

DATE: 1/22/25 FILE NO: DATE635  
TO: Cherokee County Council  
SUBJECT: Minutes of Regular Meeting, 1/21/25

There was a Regular Meeting of County Council Tuesday, 1/21/25, 5:00 PM in Council Chambers. Vice-Chairman David Smith presided with Donnie Hardin leading in prayer. All council members were present except Tim Spencer who was sick. Administrator Bishop, Asst. Admin. Kristy Bradley, Attorney Joe Mathis and Master Clerk Doris Pearson were present. The news media was informed by agenda and it was posted in accordance with the SCFOIA. Two news media were present along with 4 visitors.

**Councilman Billy Blanton made the motion to adopt the agenda of the Regular Meeting of Tuesday, 1/21/25 as received and posted in accordance with the SCFOIA. Tracy McDaniel seconded and council voted in favor.**

**Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of 1/6/25 as received. Billy Blanton seconded and council voted in favor.**

**Councilman Billy Blanton made the motion to approve the claims for Cherokee County in the amount of \$435,534.66 for payment. Tracy McDaniel seconded and council voted in favor.**

Administrator Merv Bishop introduced the new Assistant Administrator Kristy Bradley. She began her position last Monday, 1/13/25. I'm very excited about her coming on board and we've already hit the road running with all our projects.

Administrator Merv Bishop requested council to pass an ordinance to extend & amend the existing Long-Term Lease Agreement with the Cherokee County School District. This new lease will be for 25-year lease which would be from 2025-2050; addresses the 1<sup>st</sup> Right of Refusal, etc. **[Donnie Hardin made the motion to pass the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of an Ordinance Authorizing the Lease of County Property to the Cherokee County School District. Billy Blanton seconded and council voted in favor.]**

Administrator Merv Bishop updated council of the 23/24 FY Audit. CPA Ben Kochenower was supposed to be here tonight to present the Financial Statements & Schedule for year ending 6/20/24 but he has been sick and he will reschedule and come at a later date.

Asst. Admin. Kristy Bradley updated council on the Public Works Facility. I met with DP3 on 1/15/25 to discuss existing scope items and provide final feedback. Then I met with Sossamon Const. & DP3 on 1/17/25 to relay the scope feedback and obtain the schedule for receiving & analyzing project cost based on the final plan submission by DP3. Once I receive all documents from DP3 & Sossamon, we will meet again and I plan to report to council on 3/3/25.

Attorney Joe Mathis had no report other than to go into Executive Session.

**Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Section 30-4-70(a)(2) for receipt of legal advice where legal advice relates to a pending, threatened, or potential claim or other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege. Donnie Hardin seconded and council voted in favor and went into Executive Session at 5:09 PM.**

**Councilman Elliott Hughes made the motion for council to come out of Executive Session at 5:37 PM. Donnie Hardin seconded and council voted in favor. Attorney Joe Mathis reported that no vote or action was taken during Executive Session.**

As there was no other business to come before council at this time, Vice-Chairman David Smith adjourned the meeting at 5:38 PM.

APPROVED: 2/3/24

BY: Cherokee County Council

Respectfully submitted,

Doris F. Pearson, Master Clerk