

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 9, 2009
7:00 P.M.**

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER: Mayor Cox called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and recognized council members elect James Grogan and Calvin Byrd.

ROLL CALL: Those present included Mayor Cox, Council Members Jonathan Cox, Mike Wilson, Linda Grant, and Mike Sosebee. Staff present included Dana Miles, Kim Cornelison, Bonnie Warne, Gary Barr and Russ Chambers.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE: Invocation was led by Mayor Cox, followed by the pledge.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council approved the minutes from the regular meeting held October 5, 2009. Motion by Linda Grant, second by Mike Wilson, the motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Proclamation recognizing November as Family Month. Dana Miles read the proclamation in to the minutes; it is attached as Exhibit "A". Kim Cornelison presented the proclamation to Bishop Eric Pennington of the Church of Jesus Christ of the Later Day Saints. Bishop Pennington expressed his gratitude to the city and offered his church's services in the future for social service projects.

Proclamation November as National Home Healthcare Month. Dana Miles read the proclamation in to the minutes; it is attached as Exhibit "B". Kim Cornelison presented the proclamation to Cindy Reynolds of Tugaloo Home Healthcare.

Report - Gordon Pirkle on the 2009 GRHOF Inductee Banquet. Gordon Pirkle reported on the 2009 Inductee Banquet stating that he has attended every banquet since its inception. This year we inducted eight new members on the Friday of the Moonshine Festival. This year's banquet was the most organized and businesslike ran banquet ever. Mr. Pirkle expressed his appreciation to Kim Cornelison and Bonnie Warne for really taking charge of the operations. He further stated that the banquet had approximately 300 people in attendance.

Report - Calvin Byrd on the annual Mountain Moonshine Festival. Calvin Byrd, sold 350 vendor spots which netted Kare for Kids, Inc. approximately \$65,000 for the Christmas fund. Approximately \$31,000.00 was then given to other organization who are instrumental in helping with festival operations run smoothly. Mr. Byrd reported on a few small issues that arose with the festival stating that Kare for Kids, Inc. worked through most of them. Mr. Byrd expressed commended the Dawson County Sheriff's Department for all of their help keeping the traffic running smoothly and stated he has met with DCSO staff to work on traffic flow improvements.

Mr. Byrd stated the committee would like to look in to the possibility of keeping the downtown area closed for the 48 hours of the event to keep show cars in place and satify vendor needs.

He further stated that Kare for Kids has already signed up 150 families and expects it to rise. Last year Kare for Kids served 304 families and 617 kids spending about \$75,000. He hopes to fulfill everyone's needs in spite of the fact that they have a little less revenue to operate under.

Mrs. Robin Smith thanked the council for allowing the car show to be held at city hall saying that it is the perfect backdrop for the event because of the Georgia Racing Hall of Fame. She reported on the car show stating that it was the most successful show to date with 435 cars. The event ran smoothly for the most part stating she intends to work with Food Lion next year to improve the parking situation next year.

Report - Sheriff Carlisle on the traffic/safety of the festival. Sheriff Carlisle presented a couple changes in the traffic plan that he would like incorporated next year. These changes are designed to help keep

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vehicle traffic away from pedestrian traffic. It is difficult because the festival grows each year and with it comes more traffic and pedestrians. Sheriff Carlisle expressed his appreciation to the council stating that the new sidewalks have helped the situation. The streets need to be blocked with barricades that cannot be moved because people try to move them.

Sheriff Carlisle stated that volunteer organizations help with installing the signage but he would like the city to help verify that the signage being installed is the correct signage and more secure barricades would help the DCSO out.

The only issue this year was one minor private property incident – other than traffic.

Health Board Appointment – Mary Lou Detwiler (Reappointment). Mayor Cox asked the council to endorse the reappointment of Mary Lou Detwiler to the Health Board. Mike Sosebee made a motion to reappoint Ms. Detwiler; Linda Grant seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Sign Permit Variance Request – 800 block of Hwy. 53 East, George Freisem applicant. Mr. Freisem has made a request to replace a billboard that used to be on the site; staff responded to the request stating that the request did not meet code and that he would need to submit a variance for the council to consider. To that end Mr. Freisem submitted a letter asking for a variance to the code to install a digital billboard on one side and static on the other side.

Mr. Freisem explained that they did have a permit originally for the site but ran in to several issues and could not immediately install the new billboard.

Dana Miles stated that if the council grants the requests then he would recommend it be given a conditional use permit to the affect that the billboard can remain intact until such time that the property is developed in accordance with its zoning classification.

Jonathan Cox made a motion to approve the request with a conditional use permit. The billboard can be installed and remain up until such point as the property is developed consistent with its zoning classification. Mike Wilson seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

Historic Sign Permit – Creative Visions Salon 5 Hwy. 9 South. Mayor Cox presented the historic sign permit application; Bonnie Warne reported that the application was in order. Jonathan Cox made a motion to approve the sign permit; Mike Wilson seconded it. Motion carried unanimously.

