

DATE: 10/3/23 FILE NO: DATE588

TO: Cherokee County Council

SUBJECT: Minutes of Regular Meeting, 10/2/23

There was a Regular Meeting of County Council Monday, 10/2/23, 5 PM in Council Chambers. Chairman Spencer presided with David Smith 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 5 visitors.

Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to adopt the agenda for the Regular Meeting of 10/2/23 as received and 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 Regular Meeting 9/18/23 as received. Quay Little seconded and council voted in favor.

Councilman Quay Little made the motion to pay the claims for Cherokee County in the amount of \$811,945.64. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor.

Councilman Quay Little made the motion to adopt the 2nd 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 Co. Ordinance No. 2023-03, being the Budget Ordinance for the County for the Fiscal Year ending 6/30/24, and to provide for other matters related thereto. Elliott Hughes seconded and council voted in favor.

Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to approve the recommendation from the Accommodations Tax Committee for the amount of \$49,864 for the 11 applicants listed: Gaffney Little Theatre - \$2,928.57; Broad River Antique Power Assoc. - \$5,928.57; Palmetto Christian Academy of Gaffney - \$578.57; CHAPS - \$9,306; Cherokee National Golf Club - \$1,928.57; Antioch Kingdom Building Ministries - \$692.86; Cherokee Co. Meals on Wheels - \$2,300; CAVA - \$2,000; Blacksburg Business Assoc. - \$9,214.29 and SC Peach Festival - \$14,293.71. Quay Little seconded and council voted in favor.

Administrator Merv Bishop opened bids for - Bid No. 2024-02 Landfill Scrap Metal. 3 bids were received: **1)** Custom Recycling, LLC – Unit Price \$60; **2)** Owen Electric DBA CMC Recycling - Unit Price \$101; and **3)** Metal Recycling Services – Unit Price \$140. **Quay Little made the motion to place these bids in the Public Works Committee for review and to report back to council. Lyman Dawkins seconded and council voted in favor.**

Administrator Merv Bishop opened bids for - Bid No. 2024-03 Limb & Brush Grinding. 3 bids were received: **1)** State Tree Services, Inc. - \$63,600; **2)** Greentree - \$59,299 and **3)** Farmers Mulch &

Rock - \$64,999. **Quay Little made the motion to place these in the Public Works Committee for review and to report back to council. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor.**

Administrator Merv Bishop reported on the Policy on Public Comments stating that at our last meeting, Councilman David Smith asked me & Attorney Mathis to check into a policy regarding our public comments. We are currently gathering information and will be getting back to the council on this later.

Administrator Merv Bishop reported on the county tax bills. SC Code Section 12-39-140 reads that the Auditor, on or before the 30th day of September of each year, shall make up and complete the tax books of the county. Pursuant to SC Code Section 12-2-60, there is hereby granted an extension until Wed., 11/1/23, for the Auditor to delay the preparation of the duplicate and for the Treasurer to delay the collection of taxes in Cherokee County. We are confident that our tax bills should be able to be mailed out the week of 10/23/23 and the due date will be on January 16, 2024.

Administrator Merv Bishop reported that Open Enrollment for our employees has begun and will run through Oct. 31, 2023. Any changes that are made during this time will take effect January 1, 2024.

Attorney Joe Mathis informed council of a letter from SCDOT where Milliken is requesting them to transfer ownership & maintenance responsibility of S-670 (Milliken Road) from S-83 Blacksburg Highway to End of State Maintenance to Milliken. Cherokee Co. has the right of first refusal of the above road according to the law (Section 57-5-80). SCDOT is requesting a written response from the County within 30 days from the date of this letter (9/21/23) if you desire to exercise the first right of refusal. If we do not send a reply within this timeframe, SCDOT will consider this as a refusal to accept maintenance of the roadway and SCDOT will proceed to transfer ownership & maintenance to Milliken as they requested. **Council received this as information and will not reply.**

Councilman Tracy McDaniel asked Administrator Bishop to work with Attorney Mathis and come up with a policy regarding speed bumps on our county roads.

Councilman Lyman Dawkins asked Administrator Merv Bishop to check with the City of Gaffney and see if we can join them in some type of event to recognize Oct. as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

As there was no other business to come before council at this time, Chairman Spencer adjourned the meeting at 5:20 PM.

APPROVED: 10/16/23

BY ITS CHAIR: Tim Spencer

Respectfully submitted,

Doris F. Pearson, Master Clerk to Council