

City of Dawsonville
June 5, 2006
7:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting of the City Council

Mayor Cox called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Invocation and Pledge: Steve Holder led the invocation and pledge.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the April 3, 2006 City Council meeting were unanimously approved. Grant/Wilson.

Roll Call: Those present were Mayor Joe Lane Cox, Council Members Linda Grant, Mike Wilson, Mike Sosebee, Kim Cornelison, Steve Holder and Dana Miles.

Mayor Cox explained that Jonathan Cox was absent due his father's illness and they were still trying to get him hospitalized.

Mayor Cox also asked everyone to keep Water & Sewer Superintendent Gary Barr and his family in their prayers; Mr. Barr's family is dealing with the terminal illness of his mother.

Mayor Cox asked Charlie Auverman to make an announcement. Mr. Auverman stated that he has been selected as the new Executive Director of the Development Authority and the Industrial Development Authority. He leaves Dawson Community News effective next week. He stated in his discussions with the Development Authority that their intent was to cooperate with the City. He hopes for a lot of communication and cooperation between the agencies. Mayor Cox and the council congratulated Mr. Auverman stating he will do an outstanding job as the Executive Director as he did an outstanding job for the paper.

Old Business:

Pouring License: To hear Alcoholic Beverage License Application: Peach Brandy Cottage, by and through Caroline Christie, President, has made application to for a Consumption on the Premises Alcoholic Beverage License for business located at 3 Shepherds Lane, Dawsonville, Georgia. This item of business was tabled at the January 9, 2006 meeting; applicant did not have requisite business license. On May 4, 2006 a business license was issued to applicant. The City Clerk stated as a matter of record Ms. Christie withdrew the distilled spirits pouring portion of the application and has been refunded for such. She is requesting the ability to pour both beer and wine. The application was unanimously approved and adopted. Sosebee/Grant.

New Business:

Adult Literacy Center Report: David Brown, Director of the Adult Literacy Center addressed the Council giving a brief report of statistics on the center. A copy of the report is attached to the minutes. Mr. Brown stated that the success of his program has been because of the funding the City gave then which allowed them to extend hours of operation and because of the positive reinforcement by the City, the County and local newspapers.

Mr. Brown thanked the council for their financial support and looks forward to providing more positive reports in the future.

Mayor Cox and the council stated that they appreciate the work Mr. Brown is doing that that it is nice to see that their donation to the program has had a positive return.

Parade & Public Assembly Application: The council unanimously voted to table this item of business until the July meeting as Ms. Smith was unable to attend the meeting and speak on behalf of the request. Sosebee/Wilson.

Public Hearings:

Ordinances:

Georgia Power Franchise Amendment: Amendment to Franchise granted to Georgia Power Company by the City of Dawsonville (Ordinance Amending Franchise Adopted on September 11, 1975). (Second reading).

Dana Miles stated that the revisions discussed at the last meeting were incorporated into the ordinance. Specifically the timing of the ordinance was changed to expire in 2016 and to make it clear that if any sidewalks are granted through the Better Hometown program then they will be excepted from the part that the City would have to fund. Several changes were made that will be beneficial to the City of Dawsonville in the future.

Dana Miles opened the public hearing, there being no comment the public hearing was closed.

The second reading and adoption of the ordinance passed unanimously. Sosebee/Grant.

Zoning Ordinance Amendment: An ordinance to amend the zoning ordinance of the City of Dawsonville, Georgia, to amend and provide for additional residential zoning classifications and regulations, to provide for health, safety, morality, and welfare related limitations on density and buildings in residential zoning districts, to add definitions related to same, to provide for an application withdrawal procedure, to provide for a postponement procedure, to provide for an effective date, and for other purposes.

Steve Holder stated that the ordinance provides for a new zoning classification of R-6. This will clarify R-3 which is single family residential at a density of three per acre. R-6 will be for multifamily residential, for instance townhomes, apartments, duplexes and condominiums. It also provides for postponement and withdrawal procedures which will help clarify the process for both staff and applicants to follow. Finally it provides for definitions to very specific terminology often used in the Planning and Zoning department.

Dana Miles opened the public hearing, there being no comment the public hearing was closed.

The second reading and adoption of the zoning ordinance amendment was unanimously approved. Grant/Sosebee.

Annexations:

To hear Annexation Petition 06-002: Dida Spicer has made a request to annex 0.684 acres of TMP 093-073. The subject property is located at 868 Hwy. 9 South. The property is currently zoned R-1 and is requested to be OD. (Second hearing).

Mayor Cox stated that this property has sewage problems and the county issued citations. The city has discussed with the property owner the possibility of hooking up to City sewer. Until the issues are cleared up, Mayor Cox asked the council to table this annexation.

The council unanimously approved tabling Annexation Petition 06-002 until the citation and issues are cleared up. Sosebee/Grant.

To hear Annexation Petition 06-017: Pam and George Power have made a request to annex 3.532 acres of TMP 091-010-004. The subject property is located at the corner of Hwy. 136 and Hwy. 9 N. The property is currently zoned R-A and will be R-1 upon annexation. (First hearing.)

