

DATE: 5/7/24 FILE NO: DATE606  
TO: Cherokee County Council  
SUBJECT: Minutes of Regular Meeting of Monday, 5/6/24

There was a Regular Meeting of County Council Monday, 5/6/24, 5 PM in Council Chambers. Chairman Spencer presided with David Smith leading in prayer. All council members were present along with Admin. Merv Bishop, Asst. Admin. Amanda Walker, 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 27+ visitors.

**Councilman Quay Little made the motion to adopt the agenda for the Regular Meeting of 5/6/24 as received and posted in accordance with the SCFOIA. Lyman Dawkins seconded and council voted in favor.**

**Councilman Lyman Dawkins made the motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of 4/15/24 as received. Tracy McDaniel seconded and council voted in favor.**

**Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to approve the claims for Cherokee County in the amount of \$657,453.00. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor.**

Administrator Merv Bishop read the Proclamation Proclaiming May 15th, 2024, as National Peace Officer Memorial Day and presented it to Sheriff Mueller. Sheriff Mueller thanked council for their support & prayers.

SCC President Dr. Mikota presented his annual report on the SCC/Cherokee County Campus and thanked council for the Rufus H. Foster, Jr. Scholarship and all their support. This year we handed out 79 Associate Diplomas. By taking away a few restrictions you first had attached to the Rufus H. Foster, Jr. Scholarship, it opened up many possibilities for students as well as non-traditional students. I-Square has been very successful in our HVAC program and we are now beginning a new diesel program that will only be available in Cherokee County. This is a specific program unique to Cherokee County and we do not have it on any other campus. Our LPN Class focused on helping the new Palmetto Patriots Home and our first one graduated in Dec. 2023. We had 145 who graduated from Cherokee Co. Campus this year. Thank you for investing in the SCC/CCC and for increasing the Rufus H. Foster, Jr. Scholarship. Two students spoke in support of the Rufus H. Foster, Jr. Scholarship and how it helped them to get their education free. Several council members thanked all who attended in support of SCC/CCC and the great partnership we have in providing future education for our residents. Lyman stated that education is the foundation for the future of our county with I-85 expanding and opening up for more industries to come here. Thank you for helping our young people get an education/training, get a great job and stay here in Cherokee County.

**Councilman Quay Little made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-02 approving, ratifying & consenting to the transfer & assignment to & assumption by Tribal Propco LLC of a certain**

**existing FILOT Agreement in which the County is a part of and other matters relating thereto. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor.**

**Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to adopt 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance No. 2024-05 Adopting the Cherokee County Comprehensive Plan. Quay Little seconded and council voted in favor.**

Administrator Bishop opened bids for 2024-06 – Transfer Court Update. Two bids were received: 1) McDaniel Construction Co., Blacksburg, SC - \$28,946.00 and 2) Satchel Construction Co., N. Charleston SC - \$39,760. **Chairman Spencer placed these bids in the Judicial Service Committee for them to review and come back to council with a recommendation.** Councilman Tracy McDaniel stated he would recuse from voting on this project due to conflict of interest.

Administrator Bishop opened bids for 2024-10 Mitigation & Reconstruction of A, B & E Unit Bathroom Ceilings at the Cherokee County Detention Center. Only one bid was received: Gilman Restoration, Inman, SC – 41,169.22. **Chairman Spencer placed this bid in the JSC for review and to report back to council.**

Administrator Merv Bishop gave an update on the Cherokee Co. Animal Shelter giving statistics and reporting that he had failed to do a change order back in March 2024 for a total of \$9,075.54. We have been open for one week and we have already doubled occupancy. We will be meeting with the Humane Society in two weeks to discuss future plans for the shelter. We need more help and I plan to put in the FYB 2024-25 a part-time position for there. **[Councilman David Smith made the motion to approve the change order for the Cherokee Co. Animal Shelter in the amount of \$9,075.54. Lyman Dawkins seconded and council voted in favor.]** Tracy asks do you advertise for donations to help with dog food, etc.? Merv replied yes and we advertise that people can come and adopt these animals any time. Bill Blanton asked, “do you go out and ask for volunteers to help at the shelter?” Merv replied that the Humane Society will do this and they also will help train those volunteers.

Administrator Merv Bishop reported pursuant to Paragraph 4(ii) of the Office Lease with Peachtree Centre, we have provided a written notice of our interest to terminate the Lease there which expires December 18, 2024. We are currently relocated DSS and Emergency Management facilities, however we need to relocate our Cherokee Co. Coroner Dept. I am requesting that council authorize me to work in conjunction with DP3 and Coroner Dennis Fowler to begin the procurement process for services related to the construction of a new Coroner’s office building to be constructed on our property located behind the current facility. Councilman Little asked do you have an alternate location? Merv replied we are requesting to build a new facility on the property behind the current facility. This is May and our lease is up 12/18/24, that only gives us 7 months. It was asked if Peachtree could offer us an agreement to lease/purchase and we look at purchasing the complex from them. How much are they asking? Merv replied if we lease it, it will cost us \$12,000/month and their purchase price is \$1.2 million. Quay asked how much it would cost for us to build? Merv replied with around \$1.4 million. Ansel is talking with his financial advisors regarding these options. Merv said he can have Jared with DP3 meet with council at your meeting of 5/20/24 and give you options. **[Lyman Dawkins made the motion to**

**allow Administrator Bishop to work with DP3 and Coroner Dennis Fowler to begin the procurement process for services related to the construction of a new Coroner’s office building to be constructed on our property located behind the current facility. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor.]**

**Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to allow Administration to go out for bid for FY 2024/25 C-Fund Paving Projects. Quay Little seconded and council voted in favor.**

**Councilman Quay Little made the motion to allow Administration to go out for bid for FY 2024/25 Paving Preservation Program. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor.**

Asst. Admin. Amanda Walker reported that DP3 Architects have met with our Dept. Heads for Public Works, Recycling & Solid Waste to relocate their department to the Broad River Co-Op Facility. DP3 will meet with council on 5/20/24 and submit their plans. This is just for the Public Works Depts. not the auditorium/basketball courts.

**Councilman Elliott Hughes made the motion to re-appoint Bryon Cheek to the DMW Fire District Board. Quay Little seconded and council voted in favor.**

**Councilman Elliott Hughes made the motion to re-appoint Brice Cook, Robert Ruff & Josh Rogers to serve another term on the Goucher-White Plains Fire District. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor.**

**Council Chair Tim Spencer made the motion to appoint Ms. Stephanie Morrow to serve on the Upstate Workforce Board. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor.**

**Council Chair Tim Spencer made the motion to re-appoint Adam Cooper to serve another term on the Grassy Pond Fire District Board. Quay Little seconded and council voted in favor.**

**Councilman Quay Little made the motion to appoint Vernon Tindall to serve on the Cherokee Co. Tax Assessor/Board of Appeals. David Smith seconded and council voted in favor.**

As there was no other business to come before council at this time, Chairman Spencer adjourned the meeting at 6:25 PM.

Guest Brenda Earls requested that County Council get with the City of Gaffney & Town of Blacksburg and recognize and honor our Senator Harvey Peeler for all he has done for Cherokee County. Chairman Spencer told Mrs. Earls to steer head this and get back with council.

APPROVED: 5/20/24

Respectfully submitted,

BY ITS CHAIR: Tim Spencer

Doris F. Pearson, Master Clerk to Council