

CITY OF DAHLONEGA

City Council Meeting Minutes February 6, 2012

CALL TO ORDER: The Dahlonega City Council met in regular session at City Hall on February 6, 2012. Council Members present were Johnny Ariemma, Sam Norton, Terry Peters, Gerald Lord, Ralph Prescott and Bruce Hoffman. Mayor Gary McCullough called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. The meeting was opened with prayer by Velvie Banister and the Pledge to the American Flag was led by Bruce Hoffman.

AGENDA AMENDMENT APPROVAL: Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve an agenda amendment to add Calhoun Road Resurfacing Bid. A motion to approve was made by Ralph Prescott, seconded by Sam Norton and approved by all members present.

AGENDA APPROVAL: Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve the agenda as amended. A motion to approve was made by Gerald Lord, seconded by Sam Norton and approved by all members present.

MINUTE APPROVAL: Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 9th Council meeting. A motion to approve was made by Gerald Lord, seconded by Johnny Ariemma. Mayor McCullough asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes. Councilman Prescott noted he had asked Mrs. Stewart to correct a word and believes it has been corrected. The motion was approved by all.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS: Mayor McCullough stated monthly department reports had been submitted. City Manager Bill Lewis noted the Financial Report includes a request for approval of the fiscal year end budget amendments. Mr. Lewis stated the adjustments include more than one item. A motion to approve the budget amendments as submitted was made by Gerald Lord and seconded by Terry Peters. The motion was approved by all.

CITY MANAGERS COMMENTS: City Manager Bill Lewis requested approval of the Mt. Hope Cemetery Proposal submitted by GMRC in the amount of \$21,360.00. A motion to approve the proposal was made by Gerald Lord and seconded by Sam Norton. Johnny Ariemma stated this is a worthwhile project and hopes the City will look at also creating a mausoleum for cremation urns. Ralph Prescott noted after this project is done we need to look at improving the roads within the cemetery. Mayor McCullough stated he has talked with DDA Staff about looking for grant monies. Terry Peters stated he is not sure in this economy that this project should be funded. Bruce Hoffman stated he was at the presentation by GMRC and noted the discussion that historic cemetery's can be valuable attractions for cities. Voting for the motion was as: Bruce Hoffman, Ralph Prescott, Gerald Lord, Sam Norton and Johnny Ariemma. Terry Peters abstained.

Gerald Lord noted that he wanted the Work Session minutes of January 19th to reflect that he was not in agreement to rebid Calhoun Road Resurfacing project.

City Manager Bill Lewis recommended approval of the Gateway and City facilities signage proposal from Sign Design & Fabrication in the amount of \$15,050.00. This project is for several new signs at different locations and facilities throughout the city. A motion to award the contract was made by Gerald Lord and seconded by Ralph Prescott. The motion was approved by all.

City Manager Bill Lewis requested approval of the City Bridges Repairs and Modifications. This would be for Wimpy Mill Road and Torrington Road bridges. He informed Council that City staff will do the repair work and the work will be inspected by a KCI. Bill Lewis confirmed the bridges are the City's and \$15,000.00 dollars has been budgeted for this project. A motion to approve the request was made by Ralph Prescott and seconded by Sam Norton. The motion was unanimously approved by all. Bill Lewis informed members the project should start early spring.

City Manager Bill Lewis recommended approval of the finance policy update concerning water & sewer adjustments. A motion to approve the recommendation was made by Ralph Prescott and seconded by Sam Norton. The motion was unanimously approved by all.

City Manager Bill Lewis informed Council the City's Comprehensive Plan is due, but the State has given governments the option of deferring for another 5 years by updating their STWP –Short Term Work Program. In order to complete this, the city needs to adopt Resolution 2012-1. A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Gerald Lord and seconded by Sam Norton, the motion was unanimously approved.

City Manager Bill Lewis noted both Ronald Fortner Paving and Moore's Paving had resubmitted bids for Calhoun Road resurfacing. Moore's bid was \$76,406.94 and Fortner's bid was \$69,550.00 dollars. Mr. Lewis requested approval to accept the lowest bid of \$69,550.00 which was submitted by Fortner. This bid includes the patch job in front of the Corkscrew. A motion to accept the bid was made by Sam Norton and seconded by Johnny Ariemma. Johnny Ariemma asked if the contractors have agreed to submit the performance bond. City Manager noted they have been informed that one may be required. Mayor McCullough suggested that the performance bond be required. Sam Norton stated he will amend his motion to add that submittal of a performance bond is required. The motion was seconded by Johnny Ariemma. Ricky Stewart informed members that he has talked with both contractors about placing the bond and then transferring it over to a one year warranty, to insure the job will hold up. Ralph Prescott stated it appears staff is acceptable of the bid and it should be left up to the City Manager as to whether a bond is required. Johnny Ariemma agreed. Ricky Stewart noted if there is a problem the City will withhold payment. Mayor McCullough stated there was a motion and a second to require a performance bond and called for a vote. Motion failed. Bruce Hoffman stated he feels City is basing decision purely on the low bid and feels there should be other considerations. After brief discussion Sam Norton made a motion to accept the bid by Fortner on the paving contract and leave it at the discretion of the City Manager if a performance bond will be required. Johnny Ariemma seconded the motion. Terry Peters asked if City is aware of any past problem with these contractors. Bill Lewis informed members he is not aware of problems related to work performance. Voting for the motion was: Ralph Prescott, Gerald Lord, Terry Peters, Sam Norton and Johnny Ariemma. Bruce Hoffman abstained.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS: Mayor McCullough stated he needs to re-appoint Eddie Wayne and Jewell Hood to the Housing Authority Board. Motion to approve the re-appointments was made by Gerald Lord and seconded by Ralph Prescott. The motion was unanimously approved by all present.

CITY ATTORNEY COMMENTS: NONE

City Manager informed members that he will be taking Councilman Bruce Hoffman on a tour of the new and old water plants on Wednesday at 2:30 and invited anyone else who might want to attend.

Mayor McCullough reminded Council members to get their forms for the GMA conference to City Clerk Lou Stewart.

Mayor McCullough entertained a motion to adjourn, a motion was made by Sam Norton and seconded by Gerald Lord and approved by all members present.

APPROVED BY ME THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2012.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk