

DATE: 11/8/22 FILE NO.: DATE558
TO: Cherokee County Council
SUBJECT: Minutes of PH & Regular Meeting Monday, 11/7/22

There was a Public Hearing & Regular Meeting of County Council Monday, 11/7/22 at 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, 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. Two news media were present. There were 17 visitors.

Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to adopt the agenda of the Public Hearing & Regular Meeting of Monday, 11/7/22 as received and posted in accordance with the SCFOIA. Quay Little seconded and council voted in favor.

Councilman Lyman Dawkins made the motion to approve the minutes of the PH & Regular Meeting of 10/17/22 as received. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor

Councilman David Smith made the motion to approved the claims for Cherokee County in the amount of \$449,047.96. Mike Fowlkes seconded and council voted in favor.

Charles McGill spoke to council regarding gun violence in our County. He spoke of the incident of Keisha Tata and wanted to know what the county is doing to prevent this from happening again? Council listened and Chairman Spencer stated that council would take this as information.

Chairman Tim Spencer opened the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2022-24 to amend Section 6-1-5, et seq., of the Cherokee County Code of Ordinances regarding the Adoption of Technical Codes. No one was present and the public hearing was closed.

Councilman Quay Little made the motion to adopt the 3rd Reading of Ordinance No. 2022-24 to amend Section 6-1-5, et. seq., of the Cherokee County Code of Ordinances regarding the adoption of Technical Codes. Lyman Dawkins seconded and council voted in favor.

Councilman Quay Little made the motion to adopt 2nd Reading of Ordinance 2022-25 authorizing the execution & delivery of a FILOT Agreement between Cherokee Co., SC and Project Rosewood, and other matters relating thereto including, without limitation, payment of a FILOT; the placement of the Project in a Joint County Industrial & Business Park; and related matters. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor.

Councilman Quay Little made the motion to adopt 1st Reading of Ordinance No. 2022-26 to amend the agreement for development for Joint County Industrial Park by & between Spartanburg & Cherokee Counties, SC, so as to include additional property in Spartanburg County as part of the Joint County Industrial Park, and other matters relating thereto. (Arrowrock III Old Sparty, LLC; Trip Building 1 USICV, LLC; Rockefeller Acquisitions, LLC; NP BGO Spartanburg Commerce Center, LLC; Howell Road

Duncan, LLC; Celanese, Ltd.; Takeuchi Mfg. (U.S.), Ltd; Magna Energy Storage Systems USA, LLC; Bird Dog Development – Casual Drive, LLC; Pods Carolina Realty, LLC; COI Park 290-615, LLC; COI Park 290-217, LLC; Greenridge South Carolina, LLC). Lyman Dawkins seconded and council voted in favor.

Administrator Steve Bratton recommended the purchase of several items to be paid from the ARP Funds: **1) a Special Ops Trailer** (collapse & trench rescue trailer) that we can purchase off of the Federal GSA Contract for a purchase price that includes transportation is \$345,495 + about \$25,000 for power tools. The make-up of the team will be specially trained fire fighters which we have already had over 20 who expressed an interest in this program. **2) Haz Mat Unit Truck** – Doug was able to locate a used 2002 KMA Rescue/Haz Mat Truck with 26,518 miles, 4,250 hours and has everything on it that we are looking for with a purchase price of \$75,000 + \$55,000 for tools, located in Conn. **3) New EM Vehicle** - replace the current 2014 F350 Emergency Management Vehicle that has numerous problems with a 1-ton gas unit work truck single rear wheel for around \$50,000 + \$30,000 to upfit with lights, siren, etc. So, all together I am requesting council to authorize me to purchase the items listed for a total of \$525,000 to purchase off the state contract through the ARP Funds. Council asked where will the special ops trailer be housed? Steve replied we are looking out back of the Admin. Bldg. or maybe at one of the local fire depts. I have no intentions of coming back before council requesting for a carport/cover for these. **[Quay Little made the motion to allow Admin. to go out for bid on the items requested for a total amount of \$525,000 to be paid from the ARP Funds. Tracy McDaniel seconded and council voted in favor.]** Council asked if the truck would be able to haul the trailer? Why don't you look at a dual action truck? Steve replied he will check into it, get a price and report to council.

