



CITY OF DAHLONEGA

WORK SESSION MINUTES

The Dahlonega City Council held a Work Session on Monday, May 5, 2014 at City Hall. Members present were Michael Clemons, Bruce Hoffman, Mitchell Ridley, Terry Peters and Roman Gaddis. Sam Norton was not present. Also present were City Manager Bruce Georgia and City Attorney Doug Parks. Mayor Gary McCullough called the Work Session to order at 3:30 p.m. The following items were discussed:

DAHLONEGA-LUMPKIN COUNTY VISIONING RFP:

Chamber President Ms. Amy Booker gave an overview of the research and support in the visioning process between Lumpkin County and the City of Dahlonega. Mayor McCullough informed that there is no funding required at this time. The only request is the consensus of Council to send out an RFP. After further discussion, Council agreed for Ms. Booker to send out the RFP.

GA 60/400 ROAD SIGNAGE:

City Manager Bruce Georgia distributed a sketch of the entrance signs proposed by Lumpkin County to be located Hwy 60 and 400. The County has applied for a grant and also has invested approximately \$30,000.00 dollars. They are only asking that the City share the annual maintenance fee of approximately \$2,500.00 dollars. The placement of the logos are still being discussed. Mayor McCullough requested that City Manager Bruce Georgia contact County Manager Stan Kelley and discuss that UNG have a larger presence on the sign.

Alcohol Ordinances:

Council discussed several amendments to the alcohol ordinances. The first item discussed was growlers. This would be an addition to the package sales ordinance which would include the sale of glass containers being filled from kegs with revolving brands of high end beer. The containers would then be sealed before sold to the customer.

Another item discussed was an addition to the consumption on premises license to include catering. The existing ordinance does not allow a licensee to sale alcohol off site. This amendment would allow a restaurant to cater their food and alcohol at locations other than the business location only.

This amendment also brought discussion concerning special event permits and venue license. This would allow the owners of a venue establishment to have a license to serve alcohol. This would allow the owners to include alcohol in wedding packages when renting the venue.

The consumption on premises ordinance states under Section 34A – Open Area and Patio Sales all sales of alcoholic beverages under this provision must be in glass containers. After discussion, it was the consensus of Council the ordinance be amended that clear plastic would be allowed for beer but not distilled spirits.

Also discussed was the charge for multiple bars located within an establishment. The ordinance states an additional fee of \$2,250.00 be charged for each bar. Council agreed that no additional fee be charged when there is more than one bar. City Attorney Doug Parks informed if the Department of Revenue required an additional charge then the City would have to also. Mr. Parks requested that Code Enforcement Tim Martin inspect each establishment and submit plans back to Mr. Parks who will then send to DOR for review.

Some restaurants requested the ordinance be amended to allow the hours of business be extended to 2:00 a.m. Monday through Friday and to 1:00 a.m. on Saturday. Mr. Parks informed this may require special legislation but will follow up and report findings in the drafted amendments.

Code Enforcement Tim Martin requested that an amendment be made to require server permits to be issued annually instead of every three years as current ordinance requires.

City Attorney Doug Parks informed he would draft all amendments and cross correlate to integrate package sales into consumption on premises and have one alcohol ordinance to cover both licenses.

The Work Session was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.