked all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion.

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 85-5 Amendment 1. Councilman Clemons made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Ridley. Mayor McCullough asked for any correction or additions, hearing none he asked all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion.

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 85-2 Amendment 5. Councilman Larson made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Norton. Mayor McCullough asked for any correction or additions, hearing none he asked all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion.

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 95-6 Amendment 5. Councilman Clemons made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Norton. Mayor McCullough asked for any correction or additions, hearing none he asked all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion.

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 2004-4 Amendment 1. Councilman Larson made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Clemons. Mayor McCullough asked for any correction or additions, hearing none he asked all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion.

#### **RESOLUTIONS:**

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion for Ratification of Resolution 2016-05 a Resolution Supporting the Community Healthcare Partnership Grant. Councilman Clemons made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Larson. Mayor McCullough asked for any correction or additions, hearing none he asked all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion.

#### **CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:**

City Manager Bill Schmid announced the Chamber of Commerce's job fair on April 11 and the tourism appreciation day is on May 9. He reported Council will be seeing the draft Chamber of Commerce contract, an application for GDOT's Off-System Safety Project for a sidewalk along Wimpy Mill and the second quarter budget amendments at the next meeting.

#### **MAYOR COMMENTS:**

Mayor McCullough did not have any additional comments.

#### **CITY ATTORNEY COMMENTS:**

City Attorney Doug Parks reported all the ordinances adopted this evening will be submitted to Municode. The Hotel Motel ordinance draft will be brought to Council for review soon.

#### **CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Councilman Ridley asked the City Manager what the delay for the retirement buyout options is. The City Manager said he would need to follow up with the City Clerk Kym Smith for an update on the status of the retirement options. Councilman

Norton encouraged the public to attend the job fair in May. He shared the GMRC workforce development mobile unit will be available that day.

At 6:50 PM Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to move into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. Councilman Hoffman made a motion to move into an Executive Session, seconded by Councilman Norton. Mayor McCullough asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion.

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to adjourn the Executive Session and return to the regular Council Meeting. Councilman Clemons made a motion, seconded by Councilman Larson. Mayor McCullough asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion. The Executive Session adjourned at 8:05 PM to come back into Regular Session.

Councilman Clemons made a motion to increase the City Manager's pay to \$117,500.00 retro activated January 1, 2017 and to allow the use of the City vehicle for official business and 25 commuting miles. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hoffman. Mayor McCullough asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion.

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Larson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Clemons. Mayor McCullough asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously. Voting for the motion were Councilman Clemons, Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Larson, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Ridley. No Councilman voted against the motion. The regular council meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

APPROVED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2017

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Gary McCullough, Mayor

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Rebecca Shirley, Assistant City Clerk