



Dawsonville Profile

City News for the Residents of Dawsonville—AUGUST 2020

Message from your Mayor.....

As your Mayor, I am very proud of the way that our citizens have been conducting service during this pandemic.

This crisis is something we have never faced in our country or our lifetime and we are trying to adapt. No one has the right answer, but we're trying to do the best we can. As you may know, City Hall has been closed for about a month or so due to the high increase in COVID cases in our community. We still are not as impacted as many of the urban areas are currently. This doesn't mean we need to ignore the threat to our community and we need to continue to be vigilant with our social distancing, mask requirements and be vigilant at all times about our situation.

Now let's get down to some good news! We hope to have the restrooms at Main Street Park open by September 1st. City staff is working with the contractor to finish it as quickly as possible. The park is open for individuals to use to walk, picnic and enjoy the playground. Our staff is routinely fogging/sanitizing the playground and will do the restrooms as soon as they open, for prevention of the spread of COVID-19. If you see the signs that restrooms are closed, please honor these notices and wait for about an hour until they have completed the process.

We have been working with the developer of a small subdivision on Allen Street to assist us in the development of a dog park at the corner of Memory Lane where the assisted living is. This project is getting close to being turned over to us so that we can seed and fence and prepare a dog park for you, the citizens of the city as well as the county. We look forward to having this other option available for you and your pets' enjoyment. I spoke with some of the people at the assisted living and they are excited to be able to know the dogs will be over there. They hope to one day be able to go across the street and watch the dogs play and enjoy themselves.

We currently have some upgrades going on to one of our wells which will enhance our ability to produce quality well water in larger quantities, which is the source of our water system. Additionally, we have some springs in our community that are used and have been used for water production as well. As you know, we treat the water before it leaves our facility to make sure that it's safe for use by our customers.

We will soon be starting a paving project involving Main Street, which is the road that comes from Georgia Highway 53 East and enters into the park. Additionally, we will be paving Memory Lane, which goes around the fire station and beside the library, as well as Jack Heard Rd., which connects Memory Lane to Highway 53. If there's any way myself or any member of City Council or staff can help you, please contact us and we will get back to you quickly with an answer. Be safe as you venture out and remember to watch for children as they are back in school and utilize our sidewalk system.



Due to the ongoing concern of the Covid-19 pandemic and in an effort to keep our citizens and employees safe, City Hall is again closed to the public. Please utilize one of the following options to pay your utility bill:

- *Place payment in blue drop box located beside City Hall
- *Pay online: www.dawsonville-ga.gov
- *Sign up for ACH debit (online)



FOOD TRUCK FRIDAY

September 11

5:00-8:00 pm

Farmers Market Pavilion—Allen Street

**We will practice safety guidelines for Covid-19
Social distancing, masks recommended**

2020 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 3 MAR 2 MAY 4 JUN 1 AUG 3 OCT 5 NOV 2 DEC 7
- 5:00PM Mayor & Council Work Sessions: FEB 17 MAR 16 APR 20 MAY 18 JUN 15 JUL 20 AUG 17 SEP 21 OCT 19 NOV 16 DEC 21
- 5:30PM Dawsonville Planning Commission: JAN 13 FEB 10 MAR 9 APR 13 MAY 11 JUN 8 JUL 13 AUG 10 SEP 14 OCT 12 NOV 9 DEC 14
- 5:30PM Historic Preservation Commission: FEB 24 APR 27 JUN 22 AUG 24 OCT 26 DEC 28

[Watch us live on Facebook](#)



Councilmember
Caleb Phillips
District 1

Cell (706) 968-3142



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Stephen Tolson
District 2

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Councilmember
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District 3

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City Hall hours:

Monday—Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Website: www.dawsonville-ga.gov Like us on Facebook



A message from your City Manager.....

To ensure our ISO rating for fire protection is maintained, hydrant testing is complete. This required annual event keeps our homeowner insurance rates down and maintains our ISO Rating of 3. Thank you for your patience with this process.

