

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

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor John Walden called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.
2. **ROLL CALL:** Councilmember William Illg, Councilmember Caleb Phillips, Councilmember Sandy Sawyer, Councilmember Mark French, City Attorney Kevin Tallant, City Manager Bob Bolz, City Clerk Beverly Banister, Assistant City Manager Jacob Evans, Public Works Director Trampas Hansard, Utilities Director Jacob Barr, Finance Director Robin Gazaway and Zoning Administrative Assistant Stacy Harris.
3. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE:** Invocation and pledge were led by Councilmember Sawyer.
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Mayor Walden announced Food Truck Friday is June 6, 2025 from 5:00 – 8:00 pm. He also announced BRAG will be here June 3 – 5, 2025; Assistant City Manager Evans provided the schedule of activities planned for the event. The Mayor also reminded the public his next scheduled Chat with the Mayor is planned for July 8, 2025 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm.
5. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Motion to approve the agenda as presented made by M. French; second by W. Illg. Vote carried unanimously in favor.
6. **PUBLIC INPUT:** None
7. **CONSENT AGENDA:** Motion to approve the consent agenda for the following items (a) made by S. Sawyer; second by C. Phillips. Vote carried unanimously in favor.
 - a. Approve Minutes
 - Regular Meeting and Work Session held May 19, 2025

PUBLIC HEARING

8. **PROPOSED FY 2025-2026 BUDGET:** Motion to open the public hearing made by M. French; second by C. Phillips. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

Finance Director Gazaway provided an overview of the accomplishments from the FY 2025 budget and reviewed the proposed revenue and expenditures for the FY 2026 budget. She announced the proposed budget includes a five percent salary cost of living adjustment and an eight percent increase to the health insurance expenditure. She also mentioned the prospect of hiring a wastewater treatment plant operator in anticipation of the new water pollution control plant.

Mayor Walden conducted the public hearing. No one spoke in favor of or in opposition to the FY 2026 budget. Motion to close the public hearing made by W. Illg; second by S. Sawyer. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

BUSINESS

9. **APPOINTMENTS TO THE CITY OF DAWSONVILLE ETHICS BOARD – TABLED FROM APRIL 7, 2025:** Motion to appoint Dustin Gillespie to the Ethics Board for Post #4 made by M. French; second by C. Phillips. Councilmember Illg asked if all the members should be appointed at the same time; Attorney Tallant stated that it is up to Council, however, his preference would be to swear everyone in at the same time so their terms would begin at the same time. Councilmember Phillips stated he is considering someone and would like to have all nominees appointed at the same time. Councilmember French expressed his concern regarding tabling the item again and would prefer to appoint his nominee this evening. Councilmember Illg stated he believes by the next meeting everyone could have their nominee; Councilmember Phillips agreed. Councilmember French strongly encouraged the Council to approve his nominee and have the other nominees on the next agenda; Councilmember Phillips reiterated his desire to have the nominees appointed at one time. Motion did not carry; vote denied three against (Phillips, Sawyer, Illg) and one in favor (French).
10. **REQUEST TO AWARD BID: FLAT CREEK WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLANT:** Lamar Rogers from Turnipseed Engineers reviewed the proposals received in response to the request for bids concerning the construction of the Flat Creek water pollution control plant and recommends Haren Construction Company, Inc. He also discussed the project schedule and the resources to fund

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the project which includes grants and financing through GEFA with twenty seven percent loan forgiveness. He is also recommending continuing with the City's three phase rate increase as previously approved.

Motion to approve Resolution No. R2025-02 to award the Flat Creek Water Pollution Control Plant bid to Haren Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of \$21,797,000.00 made by W. Illg; second by C. Phillips. Vote carried unanimously in favor. (Exhibit "A")

- 11. REQUEST TO AWARD BID: 2025 ROADWAY REHABILITATION RFB #PW-25-001:** Public Works Director Hansard reported on the bid package proposals to rehab Maple Street, Richmond Drive, Pearl Chambers Drive, Pearl Chambers Way and Pearl Chambers Court. He is recommending approving the low bid from Allied Paving Contractors, Inc.

Motion to award the bid to Allied Paving Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$633,102.00 made by W. Illg; second by S. Sawyer. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

- 12. CONSIDERATION TO PARTNER WITH JAKYL MEDIA GROUP FOR CONCERT PRODUCTION:** Josh Jachles and Steve Beecham provided information to the Council regarding concert production in the park.

