

**CITY OF DAHLONEGA
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
JANUARY 3, 2011**

CALL TO ORDER:

The Dahlonega City Council met in regular session at City Hall on January 3, 2011. Council Members present were Johnny Ariemma, Sam Norton, Terry Peters, Michael Clemons, Gerald Lord and Ralph Prescott. Mayor Gary McCullough called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. The meeting was opened with prayer by Ralph Prescott and the Pledge to the American Flag was led by Gerald Lord.

AGENDA AMENDMENT APPROVAL:

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve an agenda amendment to include the approval of the City Logo and the Diving Bell Pavilion Design. A motion was made by Michael Clemons, seconded by Gerald Lord and approved by all members present.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve the agenda as amended. A motion was made by Sam Norton, seconded by Michael Clemons and approved by all members present.

MINUTE APPROVAL:

Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 6th meeting. At this time Councilman Ariemma stated that he wanted to abstain from voting on the minute approval, and asked Mayor McCullough to request a motion so that he could ask for some corrections to be made to the minutes. Mayor McCullough asked for a motion of approval. A motion was made by Sam Norton, seconded by Michael Clemons. Mayor McCullough asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes. Councilman Ariemma stated that he requested some additional changes to the minutes concerning him and City Manager, Bill Lewis being excused from the executive session, and he was not present when the meeting was reconvened. Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve the minutes with the requested corrections as recorded on tape. A motion was made by Michael Clemons, seconded by Gerald Lord and approved by the following vote: Ralph Prescott, Terry Peters, Sam Norton, Michael Clemons and Gerald Lord. Johnny Ariemma abstained.

CITIZENS:

Kandy L. Gordon applied for a Beer/Wine License for Golden Pantry #27 located at 462 Grove Street North. City Clerk, Lou Stewart informed Council that all paperwork was in order with no issues and requested approval of the license. A motion was made by Michael Clemons, seconded by Gerald Lord and approved by all members present. Councilman Prescott requested that City Clerk, Lou Stewart list the address of the applicant for the alcohol license on the information submitted in the Council packets.

CITY LOGO:

Mayor McCullough stated after discussion at the Work Session, would Council make a motion to determine how the chosen City logos would be used. A motion was made by Sam Norton to use the revised design (B) from Applied Studios for our City Seal for stationary, business cards, entrance signs to Dahlenega and City vehicles. The logo design in the round golden color by Sky Design would be incorporated as a symbol on our signage to represent the historical district in downtown Dahlenega only. Motion was seconded by Michael Clemons and approved by the following vote: Ralph Prescott, Gerald Lord, Michael Clemons, Sam Norton and Johnny Ariemma. Councilman Peters abstained.

DIVING BELL:

Mayor McCullough entertained a motion to approve the design concept presented by Mr. Richard Owens. A motion was made by Gerald Lord, seconded by Michael Clemons and approved by all members present.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Mayor McCullough stated monthly department reports had been submitted. At this time Stephen Smith, Chamber of Commerce stated that they would be finalizing the 2010 yearend report for review at the next City Council Work Session.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:

City Manager, Bill Lewis requested approval of the Law Enforcement Contract. After discussion concerning the change in the hours on duty of the Historical Unit on the public square from 2:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m., Council agreed to accept the contract with those changes. A motion was made by Michael Clemons to accept the contract as amended, seconded by Sam Norton and approved by the following vote: Ralph Prescott, Michael Clemons, Terry Peters, Sam Norton and Johnny Ariemma. Gerald Lord voted against the motion.

City Manager, Bill Lewis requested renewal of the existing Indigent Defense Service Agreement. He informed Council that by law the City is required to provide this service. A motion was made by Johnny Ariemma, seconded by Sam Norton and approved by all members present.

City Manager, Bill Lewis requested approval of the 2011 Regular Council Meeting Dates. He informed Council that the meetings in July and September fell on holidays. After discussion, the July meeting will be rescheduled from Monday, July 4th to Monday, July 11th. The September meeting will be rescheduled from Monday, September 5th to Tuesday, September 6th. A motion was made by Terry Peters to approve the meeting dates with the amendments, seconded by Johnny Ariemma and approved by all members present.

Mr. Lewis informed Council that the next two items on the agenda, Adopted Goals and Objectives and Projects and Issues was for informational purposes only. Mayor McCullough advised Council to review these items and if they had any questions or concerns with any of these, to call Mr. Lewis and he would answer their questions.

MAYOR COMMENTS:

Mayor McCullough informed Council that Claudine Earls is a resident member of the Housing Authority Board and according to the Housing Authority a resident member must be reappointed every year. Mayor McCullough entertained a motion to reappoint Ms. Earls for another year term. A motion was made by Ralph Prescott, seconded by Gerald Lord and approved by all members present.

CITY CLERK COMMENTS:

City Clerk, Lou Stewart informed Council that the City would be holding a General Election on November 8, 2011 and it is state mandated that the qualifying fees be advertised before February 1. Mrs. Stewart requested Council approval of the qualifying fee of \$144.00. A motion for approval was made by Gerald Lord, seconded by Sam Norton and approved by all members present.

CITY ATTORNEY COMMENTS:

City Attorney, Doug Parks requested Council approval of an amendment to Ordinance 85-2 which is imposing a Hotel-Motel excise tax and providing for the administration and collection of the tax. The Ordinance has been amended by changing the definition of "permanent resident" to mean, any occupant as of a given date who has or shall have occupied or has or shall have the right of occupancy of any guest room in a hotel for more than thirty (30) consecutive days. Councilman Clemons made a motion for approval, seconded by Sam Norton and approved by all members present.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor McCullough entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m. A motion was made by Gerald Lord, seconded by Johnny Ariemma and approved by all members present.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk