

DATE: 9/22/2020 FILE NO: DATE491

TO: Cherokee County Council

SUBJECT: Minutes of Regular Meeting, 9/21/2020

There was a Regular Meeting of County Council Monday, 9/21/2020, 5 PM in Council Chambers. Chairman Tim Spencer presided with Tracy McDaniel leading in prayer. All council members were present along with Administrator Steve Bratton, Attorney Joe Mathis and Master Clerk 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 6 visitors.

**Councilman Lyman Dawkins made the motion to adopt the agenda of the Regular Meeting of Monday, 9/21/2020 as received and posted in accordance with the SCFOIA. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor.**

**Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Monday, 9/8/2020 as received. Mike Fowlkes seconded and council voted in favor.**

**Councilman Quay Little made the motion to approve the claims for Cherokee County in the amount of \$472,335.87. Lyman Dawkins seconded and council voted in favor.**

Administrator Steve Bratton reported on the Gaffney Little Theatre Facility. DP3 Architects did the conditions assessment on whether the existing building can be salvaged for future growth and expansion, or if it is best served to demolish the building & construct new. They engaged other engineer consultants to provide a comprehensive outlook & recommendation regarding the mechanical, electrical, plumbing and structural. Page 11 of the attached report gives you the structural based on a visual observation noting on the back side a 4 to 5" crack down the wall, etc. Page 15 is their recommendations based on the best long-term option that the existing building cannot be added-on to in a cost-effective manner. DP3 believes that renovation & addition to the existing building would cost more in the long run than demolition and new construction. Quay Little asked does the city know about this report? Administrator Bratton replied not yet. Chairman Spencer asked wasn't there some type of agreement with the City and Gaffney Little Theatre? Quay Little replied the City was going to build an art's performing center but that failed through. I thought it best for GLT to have a professional opinion on their building when they go before the City. The City tore down the building that was given to GLT on the basis that the Performing Arts Center would be built. With this report, the GLT has what they need to go before the City. Administrator Bratton stated that DP3 gave no estimated cost on what it would take to repair the GLT building.

Administrator Bratton reported to council that he will be opening up the offices in the Administration Building that have been closed due to the COVID19 Virus on Monday, 9/28/20. We still will require mask to be worn but we will no longer take temperatures. Tax notices will be going out soon and those offices will need to be opened to assist the public in a timely manner. Those offices have glass petitions up to protect our employees. Quay Little stated his concern for social distancing; will you be

marking the floors? Mike Fowlkes agreed that there needs to be marking on the floors 6' apart for people to stand while they are waiting. Administrator Bratton stated that we will be advertising that the offices will be open and that they can come in now to pay their taxes, etc. We will encourage them to pay earlier and not wait till the end of the month when it will be the busiest. The Treasurer Office will continue taking on-line payments but will add the fee.

**Councilman Quay Little made the motion to appoint Carleigh Ramsey to serve a 4-year term in the At-Large position on the Cherokee Co. Public Library Board. Mike Fowlkes seconded and council voted in favor.**

Councilman Lyman Dawkins recognized Mrs. Julie Humphries who brought to his attention the living conditions in Connecticut Village. She & I went there yesterday and talked with several of the residents and we noted mold, rust, roofs leaking, some roofs even falling in, a/c units falling out of the windows, heating unit is a fire hazard, etc. I would like for us to address in the long-range plan affordable housing for our residents here in Cherokee Co. Tracy McDaniel replied that is one of the categories that the Long-Range Planning Committee has on their agenda to address. Mike Fowlkes asked if our Building Code Crew has been there? Administrator Bratton replied yes, but there is just so much we can do. These are Section 8 Affordable Housing Units and I have contacted HUD listing the problems that need to be addressed by them. They replied that they will be getting involved and will follow up with us.

Chairman Tim Spencer stated that he had received a letter from Joan McCraw of The Sassies saying that they will not be having their yearly breakfast this year due to the COVID 19 pandemic. They will continue to pray for us and hope that they will be able to resume with their yearly breakfast next year.

As there was no other business to come before council at this time, Chairman Tim Spencer adjourned the meeting at 5:27 PM.

APPROVED: **10/5/2020**

Respectfully submitted,

BY ITS CHAIR: **Tim Spencer**

Doris F. Pearson, Master Clerk to Council