

DATE: 3/16/21 FILE NO: DATE506

TO: Cherokee County Council

SUBJECT: Minutes of PH & Regular Meeting, 3/15/21

There was a Public Hearing & Regular Meeting of County Council Monday, 3/15/21, 5:00 PM in Council Chambers. Chairman Tim Spencer presided with Steve Bratton leading in prayer. All council members were present along with Administrator Steve Bratton, Attorney Joe Mathis and Master Clerk 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 13 visitors. The meeting is also available online at www.cherokeecountysc.gov.

Councilman Lyman Dawkins made the motion to adopt the agenda for the PH & Regular Meeting of 3/15/21 as received and posted in accordance with the SCFOIA. Mike Fowlkes seconded and council voted in favor.

Councilman Mike Fowlkes made the motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of 3/1/21 as received. Lyman Dawkins seconded and council voted in favor.

Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to pay the claims for Cherokee County in the amount of \$323,189.79. Mike Fowlkes seconded and council voted in favor.

Chairman Tim Spencer opened the meeting on three public hearings: **1)** Ordinance No. 2021-02 authorizing the creation of the Blacksburg Special Tax District; to define the boundaries of the district and the purpose of which it is created; to establish the Blacksburg Special Tax District as an Administrative Division of Cherokee County; and to impose a tax levy of not more than fifteen (15) mills annually on all property located within the district. No one was present to speak. **2)** Ordinance No. 2021-03 to determine whether and to what extent the boundaries of the Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District, SC in Cherokee Co., SC shall be diminished. No one was present to speak. **3)** Ordinance No. 2020-23 authorizing the execution & delivery of a Fee in Lieu of Tax Agreement by & between Cherokee Co., SC and Exel Inc. (d/b/a/ DHL Supply Chain, USA) with respect to certain economic development property in the county, whereby such property will be subject to certain payments in lieu of taxes, will be designated as being in a multicounty industrial & business park, and will be eligible to receive certain tax credits; authorizing the execution & delivery of a multi-county industrial & business park agreement with Spartanburg County to include such economic development property; and other matters related thereto. No one was present to speak and the public hearing was closed.

Councilman Quay Little made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 2021-04 designating April, 2021, as Fair Housing Month. Tracy McDaniel seconded and council voted in favor.

CPA Ben Kochenower presented the Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Audit stating that the opinion of your financial statements is unmodified; no qualifications whatsoever; you stayed within your budget appropriations; you put about \$800,000 in the general fund and also added some to your capital fund; debt service went down a little; overall you paid down over one million dollars in general obligation debt;

you did add capital vehicles. There is one re-classification with some of your fire districts removing of one area to another. There is a note on COVID19 with a contingency because we still don't know how this will play out. Management cooperated fully with us in getting this report completed. We did provide some assistance on your end with some adjusting entries. This is a big document with 3 sets of statements and they are all reconciled; you have budgetary, governmental and full accrual. Mike Fowlkes asked if there was a gap in reporting of unreconciled records as we have had in the past? Ben replied no sir. Mike thanked all those who assisted in this report.

Before the reading of Ordinance No. 2020-23, Administrator Steve Bratton asked council to amend the wording of "Project Pigeon" to Excel Inc. (D/B/A DHL Supply Chain (USA)) which is in the ordinance documents that Clerk Pearson has for final adoption. **[Councilman Quay Little made the motion to change the title to & adopt the 3rd Reading of Ordinance No. 2020-23 authorizing the execution & delivery of a Fee in Lieu of Tax Agreement by & between Cherokee County, SC and Exel Inc. (D/B/A DHL Supply Chain (USA)) with respect to certain Economic Development property in the county, whereby such property will be subject to certain payments in Lieu of Taxes, will be designated as being in a Multi-County Industrial & Business Park, and will be eligible to receive certain tax credits; authorizing the execution & delivery of a Multi-County Industrial and Business Park Agreement with Spartanburg County to include such economic development property; and other matters related thereto. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor.]** Administrator Bratton announced that DHL will be locating a \$1.3 million facility in Cherokee County along the I-85 Corridor at the old Sunny Slope property. This is a \$93 million investment with 263 new jobs. Without this council's involvement in Project Clary and getting a sewer line grant along with the BOPW & SE Power Team putting in a sewer line out there made this a reality.

Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to change the title of Ordinance No. 2021-02 by adding the word "Fire" & to adopt the 3rd Reading of Ordinance No. 2021-02 to create the Blacksburg Special Fire Tax District; to define the boundaries of the district and the purpose for which it is created; to establish the Blacksburg Special Fire Tax District as an administrative division of Cherokee County; and to impose a tax levy of not more than fifteen (15) mills annually on all property located within the district. Quay Little seconded and council voted in favor.

Councilman Quay Little made the motion to adopt the 3rd Reading of Ordinance No. 2021-03 authorizing the Diminution of the Boundaries of Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District, SC in Cherokee County, SC, providing for the publication of notice of the said findings and authorization; and generally approving other matters relating thereto. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor.

Administrator Steve Bratton opened bids received for Bid No. 2021-23 Scrap Metal. Two bids were received: 1) Metal Recycling Services, Monroe, NC - \$165/net ton; and 2) SMP LLC, Greenwood, SC - \$90/net ton. **[Tracy McDaniel made the motion to award Bid No. 2021-23 Scrap Metal to Metal Recycling Services, Monroe, NC for their bid of \$165/net ton. Lyman Dawkins seconded and council voted in favor.]**

Administrator Steve Bratton reported that the Community Clean Up Day is scheduled for Sat., April 24, 2021, 9 am to 1 pm on various roads throughout the county. Rain date is 5/8/21. Sierra Walker has been working with Palmetto Pride in getting supplies; working with council in designating the roads in their district; and contacting community groups, schools, churches, civic organizations and individuals to help out.

As there was no other business to come before council at this time, Chairman Spencer adjourned the meeting at 5:36 PM.

APPROVED: 4/5/21

Respectfully submitted,

BY ITS CHAIR: Tim Spencer

Doris F. Pearson, Master Clerk to Council