



**CITY OF DAHLONEGA
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
SEPTEMBER 15, 2016, 4:00 P.M.
MINUTES OF MEETING**

The City of Dahlonega Council met Thursday, September 15, 2016, for a Special Called meeting at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Room in City Hall.

Council Members Michael Clemons, Bruce Hoffman, Roman Gaddis, Ron Larson, Sam Norton, Mitchell Ridley and Mayor Gary McCullough were present. City Manager Bill Schmid, City Attorney Doug Parks, Finance Director Melody Marlowe, Public Works Director Mark Buchanan and City Clerk Kimberly Smith were present. Dahlonega Downtown Development Authority Director Rebecca Shirley was present.

Public Hearing for Proposed Increase in 2016 Ad Valorem Property Tax Millage Rate

City Attorney Parks stated that this is the advertised meeting, which is the final of three required public hearings for the proposed increase in 2016 ad valorem property tax.

Finance Director Marlowe said the City of Dahlonega's 2016 net property tax digest is valued at \$188,931,655.00, which is a 1.43 percentage increase over the 2015 digest. Finance Director Marlowe said that the increase of one mill is to support the City Manager's recommended budget for fiscal year 2017.

Finance Director Marlowe explained the process required by state law of holding three public hearings for an increase in ad valorem property tax millage rate. The first two hearings were September 6, 2016, at 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. After millage rate approval, the required documentation will be forwarded to Lumpkin County, who will take the property tax digest to the State of Georgia for approval, and then tax bills will be printed and mailed.

City Attorney Parks asked if anyone was present to speak in favor of or opposition to the millage rate increase. There were no comments.

Adoption of FY 2017 Budget

Mayor McCullough called for a motion to approve adoption of FY 2017 Budget. Motion made by Council Member Larson to approve the Fiscal Year 2017 Budget for the City of Dahlonega as presented, seconded by Council Member Norton. Mayor McCullough called for a vote of those in favor signifying so by saying aye, like sign for those opposed. The motion carried with a unanimous vote in favor.

Approval of 2016 Ad Valorem Property Tax Millage Rate

Mayor McCullough called for a motion to set the 2016 ad valorem property tax millage rate. Motion made by Council Member Larson, seconded by Council Member Gaddis. Mayor McCullough called for a vote of those in favor signifying so by saying aye, like sign for those opposed. The motion carried with Council Members Clemons, Hoffman, Gaddis, Larson, and Ridley voting in favor and Council Member Norton voting in opposition.

Highland Trace development Agreement

City Manager Schmid introduced Developers John Huff and Robert Whittington and property owner Bill Hardman, Jr. who were present with regard to the Development Agreement for Highland Trace. City Manager Schmid told Mayor and Council that the Agreement presented in the Work Session Packet pages 26 – 42 gives the City certainty that the development will annex into the city and gives the developers certainty that they will receive water and sewer services from the city.

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Mayor McCullough asked who would receive development and permit fees for this project. City Manager Schmid replied that Lumpkin County will receive land development fees and the City of Dahlonega will receive permit fees.

There was discussion regarding where the entrance for the development will be located which will be north of the existing entrance to the property.

There was discussion regarding where the road shown on the development plan will end or intersect. There is no plan for the road to go off the property or intersect with any other road at this time.

Council Member Larson asked the period for construction, and the number, size and rental amounts of the units in the development. The answer given by representatives of Highland Trace was the development will be constructed in approximately one year; it will consist of 80 one, two and three bedroom units that will rent for \$650 to \$900 per month.

Mayor McCullough Called for a motion to approve the Development Agreement for Highland Trace. Motion made by Council Member Ridley and seconded by Council Member Clemons. Mayor McCullough called for a vote of those in favor signifying so by saying aye. Like sign for those opposed. The motion carried with a unanimous vote in favor.

Proclamation for Constitution Week September 17 – 23, 2016

Due to the recipients being present and so they would not have to wait for the Work Session Meeting to convene after the Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting, Mayor McCullough called for a motion to approve the Proclamation for Constitution Week September 17 – 23, 2016, for the National Society of the Daughters of American Revolution. Motion made by Council Member Hoffman, seconded by Council Member Norton. Mayor McCullough called for a vote of those in favor signifying so by saying aye. Like sign for those opposed. The motion carried with a unanimous vote in favor. Mayor McCullough presented the Proclamation for Constitution Week to the members of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Mayor McCullough called for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Council Member Gaddis, seconded by Council Member Norton. Mayor McCullough called for a vote of those in favor signifying so by saying aye. Like sign for those opposed. The motion carried with a unanimous vote in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 4:11 p.m.

Approved this _____ day of _____, 2016.

_____ Gary McCullough, Mayor

Attest:

_____ Kimberly A. Smith, City Clerk

