

Subject: Mayor and Council Compensation
Date of First Reading: August 4, 2025
Date of Second Reading: August 18, 2025
Date of Adoption: _____
Effective Date: _____

Publication Dates: July 30, 2025, August 6, 2025 and August 13, 2025

ORDINANCE NO. 04-2025

AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH SECTION 2-21 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF DAWSONVILLE SO AS TO INCREASE THE COMPENSATION OF THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY; TO CLARIFY COMPENSATION FOR MEETINGS BEYOND THE FIRST MONTHLY REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, Section 2.13(c) of the Charter of the City of Dawsonville provides that compensation for the City of Dawsonville Governing Authority may be set by City Ordinance;

WHEREAS, O.C.G.A. 36-35-4 prescribes certain additional procedures which must be complied with in order to affect the compensation of the members of the Governing Authority;

WHEREAS, the City of Dawsonville has met the notice and advertising requirements of O.C.G.A. 36-35-4, and is scheduled to consider this matter first on August 4, 2025, and then consider this ordinance for adoption on August 18, 2025;

WHEREAS, the City provides for compensation for certain meetings attended by members of the Governing Authority in their official capacity, which meetings must be pre-approved according to the City's Charter; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to pre-approve certain meetings as well as provide guidelines for what types of meetings are pre-approved;

NOW THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DAWSONVILLE, GEORGIA HEREBY ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

There is hereby enacted a new Section 2-21 of the Code of the City of Dawsonville, which shall, from and after the adoption of this Ordinance, read as follows:

Section 2-21. Compensation in general and for additional meetings.

- (a) The compensation of the mayor shall be \$1,400.00 per month and the compensation of each council member shall be \$800.00 per month until such time as the compensation of

the mayor and/or council are amended by ordinance. In addition to this monthly compensation, the mayor and council members shall also be paid \$200.00 for each city council meeting other than the first regular city council meeting of the month, and for any other meeting that has been pre-approved for compensation by the council.

(b) The following meetings are pre-approved for payment for members of the City of Dawsonville Governing Authority:

- 1) Meetings of City of Dawsonville Commissions, Authorities, or committees which meetings are attended by members of the City of Dawsonville Governing Authority either as a liaison to that Commission, Authority, or committee, or because the member of the City of Dawsonville Governing Authority is a member of the said Commission, Authority or committee.
- 2) Training and educational meetings which will benefit the service of a member of the City of Dawsonville Governing Authority, which trainings are conducted by any or a combination of any of the following entities: Georgia Municipal Association; the Carl Vinson Institute of Government; the Georgia Mountains Regional Commission; the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, or any division of State Government.
- 3) Board meetings and committee meetings of organizations upon which members of the City of Dawsonville Governing Authority sit which positions are specifically designated as positions for a member of the City of Dawsonville Governing Authority.
- 4) Official events of organizations, which organizations have as a member of their board a position specified as being for a member of the City of Dawsonville Governing Authority, if the official seeking compensation for the official event is a Member of the Board of Directors of the organization sponsoring the event.
- 5) Official events of the City of Dawsonville, its Commissions, Agencies, or committees.

- (c) Members of the City of Dawsonville Governing Authority shall submit their request for compensation for a meeting upon forms provided by the City Manager or his designee. The form shall be endorsed by one other member of the City of Dawsonville Governing Authority prior to submission, which endorsement is for the purpose of confirming that the meeting falls within the description of meetings contained in subparagraphs (1) through (4) of subsection (b), above. The submission may contain more than one meeting on a single form, and should be submitted not more than thirty (30) days after the earliest meeting covered by the form.
- (d) Meetings other than those covered by subparagraphs (1) through (4) of subsection (b), above for which a Member of the Governing Authority believes they should receive compensation shall be submitted for consideration to the Governing Authority prior to the event. The person seeking compensation shall not vote on whether the meeting should be one for which compensation is paid.
- (e) Under no circumstances shall any member of the City of Dawsonville Governing Authority apply for or receive any compensation for an event at which the person seeking compensation was engaged in campaign activities related to his or her office or any office which said person may be seeking.

This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after January 1, 2026.

SO ADOPTED by the City Council of Dawsonville, Georgia, this ____ day of August, 2025.

CITY OF DAWSONVILLE

By: _____
John Walden, Mayor

Caleb Phillips, Councilmember Post 1

William Illg, Councilmember Post 2

Sandy Sawyer, Councilmember Post 3

Mark French, Councilmember Post 4

ATTESTED TO BY:

Beverly A. Banister, City Clerk

DRAFT