



Dawsonville Profile

City News for the Residents of Dawsonville—NOVEMBER 2020

Message from your Mayor.....

The Christmas season is upon us and we have great plans. The annual Christmas tree lighting will take place at dark on Friday, December 4th in front of City Hall. The Chamber of Commerce annual Christmas parade will occur at 6:00 pm and will end at City Hall. Please join us for food trucks and other activities that evening.

We have also been meeting with the Dawson County Board of Commissioners to discuss the renewal of the Special Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST). This will be the seventh time that this has been on the ballot and it is critical to the operations of both the City and County government. SPLOST funds many operations like road repairs and paving, as well as construction projects that cannot be funded without raising property taxes on homeowners and business property.

There are several studies that show that the majority of SPLOST revenue is collected on sales of merchandise made by non-city and non-county residents. Residents outside our county contribute 80% of sales and local city and county citizens contribute 20%.

The ability to make large purchases such as construction of our much needed Waste Water Treatment facility, which will meet the needs of our City for years to come, would be almost impossible without raising property taxes on our citizens. This is a step we do not want to take. The support and vote for this is critical to our City and County.

We desperately need to resurface or replace streets in many subdivisions and without this renewal of the SPLOST, we may be unable to provide this critical need, as well as other services and support for our City.



Mike Eason



FREE FLU SHOTS

Where: Good Shepherd Clinic (behind Burger King)

When: Fri., Nov. 13 & 20; Fri., Dec. 4, 11, & 18 from 9:00 am to 12 noon on dates listed (no appt. needed)

For: Uninsured adults who live in Dawson Co.



CHRISTMAS PARADE & TREE LIGHTING

FRIDAY, DEC. 4th

Christmas parade—6:00 pm

Tree Lighting—7:00 pm

***FOOD TRUCKS *PHOTO WITH SANTA**

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

caleb.phillips@dawsonville-ga.gov



Councilmember
Stephen Tolson
District 2

Cell (706) 748-8005

stephen.tolson@dawsonville-ga.gov



Councilmember
John Walden
District 3

Cell (706) 531-6182

john.walden@dawsonville-ga.gov



Councilmember
Mark French
District 4

Cell (706) 429-8859

mark.french@dawsonville-ga.gov



City Hall hours:

Monday—Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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



A message from your City Manager.....

A lot has happened in your city since our October newsletter. The City hosted a ribbon cutting and unveiling of Thunder Road, renamed by GDOT for Highway 9 south. This name change brings recognition of that highway and its importance to ‘Shine Haulers’ in years past. We thank Representative Kevin Tanner and Mayor Mike Eason who were instrumental in making this happen.

The same weekend, the city was the site of a very successful Moonshine Festival held in Main Street Park, around the City Hall complex and along Allen Street. Vendors and participants alike seemed to enjoy the event, as it generates funds for Kare for Kids that are spent on hundreds of children in our area.

Just days after the Moonshine Festival, our community was slammed by Hurricane Zeta, knocking down trees and powerlines along with 700 power poles throughout our county. Utility crews worked around the clock to restore services. I must commend our city personnel, who worked around the clock to re-open roads and clean up debris.

On November 9th, our community welcomed home and celebrated hometown hero, Chase Elliott and his first NASCAR Championship. Huge crowds came out to get a glimpse of this fine young man and celebrate his victory and popularity. The city is very proud of Chase and appreciative of the fine way he represents our community.

Main Street Park continues to be developed as the new restrooms were opened. Additionally, staff are putting the finishing touches on a brand-new dog park located a short way down Memory Lane from Main Street Park. We anticipate having the dog park open by November 20th. It will not be complete as we are awaiting benches, trees, dog exercise stations and some other amenities; however, folks can begin to bring their dogs out for some off-leash exercise within the fenced area. The dog park has two areas, both fenced in and separated by a middle fence. The larger side is for large dogs and the smaller side for smaller dogs. Come on out and let your canine enjoy the park.

The murals facing Food Lion on the exterior walls of the GA Racing Hall of Fame were refurbished and look great! Robinson Elementary School, as part of their PBIS program for rewarding students with good behavior, began featuring the Main Street Park playground as one of their rewards. The DPH offered a drive-in Flu Clinic at the Farmer’s Market.

2020 has been tough on everyone. COVID continues to present challenges to our health and our lifestyle. As Thanksgiving draws closer, I encourage everyone to take a break and enjoy your family reflecting on your blessings. I am thankful for my Savior, my family, our health, and for the wonderful city personnel and elected leadership I work with every day. Your community is in good hands. God bless you and yours and Happy Thanksgiving!



Bob Bolz

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT:



KYLE RICHARDSON

Treatment Plant Operator

Our November Employee Spotlight falls on Treatment Plant Operator, Kyle Richardson. Kyle 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. Kyle and his fellow workers make chemical, operating, maintenance and laboratory changes when appropriate. The Utility Department has staff such as Kyle 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.

Kyle is the newest member to our team, having started working here on October 13th. Raised in Dawson County, Kyle lives on Howser Mill Road. A 2008 graduate of Dawson County High School; he is a certified crane operator who also has advanced coursework and a degree from Lanier Tech in welding. He also has several years of experience running a metal fabrication and welding shop. He brings farming and related equipment operation to our team as well. Kyle is a gifted carpenter and he puts these skills to work as a volunteer for the local non-profit, “Sleeping in Heavenly Peace”. Kyle enjoys hunting, fishing, metal work and wood working. His Dad, Phillip, retired in June from Shawnee EMC and his Mom, Michelle, is a teacher at Robinson Elementary. We are glad to have him join our team.

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) 344-2162 or (706) 344-9832

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