Motion to approve the agreement with Jakyl Media Group and funding to be shared by the City and the Downtown Development Authority made by W. Illg; second by C. Phillips. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilmember Sawyer announced the Family Connection's Celebrity Waiter breakfast is scheduled for this Friday, June 6, 2025 beginning at 7:00 am at Longhorn's restaurant in Dawsonville. All proceeds are given back to the community and to Family Connection.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 5:48 p.m. a motion to close regular session and go into executive session for real estate acquisition, pending/potential litigation and/or personnel was made by W. Illg; second by S. Sawyer. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

At 6:06 p.m. a motion to close executive session was made by W. Illg; second by S. Sawyer. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

Motion to resume regular session was made by M. French; second by C. Phillips. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:09 p.m. a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by S. Sawyer; second by W. Illg. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

Approved this 16th day of June, 2025

By: CITY OF DAWSONVILLE

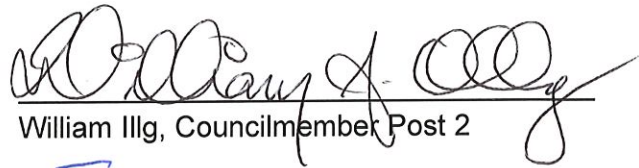


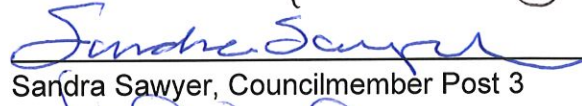
John Walden, Mayor



Caleb Phillips, Councilmember Post 1

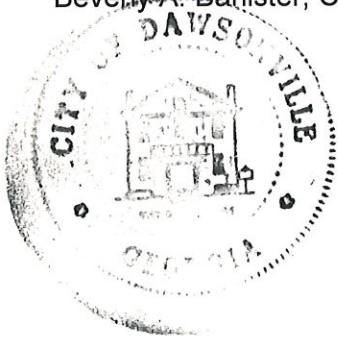
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William Illg, Councilmember Post 2


Sandra Sawyer, Councilmember Post 3


Mark French, Councilmember Post 4

Attested: 
Beverly A. Banister, City Clerk



STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DAWSON

AFFIDAVIT OF THE CITY OF DAWSONVILLE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

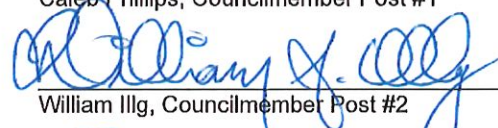
Mayor John Walden, Councilmember Caleb Phillips, Councilmember William Illg, Councilmember Sandra Sawyer and Councilmember Mark French; being duly sworn, state under oath that the following is true and accurate to the best of their knowledge and belief:

1. The City of Dawsonville Council met in a duly advertised meeting on June 2, 2025.
2. During such meeting, the Board voted to go into closed session.
3. The executive session was called to order at 548 p.m.
4. The subject matter of the closed portion of the meeting was devoted to the following matter(s) within the exceptions provided in the open meetings law: (check all that apply)
 - ☒ Consultation with the City Attorney or other legal counsel to discuss pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the City or any officer or employee or in which the City or any officer or employee may be directly involved as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1);
 - ☐ Discussion of tax matters made confidential by state law as provided by O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(2) and _____;
 - ☒ Discussion of future acquisition of real estate as provided by O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1);
 - ☐ Discussion or deliberation on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a City officer or employee as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(2);
 - ☐ Other _____ as provided in: _____.

This 2nd day of June 2025; By the City of Dawsonville, Mayor and Council:


John Walden, Mayor


Caleb Phillips, Councilmember Post #1

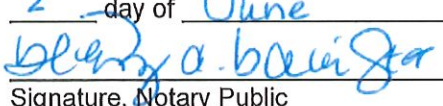

William Illg, Councilmember Post #2


Sandra Sawyer, Councilmember Post #3


Mark French, Councilmember Post #4

Sworn to and subscribed before me this

2 day of June, 2025.


Signature, Notary Public

My Commission expires: Feb 18, 2028



RESOLUTION NO. R2025-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DAWSONVILLE, GEORGIA TO AWARD A CONTRACT CONCERNING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE FLAT CREEK WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLANT

WHEREAS bids were received by the City of Dawsonville, Georgia on May 15, 2025 for Flat Creek Water Pollution Control Plant; and

WHEREAS the low, responsible, responsive bidder is Haren Construction Company, Inc. of Etowah, Tennessee with a bid in the amount of \$21,797,000.00; and

WHEREAS the low bidder, Haren Construction Company, Inc. appears to have the necessary financial and technical ability to complete the project,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the City of Dawsonville, Georgia hereby makes contract award of the construction contract to the low bidder, Haren Construction Company, Inc. of Etowah, Tennessee, in the amount of \$21,797,000.00.

Award of this contract is contingent upon the selected bidder meeting the requirements regarding DBE/MBE/WBE compliance and the City obtaining adequate funding as requested of the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority.

THIS RESOLUTION was passed by a vote of 4 to 0 at a regular meeting of the City of Dawsonville, Georgia on June 2, 2025

MAYOR AND DAWSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL

By:

John Walden
John Walden, Mayor

Caleb Phillips
Caleb Phillips, Councilmember, Post 1

William Illg
William Illg, Councilmember, Post 2

Sandy Sawyer
Sandy Sawyer, Councilmember, Post 3

Mark French
Mark French, Councilmember, Post 4

ATTESTED:

Beverly A. Banister
Beverly A. Banister, City Clerk