

Dawsonville Profile

City News for the Residents of Dawsonville–FEBRUARY 2021

Message from your Mayor.....

We have just passed the one year mark when Covid entered our country, changed everything and turned our wonderful world upside down.

We have lost many friends and relatives to this horrible pandemic and continue to watch and suffer ourselves. The vaccine process is underway to protect us from the virus. It's not going as smoothly as hoped, but the process is smoothing out and the delivery of the vaccine will get better and better. Some individuals are not taking the vaccine and that's their personal decision. We need to continue practicing social distancing, washing our hands and wearing masks when in public places. With God's Grace, we shall walk through this valley of death and thrive.

Now down to local business. The Chase Elliott Exhibit has opened at the Dawsonville History Museum, DBA Georgia Racing Hall of Fame. It's a marvelous display, honoring his championship year, continuing the tradition of his father, Bill Elliott. If you have time, visit the museum and learn more about the history of racing and how Dawsonville was instrumental in NASCAR.

Additionally, Main Street Park continues to be a big draw for families and on warm days, it's full of families enjoying the inclusive playground and the walking trails. The City is proud of the park and encourages you to come on out and join the fun.

City Hall is still closed for normal activity but operating fully, with each department handling business needed to serve our community. The City Council is handling meetings virtually and we welcome the input of our citizens and have had a lot of input using this process, so don't be reluctant to join us. Be sure and check our website for instructions of how to log on and join our meeting, or you may also watch live on Facebook.



Mike Eason

Best wishes and stay safe.

Due to rising COVID concerns and in an effort to keep our staff and citizens safe, City Hall will be closed to the public until the end of February. You may place your utility payment in the blue drop box to the side of the building,

pay your bill online at www.dawsonville-ga.gov, sign up for ACH debit, or call our office to pay your bill by phone at 706-265-3256. If you need to make an appointment for Planning & Zoning, please call 706-203-4924 to schedule.



*MEETING WITH YOUR COUNCIL MEMBER * TUESDAY, MARCH 2 at 6:00 pm **COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT CITY HALL**

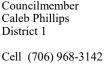
(we will practice social distancing/masks)

Your District 2 Council Member, Stephen Tolson will be holding a "Meeting with your Council Member" in an effort to provide an informal opportunity for city residents to present questions or comments to get a better understanding of the direction you would like to see the City headed in, for example, businesses/services, etc., you would like to see. Please join us! You may also join us virtually by contacting City Hall at 706-265-3256.

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: JAN 19 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







Councilmember Stephen Tolson District 2



Councilmember John Walden District 3



Watch us live on Facebook

Councilmember Mark French District 4

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Monday—Friday 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM



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

A message from your City Manager......

The COVID Pandemic continues to present challenges to our health and our lifestyle. Georgia cases are slowly dropping in number. We urge everyone to remain vigilant and safe, continuing the protocols, including frequent hand washing, wearing a mask, and social distancing. City Hall will remain closed through the month of February to protect our customers and our personnel. You can still reach us via phone or email, and appointments can be made by calling City Hall at 706-265-3256 or 706-203-4924 to make an appointment with our Planning & Zoning Department.

Please remember our donation barrels located in front of City Hall near the entrance to the Georgia Racing Hall of Fame/ Dawsonville History Museum. There is one for book donations and one for food donations. In today's current climate, there are many needs and food donations are especially needed. If you have non-perishable items you would like to donate, please drop them off at the barrel.

Big news in February was the grand reopening of the Dawsonville History Museum, aka Georgia Racing Hall of Fame. Several improvements have been made to the facility. Of special note is the brand-new Chase Elliott exhibit. This new edition is spectacular. Funding for the exhibit came from several sources, including a grant from the City's DDA, auction efforts and donations. The museum has several fresh exhibits and looks the best it has in years. Operated as a non-profit and managed by an incredible group of volunteers, this facility is of great benefit, attracting many to our community. Please stop in and have a look.

Projects planned for warmer weather include refurbish of the water tank at Burt's Crossing, continued work in Main Street Park, and deep patch repair and overlay paving of Main Street and Memory Lane. If funding allows, storm water work and paving of Jack Heard Street as well as deep patch repairs to Maple Street will begin. An additional funding-dependent project involves sidewalks connecting the Farmers Market to Main Street Park and the City Hall complex.

With frequent winter storms, City personnel works diligently to keep our roads safe. Please exercise caution when driving and allow yourself more time to get where you are going.



Bob Bolz

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: ROBIN GAZAWAY

FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR

This month's Employee Spotlight is on our newest team member, Finance Administrator, Robin Gazaway. Robin fills the position that became vacant when Hayden Wiggins left our service to take a substantial opportunity in the public sector. She will handle everything related to finance, accounting, audit, overseeing accounts payable and receivables, etc. A total of 60 applications were received for this position. After review of applications, interviews and reference checks, Robin was our top candidate. She has a BA in Accounting, an MBA, is a certified CPA and brings 35 years of experience to the job as an auditor in a private firm, auditing tax and real estate and 16 years serving as a county Financial Director.

Robin and her husband, Rick live in Morganton, GA. The daughter of a Marine, she has lived in Pennsylvania, California, Hawaii, Indiana, Kentucky, North Carolina, and Florida. She moved to Epworth, GA in 1975. She and her husband are the humans for Libby, a spoiled Brittney Spaniel. A member of Eastside Church of Christ, she loves walking, running, and baking. According to Robin, her love of baking is why she needs to walk and run five or six miles a day. She has hit the ground running and we are glad to welcome her to our team.

PLEASE PUTELITIES FEES FOR WATER AND SEWER RATES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, adopted June 1, 2020 at the City Council Regular Meeting, effective January 1, 2021, rates for water and sewer customers will increase slightly. Please refer to the brochure on our website at www.dawsonville-ga.gov for revised rates. At the home page, go to "Departments", "Utilities" and click on "City of Dawsonville Utility Brochure" at the bottom of the page.

Public Works Director: Trampas Hansard trampas.hansard@dawsonville-ga.gov Phone: (706) 531-6454

Planning & Zoning Director David Picklesimer david.picklesimer@dawsonville-ga.gov (706) 203-4926

City Clerk: Beverly Banister beverly.banister@dawsonville-ga.gov (706) 265-3256 City Staff at your Service City Manager: Robert D. (Bob) Bolz bob.bolz@dawsonville-ga.gov (706) 429-4524

For After-Hours Water/Sewer System Emergencies Please Call: (706) 265-3256

Finance Administrator Robin Gazaway robin.gazaway@dawsonville-ga.gov

Accounts Payable & Event Coordinator: Sara Beacham sara.beacham@dawsonville-ga.gov Utility Billing Technician: Tracy Smith tracy.smith@dawsonville-ga.gov Pay your bill online @ www.dawsonville-ga.gov

Human Resources Manager/Grants: Donna Blanton donna.blanton@dawsonville-ga.gov

Zoning Admin. Asst./IT Specialist Stacy Harris stacy.harris@dawsonville-ga.gov