

DATE: 1/18/23 FILE NO: DATE567

TO: Cherokee County Council

SUBJECT: Minutes Regular Meeting, 1/17/23

There was a Regular Meeting of County Council Tuesday, 1/17/23, 5 PM in Council Chambers. Chairman Spencer presided with Bill Blanton leading in prayer. All council members were present along with Administrator Bratton, Asst. Admin. Merv Bishop 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 and 16 visitors present.

The agenda for the PH & Regular Meeting of 1/17/23 was sent out and posted in accordance with the SCFOIA. **Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to amend the agenda with the following: delete the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 2022-29 as posted; delete the 3rd Reading of Ordinance No. 2022-29 for Project Porcupine as posted; delete the report by Attorney Mathis due to his absence; and delete the Executive Session regarding a contractual matter. Quay Little seconded and council voted in favor.**

Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of 1/3/23 as received. Lyman Dawkins seconded and council voted in favor.

Councilman David Smith made the motion to pay the claims for Cherokee County in the amount of \$329,451.70. Lyman Dawkins seconded and council voted in favor.

The public hearing on Ordinance No. 2022-29 authorizing the execution & delivery of a Fee in Lieu of Tax Agreement by & between Cherokee Co., SC and Project Porcupine was deleted from the agenda.

3rd Reading of Ordinance No. 2022-29 authorizing the execution & delivery of a Fee in Lieu of Tax Agreement by & between Cherokee Co., SC and Project Porcupine was deleted from the agenda.

Administrator Steve Bratton handed out updated copies of the Cherokee County Code of Ordinances Chapter 13 Land Development Regulations. Page 3 Sec. 13-53 Minimum lot frontage was changed for 50' to 100'; Page 4 Sec. 13-55 Flag Lots (h); Page 5 Sec. 13-56 Major Subdivision © major subdivisions of more than 50 homes shall have an entrance wide enough to accommodate a turning lane, etc. We cannot change what SCDOT required and must abide by their regulations. Page 5 Sec. 13-56 Sidewalks; Page 29 (j) addresses hydrants; Page 13 also addresses hydrants; Page 18 Sec. 13-122 multifamily housing. **[Councilman Quay Little made the motion to adopt 2nd Reading of Ordinance No. 2022-27 to amend & update certain parts of the Cherokee County Code of Ordinances Chapter 13 Land Development Regulations as presented. Lyman Dawkins seconded and council voted in favor.]**

Administrator Steve Bratton referred to Ordinance No. 2022-28 stating there have been no new changes since the last meeting. **[Councilman David Smith made the motion to adopt 2nd Reading of**

Ordinance No. 2022-28 to amend & update certain parts of the Cherokee County Code of Ordinances Chapter 15 Article V Campgrounds & Recreational Vehicle Parks. Quay Little seconded and council voted in favor.]

