



**City of Nelson**  
**Council Meeting Minutes**  
August 5, 2024 @ 7:00pm  
Nelson City Hall

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Sylvia Green called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**Attendance**

The following persons were present: Mayor Sylvia Green, Councilman James Queen, Councilman Nathan Hamby, Councilman William Taylor, Councilwoman Kristeen MacNeill, Councilman John Ahlberg, Finance Manager Miranda McDowell, City Clerk Kelsey Riehl and City Attorney Jeff Rusbridge.

**2. Invocation**

Mayor Green led the invocation.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mr. James Queen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. Agenda Approval**

Mrs. Kristeen MacNeill made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Nathan Hamby, All in favor, Vote unanimous...

**5. Public Appearance**

Mr. Thomas Weaver

Comments regarding City Regulatory Fees for Gun Shooting Ranges & Gun Brokers.

**6. Approval of Minutes**

a. July 1, 2024 Council Meeting Minutes – Mrs. Kristeen MacNeill made a motion to approve the July 1, 2024 minutes, seconded by Mr. William Taylor, All in favor, Vote unanimous...

b. July 22, 2024 Special Called Meeting & Public Hearing Millage Rate Minutes – Mr. Kristeen MacNeill made a motion to approve the July 22, 2024 Special Called Meeting & Public Hearing Millage Rate Minutes, seconded by Mr. William Taylor, All in favor, Vote unanimous...

c. July 25, 2024 Special Called Meeting Minutes (T-SPLOST Pickens Co.) – Mr. William Taylor made a motion to approve the July 25, 2024 Special Called Meeting Minutes (T-SPLOST Pickens Co.), Seconded by Mr. James Queen, All in favor, Vote unanimous...

## **7. Department Reports**

a. Police Report – Cherokee Co Sheriffs Dept., Lt. Brooke Anderson introduced herself as the new Lt. over the Ball Ground Precinct.

b. Mayor's Report – Mayor Green stated the next Movies in the Park will be on Sept. 14, 2024. She stated she will hold a Mayor's reading for the kids prior to the start of the movie. Mayor Green reported on the trees that came down during the recent storms, she stated Jasper Mayor Kirk Raffield brought a crew to assist with the clean-up. She notified the Council that she and City Clerk Kelsey Riehl will be attending training in Cartersville on Aug. 8<sup>th</sup> and she will attend the Mayor's training in Athens at the end of August in Athens.

c. Finance Report – Mrs. Miranda McDowell went over the current bank balances and where the city is with the FY25 budget. She stated the FY24 audit will be starting soon.

## **8. Unfinished Business**

a. HI Zoning Ordinance Amendments – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading - Atty Jeff Rusbridge stated he made the requested revisions to the HI Zoning Ordinance. Mr. William Taylor made a motion to approve the HI Zoning Ordinance Revisions, Seconded by Mr. James Queen, All in favor, Vote unanimous...

b. Sanitation Property – Mayor Green stated she met with the Broker for Ratman Holdings, and Cherokee Co Officials, Mr. Geoff Morton, Mr. Scott Gordon and Mr. Eddie Robinson (proposed Cherokee Co Fire Station property). There are 2 - 4-acre tracts which could be used for the City Sanitation / Maintenance Property as well as the proposed Cherokee Co Fire Station, she will keep the Council updated as additional information is received. She stated the Broker gave the City of Nelson a donation from his personal account in the amount of \$1,000 to use for City Events because he loves the progress the City has been making.

c. Infrastructure Project – Hillside St. & Cherokee Ave. – Mrs. Kelsey Riehl stated the City Engineer, Mr. Barry Holbert, sent the survey for the property recently acquired by the City, located behind 61 Dogwood Pass. He is working on the revised drawings for the upcoming infrastructure project and should have them completed very soon. Mayor Green stated she will keep the Council updated as she receives information.

d. FY24 Budget Amendments – Mrs. Miranda McDowell went over some of the amendments. She stated there is still one change that needs to be made so the item will be tabled until the next meeting.

e. Park Expansion – RDS Proposal for CDs – Mayor Green stated Root Design sent a proposal for Construction Drawings for the Park Expansion, the total for the proposal is \$36,000 plus a Stream Buffer Variance (if required) for \$4,000. Mr. William Taylor made a motion to approve the CD Proposal in the amount of \$36,000 plus the \$4,000 for the Stream Buffer Variance, if required, Seconded by Mr. John Ahlberg, All in favor, Vote unanimous...

## **9. New Business**

a. Fire Station Lease – Cherokee Co. – Mrs. Kelsey Riehl stated the prior lease with Cherokee Co for the Fire Station at 89 Dogwood Pass recently expired. Cherokee Co Administrator, Mr. Geoff Morton, sent a new lease for the next five years. The lease terms are the same as the previous lease signed in April of 2018. Mr. James Queen

made a motion to approve the Fire Station Lease with Cherokee Co., Seconded by Mr. Nathan Hamby, All in favor, Vote unanimous...

b. Office Furniture – City Hall – Mayor Green stated the City received an estimate from Mr. Darrell Russell to custom build two desks and two wall units for the City Hall offices. She stated Mr. Russell recently built the new conference table for the meeting room and did a phenomenal job and gave the city a reduced price. The total estimate for the four pieces of furniture is \$7,490. Mrs. Kelsey Riehl stated there are comparable prices for similar furniture included in the Council packet, all prices are much higher than Mr. Russell's and there would be additional charges for shipping. She stated the prices Mr. Russell quoted for custom built furniture are very low and the furniture will be made from solid paint grade wood with walnut tops. The furniture quote also includes the finish which is usually an additional charge for custom made pieces. The Council and Mayor discussed the quote. Mrs. Kristeen MacNeill made a motion to approve the quote from Mr. Russell for \$7,490 for the four pieces of office furniture, Seconded by Mr. James Queen, All in favor, Vote unanimous...

#### **10. Executive Session – Litigation**

NA

#### **11. Adjourn**

Mr. Nathan Hamby made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. William Taylor, All in favor, Vote unanimous...

Mayor Sylvia Green adjourned the meeting.

Minutes submitted by Kelsey Riehl

Minutes approved by \_\_\_\_\_