

**City of Dawsonville**  
**August 7, 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: Mayor Cox led the invocation and pledge.

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

**Approval of Minutes:**

Council unanimously approved the adoption of the July 10, 2006 regular meeting. Cox/Wilson. Council unanimously approved the adoption of the July 24, 2006 called meeting. Grant/Sosebee.

**Old Business:**

Water Service Area and Purchase Agreement with EWSA: Dana Miles presented the agreement stating that he and EWSA attorney Jon Weintraub have been working collaboratively on the agreement. The agreement allows the City to turn its well and spring back online and provides for the mutual ability to purchase water from each other. Council unanimously ratified the agreement. Cox/Sosebee.

Sewer Service Area Agreement with EWSA: Dana Miles presented the agreement stating that the purpose of the agreement was to expand the City's sewer service area and that he and EWSA attorney Jon Weintraub have again been working collaboratively on this agreement as well. The agreement sets out the service area with a boundary map that clearly defines the new service area for the City. Council unanimously ratified the agreement. Cox/Wilson.

Downtown Development Authority request to fund Better Hometown position: Jonathan Cox reported that the last DDA meeting did not have a quorum so no business was transacted; consequently he had no report for the City Council. Council unanimously tabled until next council meeting. Cox/Grant.

Maple Street speeding issue: Mayor Cox asked council and staff for any reports they have on this issue. Steve Holder stated he has determined utilizing standard traffic measurement standards that approximately 2,200 vehicles travel that road every day. Kim Cornelison stated that she spoke to the Georgia Department of Transportation and found that the catch term of this "traffic calming". The speed bumps and tables would disqualify the road from receiving any LARP funds; the costs would be 5,000 – 6,000 thousand dollars. Mike Wilson stated he learned the costs were as Kim reported. Linda Grant stated she was afraid others will want to speeds bumps as well. After some discussion, council unanimously decided to table this issue until staff can report back from meeting with the Sheriff for his suggestions on how to handle the problem. Cox/Wilson.

## **New Business:**

Resolution Regarding Annexation Criteria: Dana Miles presented this resolution stating that no action would be required. After speaking with staff and learning that the Comprehensive Plan is due to the Department of Community Affairs in October, the resolution would be a duplicated effort. The annexation criteria listed in the resolution will be incorporated into the comprehensive plan.

John Stegall re: Late Fees on Utility Bill: Mr. Stegall asked the council to consider taking ACH banking payments for utility bills. Mr. Stegall stated that he was charged a late fee on his utility bill; he was on vacation when utility bills were sent and when he got home the remittance time had lapsed. Kim Cornelison addressed the council stating that she had checked with the City's current utility billing software company and that the ACH banking component would cost \$750.00 plus on sight training fees of \$770.00. There would also be a monthly minimum bank charge of \$50.00. Mrs. Cornelison also gave some statistics regarding Etowah Water & Sewer Authority's customer base which consists of 4,500 users, of which only 300 users subscribing to ACH banking. Mrs. Cornelison pointed out that ACH banking does not appear to be a cost effective way to proceed. She suggested considering credit card payments and initiating a convenience fee for the banking fees related to credit card usage which is allowable by law. Members of the Council stated some research into credit card usage should be considered. Council unanimously voted not to waive Mr. Stegall's fees. Cox/Grant.

Parade and Public Assembly Application: GRHOF Commission Smokin' Thunder Car Show & Burn Out Show and Community Yard Sale – September 2, 2006: Kim Cornelison presented this application stating that responses from the Sheriff and Fire Marshall were still outstanding; she requested conditional approval pending Sheriff and Fire Marshall approval. Council unanimously gave conditional approval with the stipulation that approval be granted by the Sheriff and Fire Marshall. Grant/Wilson.

Impact Fee Request by DCBOC: Mayor Cox read a letter from Commissioner Berg requesting the City collect impact fees for the county and keeping a 3 percent collection fee. Members of the Council voiced their concern regarding whether an impact fee was even necessary for the City at this time. Jonathan Cox stated that if the City collects an impact fee then the City should keep it to help with City infrastructure needs. Council unanimously voted not to collect impact fees on behalf of the County. Grant/Sosebee.

Local Assistance Grant from Department of Community Affairs: Funding for Museum Artifact Procurement: Mayor Cox reported to the Council that there has been \$30,000 dollars set aside through the Department of Community Affairs for the City's use to purchase museum artifacts. This is a Local Assistance Grant; years ago people used to call it the Governors discretionary funds. The Mayor asked the Council to authorize him to execute the agreement so the City could collect these funds. The Council unanimously approved authorizing the Mayor to execute the LAG grant agreement. Cox/Sosebee.

