

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
G.L. Gilleland Council Chambers on 2nd Floor
Monday, March 3, 2025
5:00 P.M.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Walden called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.
2. **ROLL CALL:** Councilmember William Illg, Councilmember Sandy Sawyer, Councilmember Caleb Phillips, City Attorney Kevin Tallant, City Manager Bob Bolz, City Clerk Beverly Banister, Public Works Director Trampas Hansard, Utility Director Jacob Barr, Finance Director Robin Gazaway, Downtown Development Director Amanda Edmondson and Zoning Administrative Assistant Stacy Harris.

Councilmember French was not in attendance.
3. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE:** Invocation and pledge were led by Councilmember Illg.
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** None
5. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Motion to approve the agenda as presented made by W. Illg; second by C. Phillips. Vote carried unanimously in favor.
6. **PUBLIC INPUT:** None
7. **CONSENT AGENDA:** Motion to approve the consent agenda for the following items (a-b) made by S. Sawyer; second by C. Phillips. Vote carried unanimously in favor.
 - a. Approve Minutes
 - Regular Meeting held February 3, 2025
 - Executive Session held February 3, 2025
 - Special Called Meetings held February 7, 2025 and February 8, 2025
 - Special Called Meeting held February 18, 2025
 - Executive Session held February 18, 2025
 - b. Approve 2025 Farmer's Market Use Agreement with Dawson County Chamber of Commerce

BUSINESS

8. **ATLANTA MOTORSPORTS PARK: SPECIAL EVENT REQUEST TO EXCEED SOUND LIMITS:** Councilmember Illg asked Scott Renner from AMP if there were any other events for this year which would require a request for an exception to the sound limits; Mr. Renner stated not at this time. The Council also discussed the timing of the events on Sunday with Mr. Renner.

Motion to approve the request to allow an exception to sound limits described in stipulation #17 of ZSP C2300063 for a maximum of 70 dBA LEQ (16) with trackside readings below 105 dB at fifty feet on Friday, May 30, 2025 and May 31, 2025 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and June 1, 2025 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. stipulating no track activity permitted on June 1, 2025 between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m., ensure all sound meters are working and applicant to notify adjoining neighbors of special event made by W. Illg; second by C. Phillips. Vote carried unanimously in favor.
9. **ORDINANCE NO. 01-2025: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DAWSONVILLE, GEORGIA, TO ADDRESS CERTAIN PERMITTED USES IN DISTRICTS OF THE CITY, AND TO ADDRESS DEFINITIONS. FIRST READING: MARCH 3, 2025; PUBLIC HEARING, SECOND READING AND CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT: MARCH 17, 2025:** Attorney Tallant provided the specifics and read the first reading of Ordinance No. 01-1025.
10. **CONTRACT WITH GEORGIA TECH ENTERPRISE INNOVATION INSTITUTE FOR A FEASIBILITY STUDY:** Motion to approve the contract with Georgia Tech as presented made by W. Illg; second by S. Sawyer. Vote carried unanimously in favor.
11. **UPDATE TO PERSONNEL POLICY; INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY:** Motion to approve the update to the City of Dawsonville Personnel Policy to include an Inclement Weather Policy as presented made by C. Phillips; second by W. Illg. Vote carried unanimously in favor. (Exhibit "A")
12. **INSTALLATION OF LIGHTS ON THE BASKETBALL COURT AT MAIN STREET PARK:** Motion to approve the bid from Signature Tennis Courts in the amount of \$29,750.00 to be paid out of impact fees made by W. Illg; second by S. Sawyer. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

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13. **INSTALLATION OF FLOCK CAMERAS AT MAIN STREET PARK:** Motion to approve a quote from Flock Group, Inc. in the amount of \$21,800.00 to be paid out of the FY 2025 General Fund Budget made by W. Illg; second by C. Phillips. Vote carried unanimously in favor.
14. **PROPOSAL FROM BM&K CONSTRUCTION & ENGINEERING FIRM:** Motion to appoint BM&K Construction & Engineering Firm for paving projects and to approve their quote for engineering, construction engineering and inspection of Maple Street, Richmond Drive and Maple Street Townhomes Subdivision in the amount of \$77,250.00 to be paid out of SPLOST VII made by W. Illg; second by C. Phillips. Vote carried unanimously in favor.
15. **UPDATE ON GOLD CREEK DRIVE:** Public Works Director Hansard reported he has contacted the representative from Gold Creek Subdivision's HOA, Beth Duncan, and is waiting to hear back from her to schedule a meeting.
16. **APPOINTMENTS TO THE CITY OF DAWSONVILLE ETHICS BOARD:** Motion to table the item to the March 17, 2025 City Council Meeting made by W. Illg; second by C. Phillips. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilmember Sawyer reported she and Amanda Edmondson participated in Local Government Day with Leadership Dawson and it was a great experience; Ms. Edmondson agreed.

Mayor Walden reported he was appointed to the Executive Board with GMRC and stated he is honored to serve in this capacity.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5.23 p.m. a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by W. Illg; second by S. Sawyer. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

Approved this 17th day of March 2025

By: CITY OF DAWSONVILLE



John Walden, Mayor



Caleb Phillips, Councilmember Post 1



William Illg, Councilmember Post 2



Sandra Sawyer, Councilmember Post 3



Mark French, Councilmember Post 4

Attest:



Beverly A. Banister, City Clerk

3.4 to be revised to 3.4.1 – Emergency Callout

Add 3.4.2 – Essential Personnel – Emergency Preparedness

For the purpose of preparedness and response to major weather events which occur in the Dawsonville area (severe storms, hurricanes, tornadoes, flooding, snow, ice, bitter cold), Essential Personnel shall include the City Manager, the Assistant City Manager, the Director of Public Works, the Utility Director and associated mission critical non-exempt field personnel. Occasionally some office personnel may be identified as Essential. Essential personnel, exempt and non-exempt employees, may be required to work after normal working hours, during hours when City Hall is closed, and for extended continuous periods. They may also be required to temporarily shelter overnight at City-owned properties, rather than traveling to/from their residence or working their typical shift. Accordingly, non-exempt employees required to work after normal hours due to City Emergencies, including hours when City Hall is closed, as determined by the City Manager, may be compensated for that time worked in excess of a 40-hour period at the normal overtime rate of one-and-a-half times their normal hourly rate, as required by federal, state, and local laws. At the discretion of the City Council, if work is deemed high hazard (that is, it poses a significant risk to life, health, and safety of the employee), the City may compensate identified hours work of exempt and non-exempt personnel at other rates higher than their normal rate of pay.

Add 3.4.3 – Inclement Weather

The following policies shall apply to all employees during inclement weather resulting in the closing of City Hall. In the event of hazardous weather, or other occurrence resulting in the closure of City Hall as approved by the City Manager, he/she will notify the Mayor and the City Council as soon as possible. In the event of City Hall closure outside of normal closed hours, all employees who are scheduled to work during the period for which the City is officially closed will be paid. All Employees shall be paid closure pay if their regular scheduled shift is affected and shall be paid for the hours normally worked in their scheduled shifts. Employees on approved PTO or scheduled Off during this time will not receive closure pay unless he/she were returning to work on the day the City has declared offices will be closed. If questionable weather exists, but the City is open for business, employees should make their own independent safety determinations concerning travel to work. If the employee elects not to attend work due to safety concerns when the City is open for business, the employee's absence will be charged against any accrued PTO. If no such accrued PTO exists, the employee will not be compensated.

Essential employees who are required to report to work during a City closure will receive closure pay and regular pay for the hours of work performed.