DATE: 10/6/2020 **FILE NO: DATE492**

TO: Cherokee County Council

SUBJECT: Minutes of Regular Meeting of 10/5/2020

There was a Regular Meeting of County Council Monday, 10/5/2020 @ 5 PM in Council Chambers. Chairman Spencer presided with David Smith leading in prayer. All council members were present along with Administrator Steve Bratton, Attorney Joe Mathis and Master Clerk to Council Doris F. Pearson. The news media was informed by agenda and it was posted in accordance with the SCFOIA. One news media was present. There were 9 visitors.

**Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to adopt the agenda of the Regular Meeting of Monday, 10/5/2020 as received and posted in accordance with the SCFOIA. Lyman Dawkins seconded and council voted in favor.**

**Councilman Quay Little made the motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Monday, 9/21/2020 as received. Lyman Dawkins seconded and council voted in favor.**

**Councilman Lyman Dawkins made the motion to approve the claims for Cherokee County in the amount of $670,256.29. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor.**

**Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to appoint Kiera Gist, an employee of the Clerk of Court Office, to serve a 3-year term on the Cherokee County Employee Grievance Committee. Quay Little seconded and council voted in favor.**

Administrator Bratton updated council on the Community Visioning. He reported statistics on the ads that have been running and reported that at least 100 have completed the surveys. We have been advertising in the local papers, on the radio stations and boasting our ads & posts on social media. We have reached 24,701 on face book. We are doing all we can to get this out. The survey runs 4 times a day at 9 am, 12 noon, 5 pm and 7 pm; takes about 30 minutes to complete; there are 4 sectors (economic development, quality of life, tourism & infrastructure). On 10/20/20 the Palladian Group will be in this building for people to drop by and fill out the survey on paper. Quay asked Larry Hillard to write an article to challenge the people to fill out this survey. Tracy McDaniel stated we need to inform the people that this is very important and that this is their way of letting us know what they want for our county. Can we tap into industries, school district, etc. for them to help us get the word out? Administrator Bratton replied that he will extend the deadline for filling out the survey; reach out to the school district & industries and ask them to promote this; and do a generic survey.

Administrator Bratton reported on the 2019 Delinquent Tax Redemption Period and introduced DTC Angie Wilkie who is present to answer any questions. The Governor passed a bill last week that extended the deadline to redeem property sold at the 2019 sale for another year and additional interest shall accrue in the same manner as interest accrues in the original redemption period. We have 90 parcels that have not been redeemed that this bill will affect; so, if they choose not

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to redeem, they will be paying 24% interest. We will be having the Delinquent Tax Sale this year on 11/9/2020 but it probably will not be held in here due to the social distancing, we just don’t have enough room.

Administrator Bratton reported on the CTCL COVID Response Grant. Voter Registration Director Amanda Walker applied for this grant and was awarded $40,294.50 for the Election Office given by the Center Protect the City of Life. Every country in the state received this which was based on population & number of registered voters. This money cannot be used to offset the budget and Mrs. Walker will probably be using it to hire additional personnel to help with the absentee voting period, etc. There is no matching required for this grant.

Administrator Bratton updated council on the Public Works Complex. They have finished cutting the timber and the architects stated they should be able to get their complete drawing finished by the end of the year. We still have some trees that need thinning but we are waiting to bid this out to see if the price of pulp wood goes back up and then we will bid it out.

**Councilman Quay Little made the motion for council to go int Executive Session pursuant to Section 30-4-70(a)(2) for receiving legal advice concerning a contractual matter; for Section 30-4-70(a)(5) for discussion of matters relating to the proposed locations, expansions or provision of services including locations and expansions of industries or other businesses in the area served by a public body; and also Section 30-4-70(a)(2) to receive legal advice. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor and went into Executive Session at 5:30 PM.**

**Councilman Mike Fowlkes made the motion for council to come out of Executive Session and enter back into the Regular Meeting at 6:25 PM. Quay Little seconded and council voted in favor.** Attorney Joe Mathis stated no action was taken during executive session.

Attorney Joe Mathis recognized Cherokee Co. Chief 7th Circuit Public Defender Michael Morin. Morin stated he just wanted to come to some of council’s meeting since council funds his office and let council know that he is available for any questions.

As there was no other busines to come before council at this time, Chairman Spencer adjourned the meeting at 6:30 PM.

APPROVED: **10/19/2020** Respectfully submitted,

BY ITS CHAIRMAN: **Tim Spencer** Doris F. Pearson, Master Clerk to Council