Administrator Steve Bratton reported on the employee vacation cash out opportunity. An employee with 1 – 10 years can cash out up to 40 hrs. of vacation leave if they have it; 10 or more can cash out up to 80 hrs. of vacation leave if they have it. There are also guidelines to follow and meet before they can qualify. **[Quay Little made the motion to allow Admin. to offer the vacation cash out opportunity to the employees who qualify. Lyman Dawkins seconded and council voted in favor.]** Steve replied employees have two dates to request this 11/11/22 & 12/2/22 using the proper form.

Administrator Steve Bratton reported on the information he received on surrounding counties gun ordinances. I checked with York, Chester, Newberry, Richland and Horry Co. Lyman Dawkins replied that Admin. has looked at several different ordinances to see what we can do for Cherokee Co. and it is obvious that whatever we do, we cannot put anything in place to prevent what happened to Ms. Tate; but we will look further into these ordinances and try to come up with something to protect our citizens but also not to encroach on people's rights regarding guns and the firing of them.

Administrator Steve Bratton reported that there was a meeting Monday, 11/24/22, here at 6 pm to discuss the radio communications. All VFD were represented, EMS, Coroner, City Fire Dept., E911, Sheriff Dept. EMD Bowers, Councilmembers Tracy McDaniel, David Smith & Elliott Hughes, Merv & myself. We heard everyone's concerns & interests; the meeting was very informative; several came with a list of priorities in their dept. and we reached a consensus that our radio communication system needed to be

updated. I plan to go out for RFP over the next couple of months. I am asking for \$1.5 million of the ARP money to help fund this program. We will comprise a committee to review these RFP's that will consist of 2 VFD members, Myself & Merv, Sheriff, Coroner and E911. We will report back to council on who/what we decide. **[Quay Little made the motion to allow Admin. to go out for RFP for the radio communication system for the county. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor.]**

Administrator Steve Bratton recognized EM Director Doug Bowers on receiving the StormReady Recertification through January 2027 for Cherokee County.

Administrator Steve Bratton reported that he & Merv met with Mandy Parker with SCC regarding the "Grow Your Own CDL Driver Training" program. There are grant funds out there to cover the expense of this and we will gather more information and report back to council. We can send 4 people to attend class 4 days/week for 5 weeks for a Class 2 CDL at Tiger River Campus. The employee would have to pass a medical exam and drug test and if they commit to this class then they also sign a paper that commits them to stay employed with us for a period of time. We reached out to Brian, Gaylan and Scott and they all said they have employees that are interested in this. We have to provide our own equipment and they will train them on it. I will gather more information and report back to council.

Asst. Admin. Merv Bishop reported that he is working with our Diesel Mechanic Barry Bailey at the DPW to update the pre-trip sheet and train our drivers on how to do this on their equipment before they go out on the job for the day.

Asst. Admin. Merv Bishop reminded council that beginning last Friday, 11/3/22, the county began the "Operation Green Light" by turning on the green lights out front of the Admin. Building and will leave them burning at night through 11/13/22 in honor of our Veterans. Todd Humphries has been handing out green light bulbs to those requesting them.

Asst. Admin. Merv Bishop reminded council that tomorrow, Tuesday, 11/8/22 is Election Day and our Election/Voter Registration Dept. has been working hard and long hours for this election. We have been getting good feedback from citizens on how smooth the office is handling this election.

Administrator Steve Bratton also replied that 10% of registered voters in our county have already voted early and on the 1st day of early voting, they had more to vote that day than all that voted back in August. That office is running smooth and they are working very hard.

Councilman Lyman Dawkins made the motion for council to go into Executive Session at 5:44 pm pursuant to Section 30-4-70(a)(2) for receipt of legal advice related to discussion of proposed contractual arrangements in regards to the EMS contract. Quay Little seconded and council voted in favor.

Councilman Quay Little made the motion for council to come out of Executive Session at 6:49 PM. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor. Attorney Mathis stated no vote or action was taken during Executive Session.

Councilman Quay Little made the motion to re-appoint Jim Thompson to serve another term on the Cherokee Co. Development Board. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor.

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

Councilman Quay Little made the motion to re-appoint Jack Ledford to serve another term on the Cherokee Co. Public Library Board. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor.

Councilman Mike Fowlkes made the motion to re-appoint Bruce Woodlief to serve another term on the Grassy Pond Fire District Board. Tracy McDaniel seconded and council voted in favor.

As there was no other business to come before council at this time, Chairman Tim Spencer adjourned the meeting at 6:51 PM.

APPROVED: 11/21/22

BY ITS CHAIRMAN: Tim Spencer

Respectfully submitted,

Doris F. Pearson, Master Clerk to Council