

DATE: 1/20/2021 FILE NO: DATE501

TO: Cherokee County Council

SUBJECT: Minutes of Regular Meeting, 1/19/2021

There was a Regular Meeting of County Council Tuesday, 1/19/2021 @ 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 Jim Thompson and Master Clerk to Council Doris Pearson. The news media was informed by agenda and it was posted in accordance with the SCFOIA. One news media was present along with 4 visitors.

Councilman David Smith made the motion to adopt the agenda of the Regular Meeting of 1/19/2021 as received and posted in accordance with the SCFOIA. Lyman Dawkins seconded and council voted in favor.

Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of 1/4/2021 as received. Mike Fowlkes seconded and council voted in favor.

Councilman Lyman Dawkins made the motion to pay the claims for Cherokee County in the amount of \$299,311.90. Mike Fowlkes seconded and council voted in favor.

Councilman Quay Little made the motion to adopt Resolution 2021-01 authorizing the Cherokee Co. Administrator Steve Bratton to enter into a 5-Year Lease Purchase Agreement with Leasing 2, Inc. to finance the purchase of a Bomag compactor for the landfill from Flint Equipment at a cost including shipping & taxes of \$626,464.57 to be paid with \$100,000 down and then 3 annual payments at 2.6% financing plus the extended warranty for 5 years at a cost of \$59,390. Tracy McDaniel seconded and council voted in favor. Administrator Bratton reported that they should be receiving the tractor in March.

Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to adopt the 2nd Reading of Ordinance No. 2021-01 authorizing the purchase of real property to be purchased by the County. Quay Little seconded and council voted in favor.

Administrator Bratton reported on the FILOT Apportionment. I placed in your agenda package the letter from the School District received back in Nov, 2020, requesting you to re-evaluate the FILOT allocation of new fee agreements. I also enclosed copies of the current 70/30 split and other splits for your consideration: 50/50 & 60/40. At Quay Little's request, I placed at your desk a new split: 50/50 after small agencies received their portion. This is giving you figures based on \$100,000. Mike Fowlkes reminded council the reason we went to the 70/30 split was to put more money into infrastructure. Tracy McDaniel asked how much do we have in the infrastructure account since we started this 70/30 split? Steve replied we received the first payment just last week. Tracy asked how have we been funding the infrastructure for these industries coming in since we had no money in this account? Steve replied out of the general fund balance. We can recover this once the industry's FILOT is paid. Quay stated this is just a template for us going forward. We need to all work together to make Cherokee County a better place

to live. Administrator Bratton replied this is nothing that needs to be voted on tonight. We can put this in the upcoming budget. I just need to know in which direction do you want me to proceed. Tracy McDaniel agreed that all agencies need to work together and move forward. I don't want us to reduce our fire departments portion. Council agreed that we need to move forward with getting an airport & broadband in our county. Tracy replied he agrees to study this proposal and come back at a later date for a vote. David Smith replied I agree and the sooner we make a decision, the better. Quay Little agreed to move forward. We are trying to do what is right for all; and everyone involved needs to step up to the plate and pitch in as well. Mike Fowlkes suggested that we study this and have it on the agenda at the next council meeting for action. Council agreed. Dr. Falls was present and thanked council for considering this proposal. Quay Little replied to Dr. Falls in our efforts of working with the school district one way you can help us out is to consider us in your plans of what you might do with Alma Elementary School once you close it. Dr. Falls replied it is our plans to close it at the end of this school year but I do not know what the School District Board plans to do after that but I will let them know your thoughts.

Administrator Bratton updated council on the COVID vaccine. DHEC came up last Tuesday, Wed. & Thursday and gave around 400+ vaccines to our county employees and their families as well as others that showed up. Because of Thomas Bean (Medicine Mart) efforts, we received around 600 vaccines. DHEC disbursed the rest at his facility. This week we will be holding the free COVID-19 testing for employees and their families again. There will be a second vaccine to be given later to all those who received the first vaccine. These vaccines are free.

Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to allow Administrator Bratton to sign the Agreement with the Palladian Group for the consulting of the Project Management Contract as the county moves forward with the Strategic Plan "Cherokee County – A Clear Vision". Mike Fowlkes seconded and council voted in favor. Mike Fowlkes encouraged Administrator Bratton to make sure his Department Heads stayed on top of writing grants for projects for our county.

Councilman David Smith made the motion to re-appoint Darrin Brown to serve another term on the Tax Assessor/Board of Appeals. Mike Fowlkes seconded and council voted in favor.

Councilman David Smith made the motion to re-appoint Gayle Phillips to serve another term on the Cherokee Co. Commission on Alcohol & Drug Abuse Board. Lyman Dawkins 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: 05 PM.

APPROVED: 2/1/2021

BY ITS CHAIRMAN: Tim Spencer

Respectfully submitted,

Doris F. Pearson, Master Clerk to Council