

DATE: 9/19/23 FILE NO: DATE587

TO: Cherokee County Council

SUBJECT: Minutes of Regular Meeting, 9/18/23

There was a Regular Meeting of County Council Monday, 9/18/23, 5 PM in Council Chambers. Chairman Tim Spencer presided with Bill Blanton leading in prayer. All council members were present along with Administrator 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 along with 14 visitors.

Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to adopt the agenda for the Regular Meeting of 9/18/23 as received and by adding David Smith before Item 10. The agenda was posted in accordance with the SCFOIA. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor.

Councilman Lyman Dawkins made the motion to approve the minutes of the PH & Regular Meeting of 9/11/23 as received. Quay Little seconded and council voted in favor.

Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to pay the claims for Cherokee County in the amount of \$163,106.04. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor.

Administrator Merv Bishop presented a proclamation from County Council to President James Byers of the Cherokee County National Confederation for the Blind proclaiming 10/15/23, as White Cane Awareness Day. President Byers invited council to attend their event on that day.

Presenters Cody Butts & Mark Nix updated council on the Cherokee Medical Center/Hospice House and invited them to attend the Service of Remembrance on Tuesday, 10/17/23, 3 PM. Back in May, 2023, we began operations for a Hospice House at the Cherokee County Medical Center. We now have 50 inpatients and 5 rooms and have served 153 residents thus far. Quay Little expressed his appreciation for this service for our residents.

Councilman Bill Blanton made the motion to adopt the 1st Reading of Ordinance No. 2023-20 to repeal the Cherokee County Solid Waste Collection User Fee and references thereto set forth in the Budget Ordinance No. 2023-03, and to amend Cherokee County Ordinance No. 2023-03, being the Budget Ordinance for the County for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2024, and to provide for other matters related thereto. Lyman Dawkins seconded and council voted in favor.

Administrator Merv Bishop informed council of a letter of support that he & Chairman Spencer signed and would be sending to the Federal Highway Administration/Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division supporting for Cherokee County to apply for the FLAP Grant to conduct a preliminary design study of two key corridors of the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail and Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to allow Administrator Merv Bishop to apply for the Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) Grant for the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail. Quay Little seconded and council voted in favor. Administrator Bishop stated this is a no match fund grant.

Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to award Bid No. 2024-01 C-Funds Paving Project to Cherokee Landscaping. Lyman Dawkins seconded and council voted in favor.

Administrator Merv Bishop introduced Barry Bailey, DPW Vehicle Main. Supervisor to give an update on his department. There is a piece of equipment that Barry needs to purchase to help process the workload in his department. He is asking for a tort gun (\$14,478.70), lug nuts (\$4,942.85) and service contract (\$500.00) for a total price of \$19,921.55. This is not in the budget and we can pay for it with the ARF monies. Barry stated on the heavy equipment, I have to borrow a tort multiplier that takes 3 people to work & change the wheel and this new piece of equipment would only take one person. I can take this piece of equipment to the job site, which saves a lot of time. **[Tracy McDaniel made the motion to allow Administration to purchase the tort gun for \$14,478.70, lug nuts for \$4,942.85 and service contract for \$500.00 for a total price of \$19,921.55 and pay it from the ARF monies. Lyman Dawkins seconded and council voted in favor.]**

Councilman David Smith asked Administrator Merv Bishop & Attorney Joe Mathis to check into a policy regarding our public comments and bring back to council for adoption for us to follow regarding people coming before us to speak.

Attorney Joe Mathis asked council to go into Executive Session on two matters pursuant to Section 30-4-70(a)(2): **1)** for discussion of negotiations incident to a proposed contractual arrangement; and **2)** for the receipt of legal advice where the legal advice relates to pending claims or other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege. **[Councilman Lyman Dawkins made the motion to go into Executive Session at 5:40 PM for these two matters. Quay Little seconded and council voted in favor.]**

Councilman Quay Little made the motion for council to come out of Executive Session at 6:50 PM and enter back into the Regular Meeting. Lyman Dawkins seconded and council voted in favor. Attorney Mathis stated that no action or vote was taken during Executive Session.

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

APPROVED: 10/02/23

BY ITS CHAIR: Tim Spencer

Respectfully submitted,

Doris F. Pearson, Master Clerk to Council