



Dawsonville Profile

City News for the Residents of Dawsonville—MAY 2022

Message from your Mayor

Well, summer is upon us, with school letting out and people going on vacation.

I'm sure everyone has wonderful plans for this summer. Please be cautious as you travel locally or as far as you might go, and watch out for our children who will be playing in the city, in our parks and throughout our community.

The City continues to improve our community through various things. We have just acquired 17 acres of land, which we intend to develop as an additional downtown area to support our local resources, as well as provide places for new businesses to locate. This development will be by our walking trails in our sidewalk system, which will allow people to walk from the park to the new downtown area, and to connect to the older downtown area. We are looking for concepts and ideas to make this a viable community, and we will be seeking community input in things that we might do. Should you know anyone that is interested in developing or relocating a business into our community, which could provide restaurants and other forms of entertainment for our citizens, we would like to hear from you.

I wish everyone a very blessed summer. I hope all is well with you, and should you have any questions or comments about the city, let us know. We welcome your input!



Mike Eason



FRIDAY, JUNE 3

5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

FARMERS MARKET PAVILION

Do you qualify for our

Senior Citizen Low Income Discount?

If you are:

*65 years or older

*Own/lease your residence

*Have an annual income of \$25,000 or less



You qualify for a 15% discount per month on your water and sewer bill (garbage not included). Call 706-265-3256 for more info!

2022 Government Meetings held at City Hall upstairs in the G.L."Pete" Gilleland Council Chambers. The public is invited to attend.

- 5:00PM Mayor & City Council Regular Mtgs: JAN 6 FEB 7 MAR 7 MAY 2 JUN 6 AUG 1 OCT 3 NOV 7 DEC 5
- 5:00PM Mayor & Council Work Sessions: JAN 20 FEB 21 MAR 21 APR 18 MAY 16 JUN 20 JUL 18 AUG 15 SEP 19 OCT 17 NOV 21 DEC 19
- 5:30PM Dawsonville Planning Commission: JAN 10 FEB 14 MAR 14 APR 11 MAY 9 JUN 13 JUL 11 AUG 8 SEP 12 OCT 10 NOV 14 DEC 12
- 5:30PM Historic Preservation Commission: FEB 28 APR 25 JUN 27 AUG 22 OCT 24 DEC 13
- 5:30PM Dawsonville Downtown Development Authority: JAN 24 MAR 28 MAY 23 JUL 25 SEP 26 NOV 28 * Watch live on Facebook



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A message from your City Manager...

Our first Food Truck Friday was a tremendous success, despite threatening weather. The food trucks did well, with most selling out, and on display was the Robinson Elementary School Live Wax Museum. The kids did a great job sharing their ‘characters’. Our next food truck night is June 3rd, come on out and join us.

Main Street Park continues to grow. Planning is underway for additional shade for the park, a basketball court, pickle ball courts, expansion of the skate park, a disc golf course, bridge/trail to the library, and stage options for the amphitheater. The three pavilions in the park continue to rent at a high rate on weekends. Within the park is the very popular new skate park. This facility, paid for by SPLOST funds, is there to provide a recreation opportunity that cannot be found elsewhere in our community. It is receiving heavy use and we are glad to see so many people taking advantage of it. Expansion of this area is being considered utilizing SPLOST VII funds. City staff have talked with several users asking for their input as to what else they would like to see in the skate park. We are listening to that feedback.

Unfortunately, we are receiving complaints daily about all types of skateboards, long boards, motorized boards, and hoverboards riding down the highway and roadways frequently in the middle of two-way traffic, turning in front of vehicles, riding on sidewalks, parking lots, and other areas. We have heard from people using the park, walking the trails, and utilizing the fitness equipment complain about dangerous skateboard riders running them off the walkways, endangering small children, etc. Recently, the City had to repaint the entire Farmers Market floor because skateboarders marked up and damaged the floor at a cost of several hundred dollars. We have had individuals skateboarding inside public rest rooms. A few years ago, a young man was tragically killed riding a skateboard on a highway. We most certainly don’t want another tragedy of that magnitude. Skateboarders, we need your help in resolution of this problem. If skateboarders continue to abuse the privileges this skate park provides, something will have to be done. All skateboarders aren’t at fault. Many obey the rules, are respectful of the public and our facilities, but many ignore both.

The only designated area where skateboards are legally allowed on city property or ROW is in the skate park. By ordinance #01-2020, that became effective in February 2020, all types of skateboards, long boards, motorized skateboards, and hoverboards are prohibited on all city property, including roadways and right of way, sidewalks, buildings, grounds, parks, facilities, cemeteries, and parking areas. City staff and Sheriff deputies have been talking with many boarders explaining where skateboarding is and isn’t allowed. We don’t want to remove the skate park altogether, but when a few people ignore public safety and established rules and regulations, some action must be taken. We must temper what we allow with the concerns of the public and their safety, not to mention the safety of the skateboarders.

City of Dawsonville Code Enforcement officials, upon probable cause, are authorized to issue citations for violations of any provisions of our rules and regulations, including those that address skateboarding. A penalty may be levied upon a person found to have violated these provisions. Citations shall be heard in City Municipal Court. Any person repeatedly violating any rule or regulation may lose the privilege of entering or using our facilities for a period and receive such fines as determined by the City Judge upon trial and conviction for any citation. The parents of juveniles found in violation may be responsible for levied fines. Sheriff’s Office and city employees may order any person violating any of the provisions of the rules and regulations to leave and not re-enter the area on the day of the violation, and the City Manager may ban repeat violators. We would hate to see the skate park go away and be replaced by another recreation opportunity but that is one option within the realm of possibilities. So, skateboarders, for your own safety and for the safety of others, and to preserve the skate park, please respect the privileges you have been provided and help us stop this problem.



Bob Bolz

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City Staff at your service

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Utilities Operation Manager

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For after hours water/sewer emergencies, please call

(706) 265-3256