

DATE: 4/6/21 FILE NO: DATE507
TO: Cherokee County Council
SUBJECT: Minutes of Regular Meeting, 4/5/21

There was a Regular Meeting of County Council Monday, 4/5/21, 5:10 PM in Council Chambers. Chairman Tim Spencer presided with David Smith leading in prayer. All council members were present along with Administrator Steve Bratton, Attorney Joe Mathis, Master Clerk Doris Pearson & IT Director Dustin Phillips. 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 Tracy McDaniel made the motion to adopt the agenda for the Regular Meeting of 4/5/21 posted in accordance with the SCFOIA with the deletion of Item 13. Mike Fowlkes seconded and council voted in favor.

Councilman Lyman Dawkins made the motion to approve the minutes of the PH & Regular Meeting of 3/15/21 as received. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor.

Councilman Quay Little made the motion to pay the claims for Cherokee County in the amount of \$1,111,902.40. Mike Fowlkes seconded and council voted in favor.

Administrator Steve Bratton read the Proclamation for National Public Safety Tele Communicators Week of April 11-17, 2021 honoring our Public Safety 911 Emergency Dispatchers and presented it to several employees from 911 Dept.

Stephanie Hyleman founder of SILAS Steps, Inc. regarding "Hyleman's Humble Playground. She gave an update on the playground that is being constructed at the Midway Complex. Fencing will be needed to go around the park and rubber surface mating to the playground, bathrooms & parking will be added. She submitted two bids that she had gotten for the fencing. She stated she needed council assistance in making this happening by providing \$34K to cover the costs of fencing around the playground equipment & sidewalks/pathways to ensure accessibility throughout the site. **[Mike Fowlkes made the motion to fund the \$34k for these purposes for the Hyleman's Humble Playground. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor.]**

Appalachian Council of Governments Executive Director Steve Pelliseer presented the 2020 Annual Report. He reported Cherokee County's annual investment in the ACOG is \$29,055 and the return on investment to Cherokee Co. in 2020 was \$1,588,544 representing a return on investment ratio of \$54.67 on every \$1. He commended the board members from Cherokee Co. Lyman Dawkins, Ed Elliott, David Cauthen and Representative Dennis Moss and thanked them for their service. A copy of his report is attached. He reported that since 2006 no new federal grant funds have been applied for and they are out there for water & sewer projects. Council thanked Steve for all he & COG does for Cherokee Co.

Administrator Steve Bratton introduced Ordinance No. 2021-04 for the RFV Park. This is coming as a recommendation from the Citizen Planning Commission. We've been having a number of RV Parks to pop up and this will give us some guidelines on how to stay on top of this. This ordinance will allow 8 RV's on one acre of land with a 50' setback from adjoining neighborhoods and providing a buffer. Their wheels will not be allowed to be removed because it has to be a RV and not a permanent living place. The ordinance submitted has several highlighted areas that we are addressing and a copy is attached for the file. Mike Fowlkes stated we want the people to know that we are not passing this to add another tax revenue for the county but to be able to control the parks and make sure all is safe and services are being provided. **[Councilman Quay Little made the motion to adopt the 1st Reading of Ordinance No. 2021-04 RV Park Ordinance. Lyman Dawkins seconded and council voted in favor.]**

Administrator Steve Bratton reported that Ordinance No. 2021-05 is by title only tonight but Lawrence Flynn, our bonding attorney is working on the ordinance. We have a lot of financial projects going on with the DPW new facility; purchasing the Buford Street Bldg. to renovate for DJJ and other office space and council doesn't want to tap into our interest revenue; and right now because of COVID19, financial rates are at 1 to 1½%. These projects will be well over \$11 million; we can borrow this money at this low interest rate and have no tax increase on millage taxes. Our only debt now is this facility and we have 3 more years to pay it off. We can structure the bond and this facility to be paid off at the same time if you decide to go this route. **[Councilman Quay Little made the motion to adopt the 1st Reading of Ordinance No. 2021-05 providing for the issuance and sale of not exceeding eleven million dollars (\$11,000,000) aggregate principal amount of General Obligation Improvement Bonds of Cherokee County, SC; to prescribe the purposes of which the proceeds shall be expended; to provide for the payment thereof, and other matters related thereto. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor.]**

Administrator Steve Bratton reported that he met last week with several regarding the Gaffney Outlet Market Place and I was informed that they have no intentions of selling. They are actually operating in the black. They are going to focus on small businesses and local merchants.

Councilman Lyman Dawkins made the motion to go into Executive Session at PM for three matters: Section 30-4-70(a)(1) discussion of a personal matter in Administration and Public Works; and Section 30-4-70(a)(2) discussion of a contractual matters relating to public works & discussions with intimate both contractual arrangements for the sale or purchase of property within the county. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor.

Councilman Lyman Dawkins made the motion for council to come out of Executive Session at 7:15 PM. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor. Attorney Mathis stated that no vote or action was taken by council during Executive Session.

Chairman Tim Spencer made the motion to re-appoint David Coyle to serve another term on the Cherokee County Tax Assessor/Board of Appeals. Quay Little seconded and council voted in favor.

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As there was no other business to come before council at this time, Chairman Spencer adjourned the meeting at 7:17 PM.

APPROVED: 4/19/21

Respectfully submitted,

BY ITS CHAIR: Tim Spencer

Doris F. Pearson, Master Clerk to Council