

DATE: 2/20/19 FILE NO: DATE329

TO: Cherokee County Council

SUBJECT: Minutes of Regular Meeting, 2/19/19

There was a Regular Meeting Tuesday, 2/19/19, 5 PM in Council Chambers. Chairman Tim Spencer presided with Tracy McDaniel leading in prayer and remembering the family of Lisa Jolly Dodson (Mayor Jolly's daughter). All council members were present along with Administrator Steve Bratton, Attorneys Joe Mathis & Jim Thompson and Clerk Doris Pearson. There were 11 visitors. The news media was informed by agenda and it was posted in accordance with the SCFOIA. There was one news media present.

Councilman Quay Little made the motion to adopt the agenda of the Regular Meeting of 2/19/19 as received and posted in accordance with the SCFOIA. Tracy McDaniel seconded and council voted in favor.

Councilman Quay Little made the motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of 2/4/19 as received. Mike Fowlkes seconded and council voted in favor.

Councilman Mike Fowlkes made the motion to approve the claims for Cherokee County in the amount of \$280,836.90. Lyman Dawkins seconded and council voted in favor.

DSS Director Monita Dawkins & Deputy Director Becky Strain passed out info regarding their office space at Peachtree Centre. We have several issues such as mold, water leaks, plaster on wall is crumbling, ceiling tiles are constantly replaced due to water damage, parking, insufficient lighting at entrance/exit points & in parking lot, state cars have been vandalized in parking lot, security, need more private spaces, etc. I can go to the State to ask for help for the county. I would like to get permission to get estimates to remodel the old VA Offices for DSS use. The empty Medicare offices are not feasible to use because we would have to go outside to get to them. Administrator Bratton replied that he has talked with the owner and he is responsible for changing lights, housekeeping, etc. I talked with him regarding the 5 year lease being up in 2020 and he is interested in extending the lease. We are aware that if he doesn't it falls on council to provide space for DSS. Chairman Spencer asked Ms. Dawkins to talk with the state to see how they could help out and let us know.

911 Director Dennis Gardner and Deputy Director Brandon Peeler reported that Cherokee County on 2/5/19 @ 11 AM was the first county in the State of SC to go live with AT&T ESI and we are the 2nd in the country to go with this system. They will be doing a press release in April, 2019, regarding this. Director Gardner reported that in 2017 they answered 175,000 calls and in 2018 – 200,000. We dispatch out calls to towing trucks, highway patrol, county & city deputies, 1st responders, ambulances, etc. A big problem we deal with is location. A lot of people can't tell you where they are/or the address and this new system will be able to help us track them. Now our calls go to Union then come back to us; with this new system, they will come directly to us. When AT&T announced this new service and needed someone to volunteer, we were the first to step up and volunteer. Charleston is known to be the best in the state

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for their 911 Systems and we beat them in being the 1st with AT&T ESI and we are proud of it. This system will have no delay and will take care of misrouted calls. Councilman Dawkins thanked Dennis & Brandon for stepping up and volunteering & updating our technology skills here. Administrator Bratton stated that counties from around the state come here to see what is going on in our 911 Center which we are very proud of.

Councilman Quay Little made the motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to SC Code 30-4-70(a2) for the purpose of discussion of matters relating to future proposed locations, expansions or provision of services including locations & expansions of industries or other businesses in the area served by a public body specifically Project Diamondback. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor and went into executive session at 5:43PM.

Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to come out of executive session at 6:20 PM and return to Regular Meeting. Mike Fowlkes seconded and council voted in favor. Attorney Mathis stated no action was taken by council during executive session.

Councilman Quay Little made the motion to adopt Resolution 2019-02 identifying a project to satisfy the requirements of Title 12, Chapter 44 of the SC Code, so as to allow investment expenditures incurred by a company known to the county as Project Diamondback, its affiliates & related entities, to qualify as expenditures eligible for a Fee-in-Lieu of Taxes Arrangement with Cherokee County, SC; providing for other related economic development incentives, including Special Source Revenue Credits; and other matters related thereto. Mike Fowlkes seconded and council voted in favor.

2nd Reading of Ordinance No. 2019-01 authorizing the execution & delivery of Fee in Lieu of Tax Agreements by & between Cherokee County, SC and a company or companies known to the county at this time as Project Clouds with respect to certain economic development property in the county, whereby such property will be subject to certain payments in Lieu of Taxes, including the provision of certain Special Source Revenue Credits; and other matters related thereto. **No action was taken.**

Councilman Quay Little made the motion to adopt the 1st Reading of Ordinance No. 2019-12 authorizing pursuant to Title 12, Chapter 44 of the Code of Laws of SC 1976, as amended, the execution & delivery of a Fee in Lieu of Taxes Agreement by & between Cherokee Co. and a company known to the county as Project Diamondback, its affiliates & related entities, to provide for a Fee in Lieu of Taxes Incentive and certain Special Source Revenue Credits; and other matters related thereto. Lyman Dawkins seconded and council voted in favor.

Councilman Quay Little made the motion to adopt the 1st Reading of Ordinance No. 2019-13 authorizing & approving 1) development of a Joint County Industrial & Business Park pursuant to Section 4-1-170 of the Code of Laws of SC 1976, as amended, in conjunction with Spartanburg Co. (the "Park"), such park to be, at the time of its initial development, geographically located in Cherokee Co. and to include certain property owned or operated by an entity known to Cherokee Co. as Project Diamondback, including one or more of its affiliates or other related entities; 2) the execution & delivery

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of a Written Park Agreement with Spartanburg Co. as to the requirement of payments of Fee in Lieu of Ad Valorem Taxes with respect to park property and the sharing of the revenues & expenses of the park; 3) the distribution of revenues from the park within Cherokee County; and 4) other matters related thereto. Mike Fowlkes seconded and council voted in favor.

Administrator Steve Bratton presented a request from Auditor Merv Bishop & Delinquent Tax Collector Angie Wilkie requesting permission for me to sign a contract with American Financial Credit Services (AFCS) regarding their ability to assist us with the collection of delinquent business personal property taxes and mobile home taxes for our county. We are not able to sell mobile homes at the delinquent tax sale and have a hard time collecting these. This service does not cost the county anything; the fee is 20% which is passed onto the delinquent taxpayer. Currently we have 2719 records totaling \$1,710,414.60 in delinquent business personal property & mobile homes that if collected we could remove these from our books. Other counties throughout the state have gone with this company. **[Mike Fowlkes made the motion to allow Administrator Steve Bratton to sign an agreement with American Financial Credit Services for the ability to assist us with the collection of delinquent business personal property & mobile homes taxes at no cost to the county. Quay Little seconded and council voted in favor.]**

As there was no other business to come before council at this time, Chairman Spencer adjourned the meeting at 6:35 PM.

APPROVED: 3/4/19

BY ITS CHAIRMAN: Tim Chairman

Respectfully submitted,

Doris F. Pearson, Clerk to Council