



Dawsonville Profile

City News for the Residents of Dawsonville

Volume 15, Issue 1

January 2020

Message from the Mayor.....

Hello Dawsonville! Hope everyone had a great Christmas and New Years. It's now 2020, time to think about where we are and where we are going. As many of you may have noticed, we have almost finished the Farmers Market next to City Hall. We had a meeting with the committee who manages the market this past Saturday and they invited possible vendors and about 25-30 vendors attended. They all want to provide products for our community to buy. Their products range from tomatoes and beans to eggs and honey. Other products including crafts, jewelry and seafood may be available. The market will probably open in April and run through the growing season. They plan on opening on Saturday mornings.

Many other projects are underway and some close to completion, including Phase One of Main Street Park. We will have the playground open in a month or so and the Dawsonville Civitan is donating a wheelchair swing which will allow developmentally challenged children and adults to experience swinging that most of us take for granted. This asset may be ready by late spring or early summer.

We have awarded the contract for the new sidewalk from Rain Hill subdivision to Shoal Creek Road, providing a safe walking experience from that area to downtown. Work should commence shortly on that project.

Please remember that the flu is rampant in our community. Please be careful and make sure you get tested as soon as you have any symptoms as well as taking precautions to avoid germs.

A new hospital being constructed by Northeast Georgia on Hwy. 400 in Lumpkin County will begin in the summer of 2020 with the first patient visit in Fall 2021. This is going to be a great asset to our community.



Mike Eason, Mayor

I will resume my monthly "Coffee with the Mayor" as soon as the Legislature ends its session. Please let me know if you need anything and join us and our authorities and boards as they conduct the business of your City. All meetings are open to the public and live-streamed on our Facebook page. The meeting days and times are listed below.

IMPORTANT NOTICE



BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2020, THE FEE FOR GARBAGE SERVICE WILL INCREASE TO \$15.50/ MONTH.



****PLEASE REMEMBER**** At any time that City Hall is closed, you may place your utility payment in the secure blue drop box located to the side of the City Hall building.



If you are currently set up for e-bill or have provided us with your e-mail address, you will no longer receive a paper bill beginning on January 1, 2020. If you would prefer to have a paper bill instead of an e-bill, please contact our office if you have not already done so.

Call 706-265-3256 or email water@dawsonville-ga.gov

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
- 5:30PM Dawsonville Downtown Development Authority: JAN 27 MAR 23 MAY 26 JUL 27 SEP 28 NOV 23 * Watch live on Facebook 



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City Hall hours:

Monday—Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Website: www.dawsonville-ga.gov

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A message from your City Manager.....

Happy New Year, Happy New Decade! We at the City of Dawsonville are excited about the future. We have several projects finishing up. The Farmers Market only lacks the top coat of asphalt and parking lot striping and it will be done. We hosted a meeting of the Amicalola Regional Farmers Market and they are excited about what this new facility will bring to their market. They hope to open the market in April and are considering Saturdays instead of Fridays. In April, we plan to host an open house for this facility and may tie it to a Farmers Market and Food Truck event. Stay tuned for more information. When not in use by the Farmers Market, this facility will be available for rent for birthday parties, reunions, and other group events.

Phase I construction on Main Street Park is finished. Phase II construction, including street lighting, landscape work and fencing is well underway. This month ground was broken on construction of a new rest room to serve the park. Staff continue to work on a variety of projects within the park, including street signage, interpretive signs, trail markers, benches, picnic tables, kiosks and bulletin boards, porch-type swings, trash cans, grills, and related amenities. We have marked a potential access trail to the library and possibly Fire Station 1 and will be working with the county for an intergovernmental agreement allowing construction. A small nature trail is being laid out as well and staff are identifying and planning some picnic shelters of various sizes. We hope to have the grand opening this spring.

The new sidewalk planned along Perimeter Road from Shoal Creek to the Rain Hill subdivision was bid out with Jerry Townley Concrete, the low bidder. We look forward to work starting on this additional sidewalk very soon. Angela Lane, within Maple Heights subdivision is to be paved as soon as weather permits and in June, in a joint effort with the county, Perimeter Road will be repaved. Bids are to be opened this month for upgrades to our wastewater treatment plant and upgrade of our filter system on one of our better producing wells.



Bob Bolz

While winter continues, we continue our efforts improve services for our citizens and we wish all the very best in 2020!



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT:

DONNA BLANTON

Human Resources Manager

Our January Employee Spotlight falls on Human Resource Manager, Donna Blanton. She is responsible for everything personnel related, advertising vacancies, assisting with hiring, payroll, benefit information, workers comp and basically anything that concerns our greatest assets, our employees. It is Donna’s job to see that we treat them the very best. She researches rates of pay to ensure we are competitive. She handles anything and everything surrounding employee benefits. She handles our award programs for service and employee recognition. A former Employee of the Month, Donna is to be commended for her commitment to better working conditions, facilitating our Safety Committee and numerous efforts to take care of our employees. She also is tasked with identifying and preparing grants for various needs of the city.

Donna was born in California, with her father in the military. Donna and her husband, Tim have been married 10 years and live on the Dawson – Lumpkin County border in the Little Mountain area. She loves animals and takes in strays. Donna has a heart to help people. Since she was 15 years old, she has worked with special needs children. Donna writes poetry and enjoys reading, mostly motivational books and other non-fiction works. Her all-time favorite TV show is “I Love Lucy”. A very spiritual person, she and her husband worshipped at Free Chapel for years before moving to Lumpkin County. Now they are visiting several churches looking for a home. She loves to garden and canning the fruits of her labor. She spends a great deal of time taking care of her father who is suffering from Alzheimer’s disease. Donna enjoys spending time with her husband, working around the homeplace and frequenting antique shops. She has a passion for antique vehicles, especially trucks.

<p>Public Works Director: Trampas Hansard trampas.hansard@dawsonville-ga.gov Phone: (706) 531-6454</p>	<p>City Staff at your Service</p> <p>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 or by phone at 1-844-611-4023</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>Zoning Administrator: Nalita Copeland nalita.copeland@dawsonville-ga.gov</p>
<p>Planning Director: Robbie Irvin robbie.irvin@dawsonville-ga.gov (706) 265-3256</p> <p>City Clerk: Beverly Banister beverly.banister@dawsonville-ga.gov (706) 265-3256</p>	<p>Finance Administrator: hayden.wiggins@dawsonville-ga.gov</p> <p>Accounts Payable & Event Coordinator: Sara Beacham sara.beacham@dawsonville-ga.gov</p>	<p>Human Resources Manager/Grants: Donna Blanton donna.blanton@dawsonville-ga.gov</p> <p>Customer Service/IT Specialist/ Admin Asst. Stacy Harris stacy.harris@dawsonville-ga.gov</p>