Transportation Enhancement Funding Contracts – Parking at City Hall: Mayor Cox reported that the Georgia Department of Transportation has allotted \$115,280.56 to the

City to create the City Hall parking lot which will provide closer parking for city customers. Mayor Cox ask for authorization to execute the GDOT contract. Council unanimously approved authorizing the Mayor to execute the transportation enhancement contract. Sosebee/Grant.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

### **Ordinances:**

To hear an ordinance to amend the zoning ordinance of the City of Dawsonville, Georgia, to provide for an additional land use classification known as "AP" to provide for a mechanism to alter land use classifications, to provide for an effective date, and for other purposes. (First reading).

Dana Miles presented the ordinance to the Council stating the purpose of the ordinance would help to clear up annexation issues with the county where they have issues with the City's zoning classifications. The county claims the City's zoning classifications are not compatible with theirs. This zoning classification would be a classification that would be a mirror image of the county's and would therefore the county could not object to zoning classification differences. Keep in mind that the majority of annexations to the City do not have development plans at this time and they try to pick a zoning classification which is most like their county classification. The only exception to this is that the City has no agriculture classification and thereby defaults to R-1.

If after one year a property owner wishes to rezone his property, then he could do so under the City's rezoning ordinance. The ordinance does provide that if after eighteen months a property owner does not rezone then by default the property would be reclassified to R-1.

The ordinance would not preclude any property owner who wished to annex and rezone upon at the same time. They could choose whatever zoning classification they require and proceed as we do now.

Dana Miles opened the public hearing. There being no public comment the hearing was closed. Council unanimously approved the first reading of the zoning classification AP ordinance. Cox/Sosebee.

### **Annexations and rezones:**

To hear Annexation Petition ANX 06-019: Alice W. Gordon has made a request to annex 3.09 acres of TMP 090-006.006. The subject property is located at 2150 Burt Creek Road. The property is currently zoned R-A and will R-1 upon annexation. (Second hearing).

Steve Holder read Annexation Petition ANX 06-019. Dana Miles opened the public hearing. There being no public comment the public hearing was closed. Council unanimously approved the second hearing and reading for annexation and rezoning of Annexation Petition 06-019. Sosebee/Wilson.

To hear Annexation Petition ANX06-018: R. Neil Koelbl has made a request to annex 1.44 acres of TMP 092-111. The subject property is located at 139 Elliott Ct., Dawsonville, GA. The property is currently zoned R-1 and will be R-3 upon annexation. (Second hearing.)

To hear Re-zone Application ZA-5-06-1330: R. Neil Koelbl has made a request to re-zone 1.44 acres of TMP 092-111. The subject property is located at 139 Elliott Ct., Dawsonville, GA. The property is currently zoned R-1 and is requested to be R-3. This re-zone request is subject to acceptance and approval of Annexation Petition ANX06-018. (Second hearing).

Steve Holder read Annexation Petition ANX 06-018 with re-zone application ZA-5-06-1330. Dana Miles opened the public hearing. There being no public comment the public hearing was closed. Council unanimously approved the second hearing and reading for annexation and rezoning of Annexation Petition 06-018 and Re-zone Application ZA-5-06-1330. Cox/Grant.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Mayor Cox reported that staff received a call today from December Lights asking if the City intended to have the same Christmas décor package as last year. The package was approximately \$5,000.00. Gary Barr asked the Council to consider purchasing the City's own décor; with the new Maintenance Building the City can now store the displays. Council asked staff to price the existing package for purchase and to possibly add more provided power drops can be coordinated with Georgia Power.

Mayor Cox announced that in spite of the bad weather over the weekend GRHOF Commission still managed to take in approximately \$1,000.00. He thanked the Commission for the work they do.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Annie Dean Samples thanked the Council for their support and for staff's help at their events.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

7:43 p.m. Council unanimously voted in favor of convening an executive session for the purpose of discussing pending litigation and personnel.

Dana Miles gave a brief update regarding the following legal suits: Phillips v. City of Dawsonville; Butler v. City of Dawsonville; and City of Dawsonville v. Gold Creek.

Council also discussed implementing a new ordinance adjusting the 2008 Mayor and Council's salaries to be more aligned with what other municipalities compensate elected officials. Dana Miles provided compensation information to council stating that he acquired the information from Georgia Municipal Association.

At 8:15 p.m. Jonathan Cox made a motion to close executive session; seconded by Mike Sosebee. The motion carried unanimously.

Council unanimously approved reconvening regularly session. Sosebee/Cox.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to attend to, motion carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m. Cox/Sosebee.

Minutes approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of September, 2006.

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Joe Lane Cox, Mayor

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Councilmember Jonathan Cox

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Councilmember Linda Grant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilmember Mike Sosebee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilmember Mike Wilson

Attested: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kim Cornelison, City Clerk