

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
G.L. Gilleland Council Chambers, City Hall 2nd Floor
Thursday, September 29, 2020
4:00 P.M.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Mike Eason called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.
2. **ROLL CALL:** Present were Councilmember John Walden, Councilmember Mark French, Councilmember Caleb Phillips, Councilmember Stephen Tolson, City Attorney Paul Mitchell, City Manager Bob Bolz, Deputy City Clerk Tracy Smith and Public Works Director Trampas Hansard.
3. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE:** Invocation and Pledge were led by Councilmember Walden.
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Mayor Eason reminded the community to participate in the 2020 census. He also announced early voting starts October 12, 2020. Food Truck night will be this Friday, October 2, 2020 at the Farmer's Market.
5. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Motion to amend the agenda to add a discussion of the October 5, 2020 City Council meeting made by S. Tolson; second by J. Walden. Motion not carried. Vote was three in favor (Tolson, Walden Phillips) with one opposed (French). Vote was not unanimous to amend the agenda of the Special Called meeting as required by the Charter for a Special Called meeting.

Motion to approve the agenda as presented made by C. Phillips; second by S. Tolson. Vote carried unanimously in favor.
6. **PUBLIC INPUT:** No comments from the public.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 4:05 p.m. a motion to close regular session and go into executive session for potential litigation was made by S. Tolson; second by M. French. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

At 4:12 p.m. a motion to close executive session and resume regular session was made by S. Tolson; second by J. Walden. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

BUSINESS

7. **REVIEW CONDITIONS OF THE FIFTY-THIRD ANNUAL MOUNTAIN MOONSHINE FESTIVAL PERMIT:** City Manager Bolz read the staff recommendations for the festival permit on October 23-25, 2020.

Dawson County Fire Chief Danny Thompson expressed concerns about delayed response times which can add two to five minutes responding to emergencies to the west side of the County when Hwy 53 and/or Hwy 9 are closed. He is, however, willing to work with the plan developed by the City and Kare for Kids.

Dawson County Chief Deputy Greg Rowan also stated the department will work with the plan that is developed by the City and Kare for Kids but they do have concerns about the potential of an excessive amount of visitors that will come into the area since this is the only festival being held this year and closing Hwy 53 could create safety issues with the influx of traffic.

Mayor Eason voiced concerns about people parking in areas other than designated parking creating a pedestrian hazard if people do not stay within crosswalks and on sidewalks. The Council shared concerns from local businesses who have stated they desire to remain open and benefit from festival visitors but would have to close if Hwy 53 is closed.

Tom French spoke on behalf of Kare for Kids stating concerns and the inability to control visitors crossing outside of crosswalks. Attorney Mitchell stated the City has addressed the safety concerns by requiring Kare for Kids to utilize parking areas accessible to a sidewalk or a dedicated shuttle service. Mayor Eason reiterated the expectation is for any parking area designated by Kare for Kids that has no sidewalk or crosswalk must have shuttle service. Rhonda Goodwin, Angela Harbin, Tiffany Buchan continued to discuss concerns and logistics of the festival insisting on the full use of Hwy 53 and requesting for it to be closed. Rhonda Goodwin provided details regarding the parade which will occur on Saturday, October 24, 2020 from 9:00 am – 10:00 am.

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Motion made by S. Tolson to ratify the festival permit on October 23-25, 2020 with the following conditions and to consider the closure of Hwy 53 to be determined by the Mayor and/or the Mayor Pro Tem if all areas as provided by City Council throughout Main Street Park, the entire City Hall Complex, Memory Lane and Allen Street are exhausted :

1. KARE is familiar with the CDC Guidelines and the Governor's Executive Order and will make every effort to comply to the Guidelines and Order that are in effect on October 23-25, 2020. This includes KARE providing signs regarding COVID Guidelines.
2. KARE has emailed all vendors and informed each one that they will be required to wear a mask at all times during festival hours. KARE, at their expense, will supply masks and will hand out masks to anyone not wearing a mask. KARE will ask visitors to please wear a mask; however, KARE cannot force anyone to wear a mask.
3. KARE will space vendors at least 10 feet apart to help with social distancing.
4. KARE, at their expense, will have personnel on site to clean the tables placed around the festival food areas. The same personnel will remain in the food area to help maintain social distancing.
5. KARE has emailed all vendors and informed them that they must provide hand sanitizer at their booths.
6. KARE, will inform the vendors that as a condition of their vendor permit from KARE, no sales may be made by anyone not wearing a mask. Vendors who violate this rule will have their permit revoked by KARE and asked to immediately leave the festival.
7. KARE will have two or more volunteers checking temperatures of all vendors when they arrive each day. KARE will have a spreadsheet with all names and will document all temperatures. No vendor shall be allowed to begin interacting with the public or engage in sales until their temperatures has been checked and verified to be normal in accordance with CDC guidelines.
8. KARE, at their expense, will provide for cleaning of the City's restrooms and any rental port-a-potties used at the festival every three hours.
9. KARE will only utilize parking areas that are accessible by city sidewalks and/or a KARE provided shuttle service.
10. KARE will use only the areas designated on the map for vendors and the festival consisting of Main Street Park, Allen Street, Memory Lane and the city-owned area around the City Hall/GRHOF complex.
 - Closed Road Allen St – City Hall Alley: 910' = 45 spaces
 - Rear Parking GRHOF: 984' = 48 spaces
 - Side of GRHOF adjacent to Food Lion parking: 180' = 9 spaces
 - Main Street Park: 690' = 56 spaces
 - Allen St – Farmer's Market: 601' = 30 spaces
 - Allen Street/Thunder Road – Library: 1190' = 33 spaces
 - Memory Lane – Jack Heard St: 1,000' = 50 spaces
 - Farmer's Market less covered area: 423' = 21 spaces
 - Total Vendor Space: 5,978' = 292 ea. 10' x 10' spaces w/10' distance between each space

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11. Highway 53 and Highway 9 will not be closed or used for the Festival other than the Parade which will be from 9:00 am to 10:00 am on Saturday, October 24, 2020.
12. KARE will be charged for all cleanup costs following the Festival by invoice from the City and shall pay the same within ten (10) days of invoice date.

Second by J. Walden. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

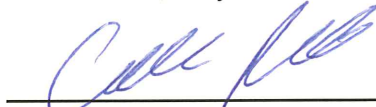
ADJOURNMENT:

At 5:22 p.m. a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by S. Tolson; second by J. Walden. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

By: CITY OF DAWSONVILLE



Mike Eason, Mayor



Caleb Phillips, Councilmember Post 1



Stephen Tolson, Councilmember Post 2



John Walden, Councilmember Post 3



Mark French, Councilmember Post 4

Attested:



Beverly A. Bahister, City Clerk