City Council meetings and recognized holidays calendar. Kim Cornelison presented a calendar outlining all of the City Council meetings, Planning Commission meetings and recognized holidays under the city's personnel ordinance. Linda Grant made a motion to approve the calendar; Mike Wilson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Veteran's Day Parade and Activities - Wednesday, November 11, 2009. Kim Cornelison reminded the council about Veterans Day and that the City would have a float available for elected officials to ride on. Parade line up begins at 2:15 p.m. with the parade beginning at 3 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

ANX-09-003: Mark Sosebee Realty, LLC / Agora Foods, LLC has requested Annexation for than less than an acre parcel at 638 HWY 9 N, TMP D05-026. Current zoning is CCB; the applicant has requested a rezoning of CIR (Restricted Industrial Commercial) upon annexation. City Council hearing dates: November 9, 2009 and December 7, 2009.

Dana Miles opened the public hearing on ANX-09-003. There were approximately 16 people in attendance and no public comment. Mike Sosebee abstained from any discussion or voting stating he had a conflict of interest.

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Jonathan Cox made a motion to approve ANX-09-003; Mike Wilson seconded. The motion carried: 3-0-1, three in favor, no one against, and one abstained.

ZA-09-09-140: Mark Sosebee Realty, LLC / Agora Foods, LLC has requested a Zoning Map Amendment for the less than an acre parcel at 638 HWY 9 N, TMP D05-026. Currently Zoned; CCB. The applicant has requested a rezoning of CIR (Restricted Industrial Commercial). Pending approval of ANX-09-003.

Dana Miles opened the public hearing on ZA-09-09-140. There were approximately 16 people in attendance and no public comment. Mike Sosebee abstained from any discussion or voting stating he had a conflict of interest.

Jonathan Cox made a motion to approve ZA-09-09-140; Linda Grant seconded. The motion carried: 3-0-1, three in favor, no one against, and one abstained.

ANX-09-004: Mark Sosebee Realty, LLC / Agora Foods, LLC has requested Annexation for than less than an acre parcel at HWY 9 N, TMP D05-034. Current zoning is VCR; the applicant has requested a rezoning of CIR (Restricted Industrial Commercial) upon annexation. City Council hearing dates: November 9, 2009 and December 7, 2009.

Dana Miles opened the public hearing on ANX-09-004. There were approximately 16 people in attendance and no public comment. Mike Sosebee abstained from any discussion or voting stating he had a conflict of interest.

Jonathan Cox made a motion to approve ANX-09-004; Linda Grant seconded. The motion carried: 3-0-1, three in favor, no one against, and one abstained.

ZA-09-09-141: Mark Sosebee Realty, LLC / Agora Foods, LLC has requested a Zoning Map Amendment for the less than an acre parcel at HWY 9 N, TMP D05-034. Currently Zoned; VCR. The applicant has requested a rezoning of CIR (Restricted Industrial Commercial). Pending approval of ANX-09-004.

Dana Miles opened the public hearing on ZA-09-09-141. There were approximately 16 people in attendance and no public comment. Mike Sosebee abstained from any discussion or voting stating he had a conflict of interest.

Jonathan Cox made a motion to approve ZA-09-09-141; Mike Wilson seconded. The motion carried: 3-0-1, three in favor, no one against, and one abstained.

Ordinance Charter Amendment. To hear an ordinance to amend the charter of the City of Dawsonville to provide for a procedure for setting a calendar of regular meeting dates and times; to provide a provision for calling special meetings, and for other purposes.

Dana Miles opened the public hearing on the ordinance to amend the charter. There were approximately 16 people in attendance and there was no public comment. Mr. Miles reminded the council the intent of the ordinance would allow the council to change the meeting date without having to change your charter. The council can set via resolution, the meeting dates and times for each year. If the council fails to set a calendar then the meeting will default to the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m.

Jonathan Cox made a motion to approve the ordinance to amend the charter; Mike Sosebee made a motion to second. The motion carried unanimously.

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MAYOR'S REPORT:

GMRC Annual Reception and Dinner: Friday, December 4, 2009 Mayor Cox made the council aware that the annual GMRC – if any members of the council intends to attend then make reservations with Kim Cornelison no later than November 24th.

Letter from Dawson County Schools: Mayor Cox read a letter from Keith Porter, School Superintendent thanking the city for the new sidewalks along Allen Street. The letter is incorporated herein as Exhibit "C".

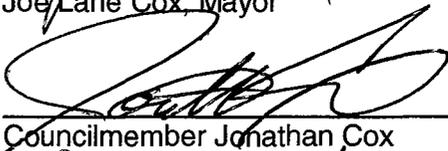
Annual Tree Lighting: Saturday, December 5, 2009 Mayor Cox made an announcement that the tree lighting will be Saturday, December 5th – an agenda of all of the events will be coming out soon.

Dana Miles made a public announcement that there will be a specially called meeting for Tuesday, December 1, 2009 at 5 p.m. to issue the oath of office of the newly elected council. They will take office effective January 1, 2010.

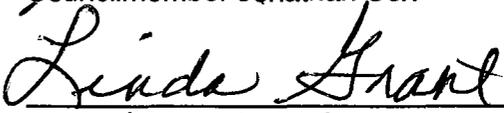
ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to attend to, Mike Sosebee made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mike Wilson. Meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.



