



CITY OF DAHLONEGA REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date:	March 4, 2019
Time:	6:00 p.m.
Place:	Dahlongega City Hall – Mayor McCullough Council Chamber.
Council Present:	Mayor Sam Norton, Council Members Ron Larson, Bruce Hoffman, Roman Gaddis, Mitchell Ridley, Helen Hardman and JoAnne Taylor.
Staff Present:	City Manager Bill Schmid, Finance Director Melody Marlowe, Community Director Kevin Herrit, Public Works Director Mark Buchanan, City Marshal Jeff Branyon and City Clerk Mary Csukas.
Other Attendees:	City Attorney Doug Parks, Downtown Development Executive Director Jan Harris, Downtown Development Assistant Carolyn McDuffie and Chairman of the Dahlongega Cemetery Committee Chris Worick.

Summary Vote by Council		
Agenda Item to be Voted upon by Council	Approval	Motion
FY2018 Budget Reappropriations Resolution 2019-02	Approved -5/0 Unanimous	Motion – Gaddis Second – Larson
Smith House DD RLF Resolution 2019-03	Approved -5/0 Unanimous	Motion – Ridley Second – Larson
Theta Epsilon Chapter of Sigma Chi Fraternity	Approved – 5/0 Unanimous	Motion- Ridley Second- Hardman
Arts & Wine Festival Permit Change	Approved – 5/0 Unanimous	Motion - Larson Second – Ridley
Carousel Organ Association of America	Approved – 5/0 Unanimous	Motion – Ridley Second - Taylor
Race Event Application	Approved – 5/0 Unanimous	Motion – Ridley Second - Gaddis
Resolution 2019-04 Expressing Opposition to House Bill 302 & Senate Bill 172	Approved – 5/0 Unanimous	Motion – Taylor Second - Gaddis

Call to Order:

Person: Mayor Norton

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Prayer Leader: City Manager Schmid

Pledge Leader: Council Member Hoffman

Public Comments:

Name of Commenter

Comments

Brian Garrett

Art Alliance – New Organization in Dahlonega. Art Alliance plans to hold a meet and greet with the community in the near future.

Approval of Agenda:

Purpose Mayor Norton called for a motion to amend and approve the agenda to include State Bill 172 in Resolution 2019-04 under New Business.

Discussion: Motion made by Council Member Larson to approve the amended agenda to include State Bill 172 in Resolution 2019-04 and second by Council Member Taylor.

Conclusion: Mayor Norton called for a vote of all in favor signifying so by saying aye, like sign for those opposed. The motion carried with unanimous vote in favor.

Approval of Minutes:

Purpose: Mayor Norton called for a motion to amend, for approval, the proposed minutes for Work Session – February 21, 2019 with a name change of Jacqueline Wiesenmeyer in the Downtown Development Report and to also approve the minutes for Regular Council Meeting Minutes – February 4, 2019, and Special Called Meeting Minutes – February 21, 2019.

Discussion: Motion made by Council Member Taylor to approve the listed minutes and amend Work Session- February 21, 2019 with a name change. Council Member Hardman seconded the motion. Mayor Norton stated that he liked the new minutes format and gave thanks to the City Clerk for her effort.

Conclusion: Mayor Norton called for a vote of all in favor signifying so by saying aye, like sign for those opposed. The motion carried with unanimous vote in favor.

Old Business

Agenda Item / FY2018 Budget Reappropriations Resolution 2019-02

Purpose: Mayor Norton called for a motion to approve the FY2018 Budget Reappropriations Resolution 2019-02.

Discussion: Motion made by Council Member Gaddis to approve the FY2018 Budget Reappropriations Resolution 2019-02 and second by Council Member Larson.

Conclusion: Mayor Norton called for a vote of all in favor signifying so by saying aye, like sign for those opposed. The motion carried with unanimous vote in favor.

