

# **CITY OF DAHLONEGA**

## **WORK SESSION MINUTES March 20, 2014**

The Dahlonega City Council held a Work Session on Thursday, March 20, 2014 at City Hall. Members present were Sam Norton, Roman Gaddis, Terry Peters, Mitchell Ridley, Bruce Hoffman and Michael Clemons. Also present were City Manager Bruce Georgia and City Attorney Doug Parks. Mayor Gary McCullough called the Work Session to order at 4:00 p.m.

### **ANDY LEAVITT – UNG STRATEGIC PLAN:**

Mr. Andy Leavitt Vice President for Advancement and Executive Director of UNG Foundation informed Council that he co-chairs a Committee for strategic planning to develop a five (5) year strategic plan. Mr. Leavitt further informed the items to be discussed was at this time a laundry list and will have revisions. Mr. Leavitt distributed the first draft which consists of goals, objectives and strategies. Each of these are grouped for tactics, responsibilities and logistics. Mr. Leavitt also informed that the military education program was also a strong part of this plan and was mentioned twice in the mission statement. Councilman Gaddis informed that he felt student organizations also play an important role in this plan. Councilman Norton informed that he felt it was important for the City and College to prosper together instead of independently. Mr. Leavitt asked that Council please review the plan draft and send any comments that they might have. City Manager Bruce Georgia requested that all comments be sent to him and he will compile information and forward to Mr. Leavitt.

### **RESOLUTION 2014-4 FOR BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014:**

City Manager Bruce Georgia informed Council this amendment was needed to move the cost of street construction that was budgeted in FY 2013 to FY 2014 in order to complete the project. It was the consensus of the Council to amend the budget therefore; this item will be placed on the April 7<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting agenda for approval.

### **TOURISM AGREEMENT:**

City Manager Bruce Georgia informed Council this was the same annual agreement as approved in prior years other than additional wording under item #3 which states that reporting must be submitted by the 22<sup>nd</sup> of each month. Councilman Norton informed that he felt Council should again discuss increasing the percentage of hotel/motel tax. Councilman Hoffman informed that the Chamber has someone to meet with Council and discuss how the additional tax revenue can be used. Mayor McCullough informed that the City and County needs to hold a joint work session to discuss because the County needs to be agreeable to an increase also. City Attorney Doug Parks informed any increase will not be in effect until after the next legislation. Mayor McCullough asked City Manager Bruce Georgia to contact County Manager Stan Kelley in order to set up a joint work session to discuss the tax increase.

**PERSONNEL POLICY AMENDMENT:**

Mayor McCullough informed the request for this amendment was to include that all non-office personnel must wear safety toed boots. Councilman Clemons questioned if the City was paying for some portion of the boots. City Manager Bruce Georgia informed the City was reimbursing the employee up to \$100.00 on the boot purchase or the full amount if under \$100.00. After further discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to amend the personnel policy and this item be added to the April 7<sup>th</sup> Council meeting agenda for approval.

**ORDINANCE 2006-3 FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE STANDARD CONSTRUCTION CODES:**

Mayor McCullough informed that these amendments were updates to the state construction codes. City Attorney Doug Parks informed Council they will also receive the administrative procedures for enforcement of the construction codes to review and approve. He further informed it is mandated that we have these procedures in place for an appeal. These amendments were placed on the Special Called Meeting agenda following the Work Session for approval.

**DISPOSAL AGREEMENT:**

City Manager Bruce Georgia informed that the only changes in the disposal agreement with Lumpkin County Transfer Station/Mark Robinson was the term which changed from three years to two years and the rate per ton which was \$30.75 and increased to \$34.25. He further informed in researching at the state and regional level these are 2003 rates therefore; it is a very competitive rate. Councilman Ridley questioned if their scales had to be inspected for accuracy. Mr. Georgia informed that he had contacted the State and their scales had passed inspection in October 2013.

The Work Session was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.