

**DAHLONEGA CITY COUNCIL**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**NOVEMBER 1, 2010**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The Dahlonega City Council met in regular session at City Hall on November 1, 2010. Council Members present were Johnny Ariemma, Sam Norton, Terry Peters, Michael Clemons and Ralph Prescott. Gerald Lord was absent. Mayor McCullough called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. The meeting was opened with prayer by Ralph Prescott and the Pledge to the American Flag was led by Michael Clemons.

Mayor Gary McCullough expressed thanks to all of the governmental class students of NGCSU in attendance at the meeting.

**AGENDA APPROVAL:**

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve the amendment to the agenda to include the approval of the GEFA Loan Modification Documents. A motion was made by Sam Norton to amend the agenda, seconded by Michael Clemons and approved by all members present.

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve the agenda as amended. A motion was made by Ralph Prescott, seconded by Johnny Ariemma and approved by all members present.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

City Attorney, Doug Parks asked Mr. Craig Gentry to speak concerning the rezoning request for the Estate of Ann Davis. Mr. Gentry stated that the purpose of the rezoning request was to build a single family home on Saine Drive. Mr. Parks asked Planning Director, Chris Head for comments. Ms. Head informed that the lot is surrounded by commercial zoning as well as R-2 and also property that are outside city limits. She stated that the R-2 zoning request would be appropriate for this location. A motion was made by Terry Peters to approve the rezoning request with the same condition of only one single family home, seconded by Sam Norton and approved by all members present.

**MINUTE APPROVAL:**

Mayor Gary McCullough asked for a motion to approve the Council Minutes of October 4, 2010 as submitted. A motion was made by Michael Clemons, seconded by Sam Norton and approved by all members present.

**CITIZENS:**

Mayor Gary McCullough read and presented Beverly Howerton, with The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints with a Proclamation proclaiming November as Family Month.

Glenda Y. Carlson applied for a Beer/Wine and Distilled Spirits license for the Bourbon Street Grille located at 90 A&B Public Square North. City Clerk, Lou Stewart informed Council that all paperwork was in order with no issues and requested approval of the licenses. A motion was made by Michael Clemons to approve licenses, seconded by Sam Norton and approved by all members present.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

Mayor Gary McCullough stated monthly department reports had been submitted. At this time he asked Finance Director, Christopher Austin for comments on the monthly Financial Report. Mr. Austin stated that the monthly financial report is also the year end financials therefore, they do not reflect audit adjustments or any year end adjustments, they are preliminary figures. He informed Council that staff was working to have all adjustments ready for the fiscal year audit and would have final figures at the end of next month.

**CITY MANAGER:**

City Manager, Bill Lewis asked Finance Director, Christopher Austin to report on the adoption of Budget Amendments. Mr. Austin informed Council that the City was currently closing out fiscal year 2010 and one of the year end items is to comply with State Law to make sure all department fund budgets are in balance. He stated that the last document presented to Council were the final figures for the budget amendments, with the changes requested at the Work Session through today. Mr. Austin informed Council that the difference between the final figures and the ones presented at the Work Session was only a difference of \$3,900.00, which arrived from some last minute invoices. He also stated there was one additional change to the expenditure budget, which was an amendment of \$1,400.00 to the Shop budget. This was for additional electricity usage throughout the year, which is being paid for by funds that are being transferred from professional services in the Parks department. Also the DDA budget is being amended \$8,100.00 to balance. After further discussion Mayor McCullough entertained a motion to approve the budget amendments as submitted. A motion was made by Ralph Prescott, seconded by Terry Peters and approved by all members present.

City Manager, Bill Lewis informed Council an amendment to the City Parking Ordinance 94-5 needed to be adopted. Mr. Lewis stated the City cannot meet the requirements due to the change in State Law, of having certified impound yards and certified haulers to remove cars from private property. City Attorney, Doug Parks added that our previous procedures was antiquated and not consistence with the current legislative framework to comply. He further stated that the City did not want anyone to be mis lead by this section of our Ordinance which is pertaining to loitering which is a form of unauthorized parking therefore, the deletion of section 104.4 was needed. After further discussion, Mayor McCullough entertained a motion to adopt amendment. A motion was made by Ralph Prescott, seconded by Sam Norton and approved by all members present.

City Manager, Bill Lewis informed Council that Georgia Environmental Finance Authority has asked that the City modify our loan document to coincide with theirs. City Attorney, Doug Parks stated that the City had an informal procedure in that we were paying monthly loans that were scheduled quarterly. In order to allow GEFA to be able to sell their portfolio in the market, they asked that we conform documents to reflect the method in which we are actually making our payments. Mr. Parks stated this was an administrative modification, but to conform their portfolio to meet the standards in order to sell it, they asked that the City make this adjustment to make the actual loan document match the loan history. After further discussion, Mayor Gary McCullough entertained a motion for adoption of the loan modification. A motion was made by Michael Clemons, seconded by Terry Peters and approved by all members present.

City Manager, Bill Lewis reminded Council of the November 16<sup>th</sup> Work Session at 3:00 p.m. with the scheduled presentation by Robert and Company on the Streetscape project. Also on November 24<sup>th</sup> the National Christmas Tree will arrive, and Main Street will be closed from the traffic light at North Grove Street to Caruso's on November 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Lewis also noted that on December 6<sup>th</sup> Work Session at 4:30, Consultant Tim Haahs will be here to for the Parking Study presentation.

#### **MAYORS COMMENTS:**

Mayor Gary McCullough reminded Council that as he had mentioned in the October Work Session that the City needed to re-adopt the Certified City of Ethics Resolution. The City of Dahlonega became a Certified City of Ethics in 2005 and must be re-certified every four (4) years. Mayor McCullough entertained a motion to re-adopt the Ethics Resolution. A motion was made by Ralph Prescott, seconded by Michael Clemons, and approved by all members present.

City Manager, Bill Lewis at this time also reminded Council that we have three appointments to the Ethics Committee still outstanding. He asked that Council inform City Clerk, Lou Stewart of their two choices for recommendation to the committee.

Mayor Gary McCullough informed Council that Gerald Lewy's term on the Planning and Zoning Commission had expired and asked for a motion to re-appoint him for another term. A motion was made by Michael Clemons, seconded by Terry Peters and approved by all members present.

Mayor Gary McCullough informed Council that the City Christmas Dinner has been scheduled for December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at the Smith House Restaurant. At this time he also thanked everyone for their attendance at the GEFA meeting that was held in Dahlonega on October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

#### **CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Councilman, Sam Norton requested that Historic Preservation Commission members be informed of any required training that might be available for them. Planning Director, Chris Head informed Council that training was available and each member had been notified however, only one member signed up. Ms. Head also stated that the training was cancelled by DCA for lack of attendance and the next session will be held in the spring of 2011. Mayor McCullough asked Ms. Head to notify all members that had not had the required training in advance of the 2011 training.

**CITY ATTORNEY COMMENTS:**

City Attorney, Doug Parks asked at this time for the Council to go into an Executive Session. Mayor Gary McCullough entertained a motion to move into Executive Session at 6:35 p.m. A motion was made by Sam Norton, seconded by Michael Clemons and approved by all members present.

The Council Meeting was reconvened at 6:45 with no action taken in executive session.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:45.

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Mayor

Attest:

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City Clerk