

# **CITY OF DAHLONEGA**

## **COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES February 3, 2014**

The Dahlonega City Council met in regular session on Monday, February 3, 2014 at City Hall. Members present were Roman Gaddis, Michael Clemons, Bruce Hoffman, Terry Peters, Sam Norton and Mitchell Ridley. Also present were City Manager Bruce Georgia and City Attorney Doug Parks. The prayer was led by Bruce Georgia and the Pledge to the American Flag was led by Sam Norton. Mayor Gary McCullough called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Gary McCullough thanked Mr. George Albert and Troop 303 for attending the Council meeting.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Mr. Frank Gilkenson informed Council that if SB299 is passed, it will influence citizens and students of the City of Dahlonega. He further informed of several rules in which were going to be thrown out and asked that the local government make their own rules and call Senator Steve Gooch before the passing of this Bill.

Mayor McCullough introduced the new University of North Georgia Chief of Police, Mr. Justin Gaines and thanked him for attending the meeting.

### **AGENDA APPROVAL:**

Mayor Gary McCullough requested that Agenda Item 11B be moved under Citizens. A motion to move the agenda item was made by Councilman Clemons, seconded by Councilman Peters. Mayor McCullough asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously.

Mayor McCullough informed that Thomas Curtiss had applied for a Package Sales Alcohol License for Ole' Mountain Collectors. Mayor McCullough asked City Clerk Lou Stewart if all paperwork was in order. Ms. Stewart informed that all paperwork was in order with no issues. Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Norton, seconded by Councilman Ridley. Mayor McCullough asked for any discussion, hearing none, he asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously.

Mayor McCullough informed that Miguel Quiroz Morales had applied for a Consumption on Premises Alcohol License for Don Pollo. At this time, Councilman Norton made a motion to table this application for sixty (60) days until a review could be completed of previous alcohol discrepancies, seconded by Councilman Clemons. Mayor McCullough asked for any discussion, hearing none, he asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously.

Mayor McCullough informed that a taxi cab license had been applied for by Ms. Rebecca Herbert. Planning Director Chris Head informed that City ordinance requires that Council approve a certificate of public convenience and necessity before staff can issue a business license. Ms. Head

further informed that all paperwork is in order, except the background check has not been returned therefore; recommendation was for approval with the contingency of a clear background report. A motion to approve with contingency was made by Councilman Clemons, seconded by Councilman Hoffman. Mayor McCullough asked for any discussion. Councilman Ridley informed the new taxi was nice and will be a good addition. Ms. Martha Atkins informed the taxi was a 2012 Minivan with seating for six. Councilman Peters questioned if it was a requirement to have the vehicle inspected. Ms. Head informed that Code Enforcement Tim Martin will be working with a local mechanic to complete the vehicle inspection. Mayor McCullough asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously.

Mayor McCullough informed that Bear on the Square Festival Chairman Jim White was requesting for street closure during the festival. Mr. White informed Council that a map was enclosed in their packet that showed the requested street closure. He further informed the request was due to safety issues and to expand their vendor area. The streets will be closed all weekend because vendor booths will be in the street and the stage will be set up in the parking lot again this year. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Gaddis, seconded by Councilman Norton. Mayor McCullough asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously.

**MINUTE APPROVAL:**

Mayor McCullough asked for Council approval of the minutes of January 6, 2014. A motion to approve as written was made by Councilman Norton, seconded by Councilman Hoffman. Mayor McCullough asked for any corrections or additions, hearing none, he asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

Mayor McCullough informed that all department reports had been submitted.

**RESOLUTION:**

Interim Finance Director Sabrina Cape informed Council that Resolution 2014-1 related to budget amendments for FY 2013. Ms. Cape further informed these adjustments were to move funds within the departments where expenses were over budget. After further discussion, a motion to approve was made by Councilman Peters, seconded by Councilman Norton. Mayor McCullough asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously.

**CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:**

City Manager Bruce Georgia informed after Council discussion it was the consensus at the January Work Session to install a speed table on North Hall Road in front of Ms. Celeste White's home. A motion to approve the speed table was made by Councilman Ridley, seconded by Councilman Gaddis. Mayor McCullough asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously.

City Manager Bruce Georgia informed Council that DDA was requesting approval of the 2014 Intergovernmental Agreement. A motion was made to approve by Councilman Gaddis, seconded by Councilman Clemons. Mayor McCullough asked for any discussion. Interim Finance Director Sabrina Cape informed Council that the budget figures in the agreement had been updated for 2014.

Mayor McCullough asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously.

City Manager Bruce Georgia informed that he had sent Council a breakdown of funds concerning the personnel changes that he was requesting. Mr. Georgia requested approval of making Amanda Hazlett a full time city employee in which her duties would include fifty percent (50%) of her time to Municipal Court Clerk and fifty percent (50%) as Administrative Assistant to the Manager. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Hoffman, seconded by Councilman Ridley. Mayor McCullough asked for any discussion. Councilman Peters questioned the funding for the Finance Director. Mr. Georgia informed this will be funded from the savings of the Accountant and Manager positions. Mayor McCullough asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously.

**MAYOR COMMENTS:**

Mayor McCullough requested Council approval to appoint Mr. Win Crannell to the Planning and Zoning Board. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Clemons, seconded by Councilman Peters. Mayor McCullough informed that Mr. Crannell has already been attending the meetings to better understand the process. He further informed that Mr. Jimmy Anderson had resigned from the Historic Preservation Commission and asked if Council knew of anyone that would like to serve to please give their name to City Clerk Lou Stewart. Mayor McCullough asked for all in favor of the motion to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously.

Mayor McCullough informed that a Holly Board Member had approached the City about the dying pecan tree located in front of the Holly. The City asked an arborist to give an opinion on the tree and was told the tree was hollow at least ten (10) feet up. The City will remove the tree but, the tree will be replaced. Mayor McCullough asked John Bynum from the Nugget to please report on the replacement of the tree.

**CITY ATTORNEY:**

City Attorney Doug Parks informed Council that the Personnel Policy had been updated and Council had reviewed at the last Work Session. A motion to accept the revised policy was made by Councilman Clemons, seconded by Councilman Norton. Mayor McCullough asked for any discussion, hearing none, he asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Councilman Hoffman thanked the Sheriff's Department for the spot checking on the alcohol ordinance issues.

Councilman Norton asked for a follow up on the new recycle bins. City Manager Bruce Georgia informed that he had been discussing the issue with the County Manager and will follow up. Mayor McCullough informed he had been trying to discuss with someone about locating the bins at Wal-Mart. Councilman Norton questioned if we had a backup location. Public Works Director Ricky Stewart informed that Hancock Park was not feasible because of space required and two trees would need to be removed.

City Manager Bruce Georgia informed Council that the City had gone through a significant event with the weather. He further informed that City Staff had put down 75 tons of gravel and salt within a four (4) day period. They should be commended because they put in over 130 man hours during this time. Mayor McCullough also thanked Staff for their efforts and he also thanked them on Facebook.

Mayor McCullough entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 p.m. A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Gaddis, seconded by Councilman Ridley and approved by all members present.

APPROVED BY ME THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary McCullough, Mayor

Attest:

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Lou Stewart, City Clerk