Administrator Steve Bratton commented on RFP 2023-07 Cherokee County Animal Shelter. Since your last meeting in Dec., Merv & I along with BP Architect Representatives and Matt Sossamon have worked together to come up with more value savings for the Animal Shelter. The initial bid was \$5,438,000 and with the value savings of \$820,968.54 that brings the bid down to \$4,617,031.46. With the reductions, we continued to strive to present a functional, beautiful facility. We reduced the kennel size by 413 SF yet giving the animals plenty of space and not cramping the larger animals for a savings of \$55,332.76; we eliminated the farm animal pen for a savings of \$60,095.67; Item 38 site revision for a reduction of \$46,885.54; deleted the main front canopy. Tim asked if there were sufficient handicap parking spaces? Steve replied yes. Quay asked about the irrigation, are you eliminating it? Steve replied no. Item 8 – we looked at modifying our fencing slats to windscreen which was not that big of savings so we decided to leave it; we did not recommend #16 to eliminate MP-3 perforated metal wall panel & steel framing. Chair Spencer asked if the City was going to give any funds toward this project? Steve replied he talked with James Taylor and ask him if they would be willing to take back the City's trash pick-up in lieu of giving funds toward this building project? I made them the same offer we made with them when we began picking up their trash. James replied he would need to figure out how much it would cost them if they took it back. I asked him if they didn't take back the trash pick-up to fund \$1.2 million toward our Animal Shelter Project. 1/3rd of the animals come from the City into our shelter now. Quay replied if they don't want to contribute, then they can keep their own shelter and operate it themselves. If they do put in the \$1.2 million then we will continue to operate it all at no cost to them and they can use our facility, animal control officers and work with us. Item 39 – we can eliminate Restrooms 114 & 115 and save \$17,202.60. There would be one restroom upfront for guests & employees; and one in the back for employees which will be equipped with a shower. We have 3 employees at the office at all times; two county officers and 1 city officer coming & going. Steve reported that beginning 1/20/23 the rates will increase on this bid by 9% in cost. Chair Spencer asked if the Humane Society paid us anything toward the shelter? Steve replied no, they are a profit-making organization. They charge a small fee and that is to help cover immunizations, neutering, etc. They do a great job of adopting out as many of these animals as they can. Doing that also saves up in euthanizing cost. We will be using our bond money to pay for this project. We have 3 years to spend the bond money and if we don't use it then whatever is left, we will have to pay back with a penalty. Quay replied we need to remember that we have more projects than this one going on, the Broad Rive Electric Facility, Buford St. Drug Store Facility, etc. Tracy McDaniel replied being in the construction business, I know the costs of building are increasing. We've talked about this a long time and we need to move forward. Yes, I agree, that the City does need to contribute but if they don't, we still need to move forward on this project. I applaud the Humane Society on what they are doing to adopt these animals out. Tim stated that the bid price is one figure but before the building is completed it will probably end up costing us more than \$4.6 million because of changeorders.

[Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to allow Administration to move forward with Sossamon

Construction Co., Inc. to build the new Cherokee Co. Animal Shelter as presented tonight. Quay Little seconded and council voted in favor.]

Administrator Steve Bratton presented the 2023/24 FYB Calendar. I have no figures to give you now but will inform you that at our next meeting CPA Ben Kochenower will be coming before council to present the 21/22 Fiscal Year Audit.

Administrator Steve Bratton reported that the splash pad project at the Cherokee County Recreation District/Midway Complex has been completed. We still need to plant grass, put up fencing, and establish parking spaces, etc. We will be putting in handicap parking close to the playground and hopefully on both sides of the road. DPW Director Scott Griffith has meet with Cherokee Landscaping on this. The playground there has been utilized a lot and this splash pad will probably be used a lot especially when they hold ball tournaments, etc. during the summer.

Asst. Admin. Merv Bishop talked about road side litter pickup. I have a big concern about the litter around our county. It is everywhere and with our growth and with economic developers looking here, we need to clean up and present a beautiful, clean county. The Sheriff used to allow a Deputy to go out with a crew on weekends to pick up litter but because they are so understaffed, he has not been able to do that. There has to be at least one Level I Officer to oversee the inmates while they are picking up trash. I am proposing to council to allow employees in our DPW & SWC Departments who want to volunteer to work on Fridays be allowed to do so and go out and pick up trash throughout our county; and for one trash truck to be designated on Fridays to go out pick up the trash they gather to take back to the landfill. It would take one supervisor/truck driver and up to 6 volunteers to pick up litter on the side of the road. I'm talking about trash only; not brush & limbs, not furniture, etc. just trash. We would pay these employees overtime for that day. Quay suggested that we raise the fine for littering from \$250 to \$1000 and post it out there for all to see. Merv replied it will probably cost the county about \$1,000 for one day for us to start this program of picking up trash on Fridays only. We can make out a schedule of where to begin pick-up and work to clean up around the county. **[Quay Little made the motion to allow Administration to move forward with the Litter Program Pick-up in the county and to allow our employees to volunteer to work on Fridays paying them overtime to pick-up trash. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor.]**

Executive Session was deleted from the agenda.

As there was no other business to come before council at this time, Chairman Spencer adjourned the meeting at 6:34 PM.

APPROVED: 2/6/23

BY ITS CHAIR: Tim Spencer

Respectfully submitted,

Doris F. Pearson, Master Clerk to Council