Agenda Item / Smith House DD RLF Resolution 2019-03

Purpose: Mayor Norton called for a motion to approve the Smith House DD RLF Resolution 2019-03.

Discussion: Motion made by Council Member Ridley to approve the Smith House DD RLF Resolution 2019-03 and second by Council Member Larson.

Conclusion: Mayor Norton called for a vote of all in favor signifying so by saying aye, like sign for those opposed. The motion carried with unanimous vote in favor.

Agenda Item / Theta Epsilon Chapter of Sigma Chi Fraternity

Purpose: Mayor Norton called for a motion to approve the Theta Epsilon Chapter of Sigma Chi Fraternity Event.

Discussion: Motion made by Council Member Ridley to approve the Theta Epsilon Chapter of Sigma Chi Fraternity Event and second by Council Member Hardman.

Discussion Council Member Taylor voiced a concern for possible noise issues associated with the bands performing at this event. Mayor Norton explained that this event will be subject to the rules of festivals in Hancock Park and the event is expected to be conducted in an orderly fashion and to conclude by 10 p.m.

Conclusion: Mayor Norton called for a vote all in favor signifying so by saying aye, like sign for those opposed. The motion carried with unanimous vote in favor.

Agenda Item / Arts & Wine Festival Permit Change

Purpose: Mayor Norton called for a motion to approve the Arts & Wine Festival Permit Change.

Discussion: Motion made by Council Member Larson to approve the Arts & Wine Festival Permit Change and second by Council Member Ridley.

Discussion Mayor Norton reminded Council that the Arts & Wine Festival is requesting an option to expand the footprint of the festival if overflow is needed for artists exhibits. Gaddis stated that the overflow was only acceptable if all other slots are full.

Conclusion: Mayor Norton called for a vote all in favor signifying so by saying aye, like sign for those opposed. The motion carried with unanimous vote in favor.

Agenda Item / Carousel Organ Association of America

Purpose: Mayor Norton called for a motion to approve the Carousel Organ Association of America Rally.

Discussion: Motion made by Council Member Ridley to approve the Carousel Organ Association of America Rally and second by Council Member Taylor.

Discussion Mayor Norton informed Council that the Organ Association is a new festival and requires a vote from Council. This association is also asking to have the festival fee waived.

Ridley advised Council that this is not a festival only an event that is using just one parking space.

Council Member Hardman and Gaddis agreed that this will not be a festival and the fee should be waived.

This event will be a good draw for Dahlonge.

Conclusion: Mayor Norton called for a vote all in favor signifying so by saying aye, like sign for those opposed. The motion carried with unanimous vote in favor.

Agenda Item / Race Event Application

Purpose Mayor Norton called for a motion to approve the Race Event Application.

Discussion Motion made by Council Member Ridley to approve the Race Event Application and second by Council Member Gaddis.

Discussion Director Harris informed Council that parades and race events will now have separate applications.

- Parade applications will have no fee
- Race event application will have a fee of \$150.00, plus a damage deposit of \$300.00.

Conclusion Mayor Norton called for a vote all in favor signifying so by saying aye, like sign for those opposed. The motion carried with unanimous vote in favor.

New Business

Agenda Item / Resolution 2019-04 Expressing Opposition to House Bill 302 and State Bill 172

- Purpose: Mayor Norton called for a motion to approve Resolution 2019-04 Expressing Opposition to House Bill 302 and State Bill 172.
- Discussion: Motion made by Council Member Gaddis to approve Resolution 2019-04 Expressing Opposition to House Bill 302 and Senate Bill 172 and second by Council Member Hoffman.
- Discussion Mayor Norton explained House Bill 302 and State Bill 172 legislate all exterior design guidelines on single family homes and he feels that this may be an over reach from Atlanta, as we are under Home Rule. The citizens of Dahlonega have a better feel on what our City wants, and we should adopt this Resolution expressing opposition.
- Discussion Council Member Taylor has spoken to both Representative Tanner and Senator Gooch expressing her concerns, and both stated their concerns with signing the Bills as they are written.
- Discussion Mayor Norton requested a photo opportunity to share with State representatives showing our total agreement in opposition to the House Bill 302 and Senate Bill 172. In the photo, Mayor and Council held a banner that stated Home Rule.
County Commissioner Miller confirmed that Lumpkin County Commissioners also oppose these two Bills.
- Conclusion: Mayor Norton called for a vote of all in favor signifying so by saying aye, like sign for those opposed. The motion carried with a unanimous vote in favor.

