

DAHLONEGA CITY COUNCIL

SPECIAL MEETING

DECEMBER 17, 2009

The Dahlonega City Council met in special session at City Hall on December 17, 2009. Council members present were: Johnny Ariemma, Michael Clemons, Gerald Lord, Sam Norton, Terry Peters and Ralph Prescott. Mayor Gary McCullough called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

City Clerk Janet Jarrard advised that all paperwork has been completed for issuance of a beer and wine license to Pattie Lou Hester for the Chevron Gas and Food Mart. The background check for Ms. Hester indicated no record. A motion was made by Gerald Lord to approve this license. The motion was seconded by Ralph Prescott and approved by all members present.

A motion was made by Ralph Prescott to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss litigation. This motion was seconded by Terry Peters and approved by all members present. The Executive Session was adjourned and it was announced that no action was taken.

City Attorney Doug Parks advised that he previously discussed with the council the need for an affidavit for the Zwerner Deed Rejection. A motion was made by Ralph Prescott to approve the attached Affidavit to be recorded. This motion was seconded by Johnny Ariemma and approved by all members present.

A motion was made by Ralph Prescott to continue the discussion of a beer and wine license for Back Porch Oyster Bar on December 18, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. This motion was seconded by Sam Norton and approved by all members present.

A motion was made by Gerald Lord to adjourn the meeting at 5:00 p.m. This motion was seconded by Michael Clemons and approved by all members present.

APPROVED BY ME THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2009.

MAYOR

Attest:

CITY CLERK

DAHLONEGA CITY COUNCIL

WORK SESSION

DECEMBER 17, 2009

The Dahlonega City Council met at City Hall on December 17, 2009. Council members present were: Johnny Ariemma, Michael Clemons, Gerald Lord, Sam Norton, Terry Peters and Ralph Prescott. Mayor Gary McCullough called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

City Manager Bill Lewis advised that he had met with county officials and with chamber officials concerning bids for repairs to the Welcome Center. Five proposals were received for repairs to the roof and to the side of the building. They recommended that the bid be approved that was submitted by Appalachian Contractor Services. The bid was for \$12,806.61. The Chamber of Commerce plans to pay \$5,000.00 toward repairs and the City and County will each pay \$3,903.31. Chamber Director Amy Booker advised that these repairs were needed due to a flat roof and improper drainage which caused damages to the building. Mrs. Booker also advised that other work is to be done inside the building including replacing some of the carpet and repainting.

Greg Harmond represented Kevin Ash who is the owner of the Moore Building. Mr. Ash plans to expand the basement area of the Moore Building. He is planning for an upscale restaurant that would seat approximately 75 patrons. An easement would be required to allow an entrance into the basement area. Only handrails and steps would be visible on the outside of the building. Mr. Lewis reminded the council that Mr. Ash had spoken with the Council at a prior meeting concerning his plans. Mr. Harmond advised that Mr. Ash had been meeting with building inspection officials, the DDA and the county fire chief to meet all requirements. City Manager Bill Lewis advised that a variance will also be needed for parking requirements. The city's ordinance currently requires that Mr. Ash provide 20 additional parking places per the amount of added square footage of the building. Michael Clemons advised that the council needs to decide if they want any more restaurants as no more parking is available downtown. Terry Peters advised that granting an easement would grant a property right. Mr. Lewis stated that there is no more property to build on in the downtown area and if the council plans to encourage retail development in the downtown area this would be necessary. DDA Director Joel Cordle stated that this is a significant project from an economic development standpoint and this would encourage retail development in the downtown area. Michael Clemons advised that he would like to have a recommendation from the City Attorney concerning this matter. Gerald Lord recommended that the city sell this easement. He was reminded that the city cannot sell any property without bidding. Mr. Cordle advised that this business will not open until after 5:00 p.m. Mr. Harmond advised that twenty five percent of parking spaces are used in the downtown area after 5:00 p.m. Council members agreed to reconsider this request after the project is submitted to the Dahlonega Planning and Zoning Commission.

Ralph Prescott asked that the Park Street parking matter be deferred until after the first of the year. Mr. Prescott also requested that an arrow be painted on East Main Street to designate the turn lane onto North Grove Street. Johnny Ariemma requested that a graduated line be painted in front and behind the pedestrian crosswalks.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.