



CITY OF DAHLONEGA

Council Draft Meeting Minutes

April 03, 2023, 6:00 PM

Gary McCullough Chambers, Dahlonega City Hall

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodation for Council meetings should notify the City Clerk's Office at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at 706-864-6133.

Vision - To be an open, honest, and responsive city, balancing preservation, and growth, and delivering quality services fairly and equitably by being good stewards of Dahlonega's resources.

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

PRESENT

Mayor JoAnne Taylor
Councilmember Ron Larson
Councilmember Roman Gaddis
Councilmember Johnny Ariemma
Councilmember Ryan Reagin
Councilmember Ross Shirley
Councilmember Lance Bagley

PRAYER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

Councilmember Reagin led the Pledge of Allegiance

Councilmember Larson led the Prayer

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Taylor called for a motion to approve the agenda.

Motion made by Councilmember Shirley, Seconded by Councilmember Bagley.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Larson, Councilmember Gaddis, Councilmember Ariemma, Councilmember Reagin, Councilmember Shirley, Councilmember Bagley

PUBLIC COMMENT – PLEASE LIMIT TO THREE MINUTES

Communication is essential to the growth of Dahlonega.

Mr. Joe Mirakovits and Chairman Rob Nichols presented the Mayor with a commemorative coin.

Mr. Blair Housley is asking for clarification on his Brew Pub application for the Meadery in downtown Dahlonega.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- a. City Council Meeting Minutes - March 6, 2023
Mary Csukas, City Clerk
- b. City Council Public Hearing Minutes - March 20, 2023
Mary Csukas, City Clerk
- c. City Council Work Session Minutes - March 20, 2023

Mary Csukas, City Clerk

d. City Council Special Called Meeting Minutes - March 20, 2023

Mary Csukas, City Clerk

Mayor Taylor asked for a motion to approve the City Council Meeting Minutes for March 6, 2023, City Council Public Hearing on March 20, 2023, City Council Work Session on March 20, 2023, and City Council Special Called Meeting on March 20, 2023.

Motion made by Councilmember Gaddis, Seconded by Councilmember Larson.,
Voting Yea: Councilmember Larson, Councilmember Gaddis, Councilmember Ariemma,
Councilmember Reagin, Councilmember Shirley, Councilmember Bagley

APPOINTMENT, PROCLAMATION & RECOGNITION:

1. Proclamation Request – April 2023 Child Abuse Prevention Month, Allison Martin, City Manager

Mayor Taylor read the Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation.

Mayor Taylor asked for a motion to approve the Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation.

Motion made by Councilmember Gaddis, Seconded by Councilmember Shirley.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Larson, Councilmember Gaddis, Councilmember Ariemma,
Councilmember Reagin, Councilmember Shirley, Councilmember Bagley

A child abuse organization representative spoke about issues in our community and the need for assistance.

CITY REPORTS:

2. Financial Report - February 2023, Allison Martin, City Manager

City Manager Martin updated Council on the city's financial report for the last five months.

Every account is in line with expectations per the budget and expected to trend with historical value as a response to Councilmember Bagley.

Stormwater enterprise funds show 20% because of the ARCA Funds. This account will be updated to reflect this understanding was the response to Councilmember Larson.

Cemetery questions on the sales of the Columbarium were discussed with Councilmember Ariemma.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

3. GA Cities Week - Resolution 2023-03, Allison Martin, City Manager

GA Cities Week is April 23-29, 2023; City Manager Martin requested the ability to involve the citizens, staff, and council members this week.

Mayor Taylor requested a motion to approve this resolution and agreement.

Motion made by Councilmember Larson, Seconded by Councilmember Shirley.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Larson, Councilmember Gaddis, Councilmember Ariemma,
Councilmember Reagin, Councilmember Shirley, Councilmember Bagley

CONTRACTS & AGREEMENTS:

4. Reinstatement and Termination of the City of Dahlonega's participation in GMA's 401(A) Defined Contribution Plan, Doug Parks, City Attorney

The GMA's 401(A) Defined Contribution Plan is no longer in use and has been moved to another plan.

Motion made by Councilmember Reagin, Seconded by Councilmember Gaddis.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Larson, Councilmember Gaddis, Councilmember Ariemma, Councilmember Reagin, Councilmember Shirley, Councilmember Bagley

OTHER ITEMS:

5. Insurance Options – Elected Officials, Allison Martin, City Manager

City Manager Martin informed the Council that the 2024 employee insurance renewal program would include insurance options for elected officials. Councilmembers will pay for this insurance at their own cost.

Motion made by Councilmember Reagin, Seconded by Councilmember Gaddis.

Councilmember Ariemma and Bagley viewed the program's cost on the high side.

Councilmember Gaddis inquired into the date this option was removed for Council. City Manager Martin stated that the change occurred sometime in the last seven years when the city changed the insurance broker.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Larson, Councilmember Gaddis, Councilmember Ariemma, Councilmember Reagin, Councilmember Shirley, Councilmember Bagley

COMMENTS – PLEASE LIMIT TO THREE MINUTES

Clerk Comments – No comments

City Manager Comments – No comments

City Attorney Comments – No comments

City Council Comments-

Councilmember Shirley thanked the citizens who attended the ceremony this evening; we have a great town with significant participation as one of the best small towns in Georgia.

Councilmember Gaddis thanked the staff in the water department for their hard work.

Councilmember Reagin thanked the Chamber staff and volunteers for their efforts to make us one of the best small towns in GA.

Councilmember Bagley remembered Dahlonega from the '70s while attending Ranger school and can genuinely say this town has come a long way and deserves the title of one of the best small towns in Georgia; the goal is to maintain this status.

Mayor Comments – No comments

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Taylor called for an adjournment motion.

Motion made by Councilmember Gaddis, Seconded by Councilmember Reagin.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Larson, Councilmember Gaddis, Councilmember Ariemma, Councilmember Reagin, Councilmember Shirley, Councilmember Bagley