

DATE: 2/23/22 FILE NO: DATE537

TO: Cherokee County Council

SUBJECT: Minutes of PH & Regular Meeting, 2/22/22

There was several Public Hearings & a Regular Meeting of County Council on Tuesday, 2/22/22, 5 PM in Council Chambers. Chairman Tim Spencer presided with Steve Bratton leading in prayer. All council members were present along with Administrator Steve Bratton, Asst. Admin. Merv Bishop, Attorney Joe Mathis and Master Clerk Doris Pearson. The news media was informed by agenda and it was posted in accordance with the SCFOIA. There were two news media present along with 17 visitors.

Cherokee County's Clemson Extension 4-H Youth Development Leader Laura Haddon lead several 4-H Youth in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag: Mary Anna Childers, Lucas Ssaid, Lelya Ssaid and Annie White. They also quoted their 4-H Pledge.

**Councilman David Smith made the motion to adopt the agenda of the Amended PH & Regular Meeting of 2/22/22 as received and posted in accordance with the SCFOIA. Quay Little seconded and council voted in favor.**

**Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to approve the minutes of the PH & Regular Meeting of 2/7/22 as received. Mike Fowlkes seconded and council voted in favor.**

**Councilman Lyman Dawkins made the motion to approve to pay the claims for Cherokee County Council in the amount of \$415,434.26. Mike Fowlkes seconded and council voted in favor.**

Clemson University Cooperative Extension Agent Christopher LeMaster & Youth Development Leader Laura Haddon were present to update council on what their office offers. Clemson Extension helps improve the quality of life of all South Carolinians by providing unbiased information, supports agriculture & forestry industries; strengthens families & communities; improves stewardship of natural resources & environment; strengthen connections between people & their food and exposes youth to opportunities in agriculture and STEM. **Youth Development Leader Laura Haddon** reported on the purpose of 4-H in the learn by doing approach to help youth gain the knowledge & skills to be responsible. They work with the Boys & Girls Club and the elementary schools. One event coming up is Down on the Farm Day for all 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders on Friday, 4/1/22 at the Sarratt Farms. We have community and after school clubs. Another event will be the Spring Livestock Show 3/11&12/22 at Sarratt Farms. There are several camps scheduled for this summer; and other projects coming are regarding poultry, small garden & rabbits.

Presentation by the Revolutionary War Discovery Center Group. Boone Peeler & Jason Spencer from the Palladium Group were present along with LeAnn Moon, her Assistant, Ken Moon and Jamie Caggiano. Administrator Steve Bratton reminded council that over the past two years there has been talk with the City of converting the Old Carnegie Library into a Revolutionary War Discovery Center. Numerous grants have been applied for and the EDA has awarded \$3.4 million of the \$5.3 million project. The City of Gaffney is requesting the County to fund \$500,000 toward this project with the City picking up

the remainder. EDA is requesting a letter of commitment for the remainder of the funds before they will award the monies for this project. Councilman Little ask is there a contractor in place and will you follow procurement? LeAnn replied we will follow battle procurement. Quay ask what if the bids come in under the \$3.2 million? LeAnn nodded that the county would get a refund for the difference. Quay Little asked where is the City's commitment? Cagganio replied they are to discuss this at their next meeting and we should know where they stand as of 3/7/22. Quay Little stated this is a great project and I have no problem working with the City as long as they commit as well. **[Quay Little made the motion to allow Administrator Bratton to send a letter of commitment for \$500,000 to apply for the EDA Grant to renovate the Carnegie Free Library into a Revolutionary War Discovery Center contingent upon the City of Gaffney's commitment of \$1.6 million. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor.]** Boone Peeler replied we are still going after donations and we might be able to come up with the money.

Chairman Tim Spencer opened the public hearings on four matters: **1) Ordinance No. 2022-01** adopting a Redistricting Plan for Cherokee County Council defining the Seven Single-Member Council Districts reapportioned as to population in accordance with the 2020 Federal Decennial Census and applicable laws & requirements; **2) Ordinance No. 2021-37** authorizing the execution & delivery of a FILOT Agreement by & between Cherokee Co., SC, Baker Street Acquisitions LLC and Apollo Acquisitions LLC, previously known to the county as "Project Paint", 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 & Business Park Agreement with Spartanburg County to include such economic development property; and other matters related thereto; **3) Ordinance No. 2021-32** authorizing (a) the execution & delivery of a FILOT Agreement by & between Cherokee Co., SC and Project Herbie with respect to certain economic development property in the county, whereby such property will be subject to certain payments in Lieu of Taxes, including that the provisions of Certain Special Source Credits; (b) the County to create a Multi-County Industrial/Business Park with Spartanburg Co., SC and designate the property to be owned by Project Herbie as Multi-County Park Property; and (c) other related matters; and **4) Ordinance No. 2021-35** authorizing the purchase of real property. As there was no one to speak the public hearings were closed.

Administrator Steve Bratton stated that Items 10 & 11 regarding an Executive Session are not needed at this time.

**Councilman Quay Little made the motion to adopt the 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading of Ordinance No. 2022-01 adopting a Redistricting Plan for Cherokee County Council redefining the Seven Single-Member Council Districts reapportioned as to population in accordance with the 2020 Federal Decennial Census and applicable laws and requirements. Tracy McDaniel seconded and council voted in favor.**

Administrator Steve Bratton stated he had received a request from Macedonia Water Works & Board of Public Works regarding work on the Sunny Slope property. They need to upgrade in size and get a bigger water tank. The county owns .23 acres that the water tank sets on and this is a deed to transfer

the .23 acres along with the 15' easement for ingress & egress held by Cherokee Co. to Macedonia Water Works, Inc.; therefore, an ordinance would be in order to transfer this property to Macedonia Water Works, Inc. **[Councilman Lyman Dawkins made the motion to adopt 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance No. 2022-02 authorizing the transfer of real property. Quay Little seconded and council voted in favor.]**

**Councilman Lyman Dawkins made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 2022-02 authorizing & approving the assignment & assumption of a FILOT Agreement by & among Cherokee Co., SC and Steel Creek Galvanizing Co., LLC. Quay Little seconded and council voted in favor.**

Attorney Joe Mathis had no report.

Administrator Steve Bratton reported on Cherokee County's 125<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration. We will be celebrating the County's 125<sup>th</sup> Birthday on Friday, 2/25/22, from 5 pm to 7 pm; here on the grounds of the Admin. Building. We've been running ads in our local papers and Merv & I will be on the radio in the morning with Dennis Fowler @ WZZG. We will have free refreshments, LED balloons to hand out to the kids, a magician, and free door prizes. We will be holding a scavenger hunt in the local papers to run each month up until the Peach Festival and the winner will be announced then.

Asst. Admin. Merv Bishop had no report.

Chairman Tim Spencer reminded council of the Blacksburg Town Hall meeting this afternoon, Tuesday, 2/22/22, 6 to 7 pm, regarding current & rising issues on drugs & alcohol.

As there was no other business to come before council at this time, Chairman Spencer adjourned the meeting at 5:55 PM.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Respectfully submitted,

BY ITS CHAIR: \_\_\_\_\_

Doris F. Pearson, Master Clerk to Council