

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
CALLED MEETING WORK SESSION
APRIL 20, 2015
4:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor W. James Grogan called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Present were Mayor James Grogan, Councilmember Mike Sosebee, Councilmember Angie Smith, Councilmember Caleb Phillips, City Attorney Dana Miles, City Clerk Bonnie Warne. Absent was Councilmember Jason Power.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE: Invocation and pledge was led by Angie Smith.

AGENDA: Motion to approve the agenda by: M. Sosebee/A. Smith. Motion carried unanimously in favor by all present.

BUSINESS:

Animal Control Discussion: Attorney Miles stated that based on his legal research, the city has three options on animal control:

(1) Both city and county residents pay ad valorem taxes, which are a large part of what funds animal control, both inside the city and outside the city, the city could enter into an IGA with the county at no cost, using the funding through ad valorem taxes paid to the county. This is the same plan that the city sent to the county in March of 2013. Mayor Grogan stated that the county never responded to this proposal.

(2) The county proposed in a Nov 2014 IGA to provide animal control in the city limits for whatever the county claims that it costs, \$297 per animal, but the problem with that is that the county retains control and the city just writes a check.

(3) The city can provide its own animal control. This option is one that would give the city the most power, but could take the longest to enact. The city would provide the service and then have the right to have a special tax district in the unincorporated areas of the county created. City land owners would not be taxed for the amount of money the county land owners would be taxed for animal control. This option would help offset the cost of the animal control ad valorem "double tax" for city residents still paying.

"If the city is providing that service but the city residents are still paying ad valorem taxes for that service, the city residents are getting double taxed," Attorney Miles said. "If the city provides that service at its expense, it can, by state law; demand the county creates special tax districts."

Motion made for option 1, to attempt sending the county an IGA to provide animal control at no cost to the city by: M. Sosebee/A. Smith. Motion carried unanimously in favor for those present.

Budget Amendment Public Works (Water & Sewer) Department in Enterprise Fund: City Clerk Bonnie Warne requested a budget amendment of \$5100 in the Enterprise Fund for salaries and taxes for 5 weeks for the utility billing position to cover the transition of the new hire and Betty McGehee leaving. Motion to approve budget amendment by: M. Sosebee/C. Phillips. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

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Quotes for Dawsonville Municipal Complex Air Conditioner Repair/Replacement: Mayor Grogan stated that they are working on quotes for the next meeting.

Electric Car Charging Station: Mayor Grogan mentioned installing an electric car charging station in the city. Council agreed to move forward with the research.

Economic Development Grants for New Business: Mayor Grogan spoke on funding the DDA with a sum of money, \$25,000, to use as a grant to use as an incentive (like pay rent a few months) to create activity in getting businesses in the downtown area. C. Phillips asked for details to be drawn up and set criteria for DDA to carryout. It may also involve the Chamber as an economic development tool. Council requested for Attorney Miles to draft guidelines and criteria to consider.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 4:41 p.m. the Council motioned to go close regular session and go into executive session for the purpose of personnel and land acquisition by: M. Sosebee/C. Phillips; the motion carried unanimously. At 5:16 p.m. the Council motioned to close executive session and to reconvene the regular meeting; the motion carried unanimously; M. Sosebee/C Phillips.

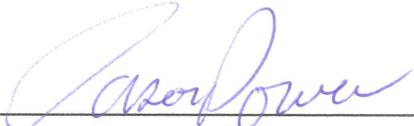
ADJOURNMENT: With there being no further business to attend to the meeting closed and adjourned at 5:16 p.m. The motion carried unanimously; M. Sosebee/A. Smith.



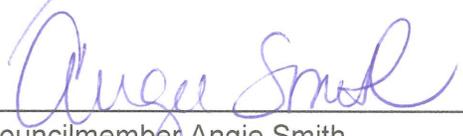
Mayor W. James Grogan



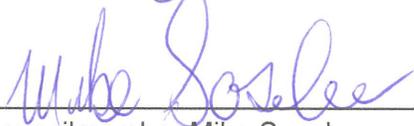
Appointed Councilmember Caleb Phillips



Councilmember Jason Power



Councilmember Angie Smith



Councilmember Mike Sosebee

Attested: 

Bonnie Warne, City Clerk