Dana Miles opened the public hearing, there being no comment the public hearing was closed.

The first reading of Annexation Petition 06-017 was unanimously approved. Grant/Sosebee.

Mayors Report:

TDS Engineering outstanding invoices: The issue of outstanding unpaid invoices totaling nearly \$27,000.00 with TSD Engineerings has been settled. At a meeting between Mrs. Anna Shumaker, her husband Genndy Shumaker, Kim Cornelison, Steve Holder and the Mayor, a consensus was reached to write off the outstanding invoices due to incomplete billing information and the agreement that there was not enough documentation to support the invoices. Mrs. Shumaker has agreed to go forward with correcting the monuments being incorrectly located and the City will pay for these services. Mayor Cox stated he felt like there will be a good working relationship in the future with TSD Engineering.

July 3rd will be "Thunder in the Sky" fireworks display: Last year the City gave \$2,000 towards this event and the Mayor requested the council do the same for this year. Council unanimously approved amending the budget to allocated \$2,000 to the Georgia Racing Hall of Fame Commission for the purpose of providing a fire works display on July 3rd at Thunder in the Sky. Sosebee/Wilson.

Dawson County High School Annexation: Mayor Cox updated the council regarding the status of the Dawson County High School annexation. Mayor Cox explained the history and the mediation process the City and County went through. The City has received another letter from the school board again requesting that the property be located within the City; this letter has been forwarded to the County.

City Maintenance Barn: The new maintenance barn is located at the end of Maple Street and we are nearly completely moved out of the old fire station. The only things yet to be completed at the new maintenance barn are insulation, drywall and the paving up front.

DOT Paving Dawsonville Municipal Complex: The City has received notice from the Department of Transportation to assist with the paving of the parking all the way around the building and the side street at the Dawsonville Municipal Complex. Dana Miles has reviewed and certified the right-of-way agreement and instructed the council that a vote authorizing the mayor to execute the right-of-way agreement would be required to proceed with this project. The Council unanimously agreed to authorize the mayor to execute the agreement. Sosebee/Grant.

Phillips Well Sites: Mayor Cox reported that the closing was held June 2, 2006 on the two Phillips well sites.

GMRDC Dues: Mayor Cox asked the council for authorization to allow the City of Dawsonville to pay its own dues to Georgia Mountains Regional Development Council; it will amount to approximately \$1,000. The Council unanimously agreed to authorize the Mayor to expend funds necessary to pay the City's dues. Sosebee/Grant.

Shoal Creek Road Paving Project: This project has been completed and was extended to the bridge. The job was satisfactory and to DOT specifications. The small extension to the bridge will be covered by City funds as that extension was not included in the original project.

Perimeter Road: There is a contract pending regarding widening Perimeter Road to Shoal Creek to 9 North two feet on each side and to build a turning lane from Robinson Elementary School back to the end of Mark Sosebee's land. Sosebee has agreed to give a ten foot easement to make that turn lane. The County owns the right-of-way and has concerns that the funds expended by DOT for this project would affect their DOT allotment. Mayor Cox contacted DOT to see if there could be exceptions to this. DOT agreed to fund the project without affecting the County's allotment if the County will certify the right-of-way. Mayor Cox stated he will continue to work on this project.

Public Comment:

Annie Dean Samples thanked the Mayor and Council for their support of the Stars, Cars & BBQ event and for the funds given tonight to Thunder in the Sky.

Mayor Cox stated regarding Stars, Cars and BBQ that the crowd was down and that a lot of volunteers put a lot of time into the event. Mayor Cox stated that if anyone missed the Memorial Service on Sunday, then they missed a real treat – it was a great event and encouraged everyone to attend the Memorial Service. The Harris' were great speakers and really got the public's attention.

Executive Session:

At 7:50 a.m. the council unanimously voted in favor of going in to executive session for the purpose of discussing pending litigation and the acquisition of real estate. Sosebee/Wilson.

The Council unanimously authorized the Mayor and staff to negotiate and execute the purchase of the property for the Burts Creek lift station.

The City Attorney updated the council on the Gold Creek litigation.

The City Attorney explained the situation with the bank foreclosing upon the collateral goods of the Georgia Racing Hall of Fame museum. He explained the bidding process and how the collateral was divided into four lots; he also explained that the Mayor would need authorization to bid on the collateral goods. The council authorized the Mayor to bid no more than the funds allotted in the grant from the Department of Community Affairs whether it be for one or all four lots.

The Council unanimously voted to adjourn executive session. Wilson/Grant.

The Council unanimously voted to reconvene the regular meeting. Wilson/Sosebee.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to attend to, motion carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Grant/Wilson.

Minutes approved this 10th day of July, 2006.

Joe Lane Cox, Mayor

Councilmember Jonathan Cox

Councilmember Linda Grant

Councilmember Mike Sosebee

Councilmember Mike Wilson

Attested: _____
Kim Cornelison, City Clerk