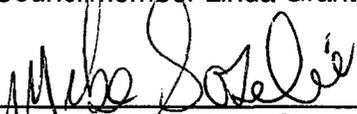
Joe Lane Cox, Mayor



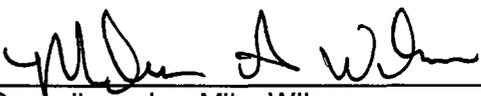
Councilmember Jonathan Cox



Councilmember Linda Grant



Councilmember Mike Sosebee



Councilmember Mike Wilson

Attested: 

Kim Cornelison, City Clerk



Proclamation

Recognizing November as Family Month



WHEREAS, the City of Dawsonville recognizes the family as the fundamental unit of society and an essential part of cultural, social and spiritual fabric that comprises our communities; and

WHEREAS, throughout Georgia's history, families have been the foundation of our society and a source of stability and love for every generation; and

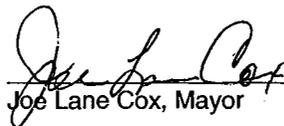
WHEREAS, strong families teach children to live moral lives and help us pass down the values that define a caring society. Families provide children with the encouragement, support and love they need to become confident, compassionate and successful members of society; and

WHEREAS, upholding the timeless values that have sustained our social order throughout history will result in the enhancement of the health and security of Georgia's families; and

WHEREAS, spending more family time together facilitates the development of positive and open relationships between parents and children. These relationships help parents encourage their children to make positive choices;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOE LANE COX, Mayor of the City of Dawsonville, Georgia, do hereby proclaim the month of November, 2009 as Family Month urging all our citizens to spend quality time with family members to strengthen relationships between parents and children.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Dawsonville to be affixed this 9th day of November, 2009.



Joe Lane Cox, Mayor

Attest:



Kim Cornelison
City Administrator/Clerk



Exhibit "A"



Proclamation

Recognizing November as
National Home Care Month



Whereas, home care services provide high quality and compassionate health care services to those in need, especially at times of community or personal health care crisis,

Whereas, home care is the most preferred method of health care delivery among disabled, elderly, and chronically ill individuals eager to live independently in their own homes as long as they possibly can; and

Whereas, home care services allow families to stay together, and provide for greater health, dignity and comfort in our communities; and

Whereas, home care in the United States is a growing alternative to hospitalization or other institution-based forms of health care for acute, chronic and terminal illnesses, providing care to millions of Americans each year; and

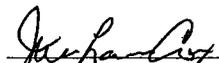
Whereas, thousands of everyday heroes such as home care nurses, therapists and aides work tirelessly to provide professional health care and support to millions of Americans in need of quality health services; and

Whereas, these dedicated home care professionals and volunteers form a support network that continues to play a vital role in health care delivery for our nation's disabled, infirm and aging population; and

Whereas, Amedisys Home Health Care, the National Association for Home Care, and thousands of home care and hospice agencies across the United States have declared the month of November as National Home Care Month and are calling on all Americans to observe these occasions with appropriate ceremonies and activities;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that I, Joe Lane Cox, Mayor, do hereby proclaim November as NATIONAL HOME CARE MONTH in the city of Dawsonville, Georgia and encourage the support and participation of all citizens in learning more about the home care and hospice concepts of care for the elderly, disabled, and infirm.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Dawsonville to be affixed this 9th day of November, 2009.


Joe Lane Cox, Mayor

ATTEST:


Kim Cornelison, City
Administrator/Clerk



Exhibit "B"



Dawson County Schools

517 Allen Street
Dawsonville, GA 30534
(706) 265-3246
FAX (706) 265-1226
www.dawsoncountyschools.org
Keith Porter
Superintendent

Board Members:
Cecil L. Bennett, Chairman
Roger D. Slaton, Vice-Chairman
Doris N. Cook
Elaine W. Wilson
William S. Wade

November 2, 2009

Dawson County City Hall
c/o Mayor Joe Lane Cox
P.O. Box 6
Dawsonville, GA 30534

Dear Mayor Cox and City Council Members:

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation and that of the Dawson County Board of Education for the new sidewalks that have been added around the City of Dawsonville. The sidewalks that you have provided are in areas that have, in the past, been walking trails for our students. The sidewalks will provide our students safe access to the downtown area, the public library, our other Dawsonville schools, as well as, other important venues. We have already noted our students using the sidewalks regularly, and we have also viewed our Cross Country Team jogging on the sidewalks. It greatly reduces our concern for their safety when we see them using the sidewalks.

I realize that these are very challenging economic times and that the development of the sidewalks remained a priority for the City is something for which we are thankful and appreciative. You are definitely taking substantial steps in creating a wonderful downtown atmosphere that can only help strengthen our area and better serve our community.

We look forward to continuing to work as partners with you as we each attempt to improve services for our constituents. Please let this letter serve as an expression of our sincere gratitude.

Sincerely,

Keith Porter
Superintendent
Dawson County Schools

EXHIBIT "C"