Georgia Commissioner of Agriculture Gary Black was the guest of honor at the grand opening and ribbon cutting of the new City of Dawsonville Farmers Market Pavilion. The fourth season of the market opened earlier this spring at their new home, and we are receiving great reviews. The market is held every Saturday from 8 a.m. until sold out and Wednesday from 3 p.m. until 6 p.m. at the brand-new City of Dawsonville Farmers Market Pavilion located on Allen Street. The new facility was paid for out of SPLOST VI funds.

Our staff at the City of Dawsonville hope you and yours are healthy. We continue steps to protect our customers and personnel while limiting the spread of the COVID-19 virus. With the recent record-breaking spike in COVID cases, City Hall is closed. We also encourage use of ACH payments (form is on our website to sign up); online payments, or our convenient drop box at City Hall for water/sewer/garbage payments. Almost all city services can be done online. Water and sewer service as well as public works will continue normal operations with staggered staff schedules. The City Council meeting for August 17th was held in person in our City Council Chambers. The City has tentative plans to reopen City Hall on August 31st unless the COVID numbers continue to rise. Staff can be reached via website, email or telephone.

Construction of the sidewalk planned along Perimeter Road from Shoal Creek to the Rain Hill is complete as well as the upgrades to our wastewater treatment plant and upgrades to our drinking water system. The repair and resurfacing of Perimeter Road, a joint city – county project, is also complete.

Staff hosted Food Truck Friday on August 14th. This was our first event of 2020 due to the concerns for COVID. The event was a success and we look forward to our next event September 11th. We hope you can come out and enjoy the food and fellowship.



Bob Bolz



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT:

WESTIN LEE

Treatment Plant Operator

Our August Employee Spotlight falls on Treatment Plant Operator, Westin Lee. Westin is one of the team members in our outstanding Utilities Department. As a Treatment Plant Operator, he and his teammates are charged with monitoring and maintaining operation of the city’s water distribution system and wastewater collection and treatment facilities, ensuring both are in strict compliance with all public health, environmental protection and other state and federal guidelines and requirements. They monitor effluent sewage flow to make certain the treatment plant is operating at peak efficiency. They must ensure the daily quality of our drinking water. Westin and his fellow workers make chemical, operating, maintenance and laboratory changes when appropriate. The Utility Department has staff, such as Westin, working 24/7-365, including responses to emergencies, such as pump failures, power outages, equipment breakdown, turbid water conditions, and malfunction of rate controllers, chlorinators and other chemical feeding equipment. Their level of customer service is outstanding, and they are proud to serve the City.

Westin and his wife Dana and sons Landon 12, and Carter 10, live in the Sweetwater-Juno area. When not watching his sons compete in football, soccer, and basketball, Westin and his family enjoy hunting and riding ATVs. A native of Dahlonge, Westin has been in service to the City of Dawsonville since May 2017. A previous Employee of the Month, we are proud of Westin and appreciate the fantastic job he does.

<p>Public Works Director: Trampas Hansard trampas.hansard@dawsonville-ga.gov Phone: (706) 531-6454</p>	<p>City Staff at your Service City Manager: Robert D. (Bob) Bolz bob.bolz@dawsonville-ga.gov (706) 429-4524</p>	<p>Utility Billing Technician: Tracy Smith tracy.smith@dawsonville-ga.gov Pay your bill online @ www.dawsonville-ga.gov</p>
<p>Utilities Director: Gary Barr gary.barr@dawsonville-ga.gov Phone: (706) 429-6211</p>	<p>For After-Hours Water/Sewer System Emergencies Please Call: (706) 344-2162 or (706) 429-6211</p>	<p>Human Resources Manager/Grants: Donna Blanton donna.blanton@dawsonville-ga.gov</p>
<p>City Clerk: Beverly Banister beverly.banister@dawsonville-ga.gov (706) 265-3256</p>	<p>Finance Administrator: hayden.wiggins@dawsonville-ga.gov Accounts Payable & Event Coordinator: Sara Beacham sara.beacham@dawsonville-ga.gov</p>	<p>Customer Service/IT Specialist Administrative Assistant Stacy Harris stacy.harris@dawsonville-ga.gov</p>