Department Reports

Agenda Item / City Marshal Department Report -Marshal Branyon

Discussion: Marshal Branyon informed Council that the Literacy & Science Festival was in town this weekend and the Marshal's Department created a mock crime scene for the over 1000 participants

Agenda Item / Community Development and Historic Preservation Commission Report - Director Herrit

Discussion: Director Herrit informed Council that the Lumpkin County Clerk of Court has granted the City of Dahlonega access to record Plats electronically allowing for a One Stop Shop in the Community Development Depart

Agenda Item / Finance Department Report - Director Marlowe

Discussion: Director Marlowe informed Council that the new website for the City of Dahlonega will be presented at the next Work Session and the Financial Software RFP was released last week

Agenda Item / Public Works Department Reports - Director Buchanan

- Discussion: Director Buchanan informed Council of the following:
- The City has been experiencing Stormwater problems all over town with the recent rain, reducing our available resources.
 - In Hancock Park Playground we are working on grading and a stone retaining wall. We expect the Playground to be ready by Memorial Day.
- Discussion: Council Member Taylor asked about ADA parking at Hancock Park. The design will include one parking space for an ADA Van.

Discussion: • In Wimpy Mill Picnic Area, we have completed the parking and picnic tables projects and we are working towards completing signage, benches, swings and planting Dahlongea Oak Trees.
Council Member Taylor informed Council that Master Gardeners have volunteered to work at the Wimpy Mill Picnic Area.

Agenda Item / Water and Waste Water Plants Department – Supervisor Jarrard

Discussion: No additional comments

Committee Reports

Agenda Item / Cemetery Committee Report –Chairman Chris Worick

Discussion: Chairman Worick informed Council of the following:

- The Old Jail was used for the Science Festival and the sign-in log showed 471 visitors within the 4 hours span the event was open.
- Master Gardeners are planning to plant in the Cemetery.
- Trees were removed this weekend with the assistance of City Staff.

Discussion: Council Member Ridley asked Chairman Worick to research old photos of the Wimpy Mill Picnic Area for a possible interactive sign at the Picnic Area.

Agenda Item / Dahlongea Downtown Development Authority Report - Downtown Director Harris

Discussion: Downtown Director Harris informed Council of the following:

- Master Gardens are working with Downtown Development Authority to plant samplings in the Wimpy Mill Picnic Area on the 24th of April.
- Celebrate Arbor Day by reading in conjunction with Lumpkin County Library Story Time for elementary school kids on the 25th of April.
- The Downtown Development Authority will be hosting an Arbor Day Event at the Wimpy Mill Picnic Area on the 26th of April. This event is open to the public.

Comments

City Manager Comments:

Discussion: The City has a joint meeting scheduled, at the Head House property, on March 12th with the Historic Preservation Commission and the Downtown Development Authority to complete a walk-through of the property.

City Attorney Comments

Discussion: No comments

City Council Comments

Discussion: Council Member Larson asked Staff to review an application for a new deli business in town that is experiencing issue with his permits. Mayor Norton stated that the issues at hand involved the State not the City permitting.

Mayor Comments

Discussion: No comments

Adjournment: Mayor Norton called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. Motion by Council Member Hoffman to adjourn. This motion was approved with a unanimous vote in favor.

Approved this _____ day of _____, 2019.

_____ Sam Norton, Mayor

Attest: _____ Mary Csukas, City Clerk