

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
April 9, 2018
7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Michael Eason called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Present were Councilmember Jason Power, Councilmember Mark French, Councilmember Caleb Phillips, Councilmember Stephen Tolson, City Attorney Dana Miles, City Manager Bob Bolz, City Clerk Beverly Banister, Utilities Director Gary Barr, Public Works Operations Manager Trampas Hansard, Planning Director Casey Majewski, Finance Administrator Hayden Wiggins and Human Resources Manager Donna Blanton.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE: Invocation and pledge was led by Councilmember Jason Power.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Motion to amend agenda by adding item #12a Contract with GMRC for Concept Plan on the Farmer's Market, #12b Discussion on Calling a City Council Meeting and item #12c Upgrading the Internet, Router and Firewall made by C. Phillips/J. Power. Vote carried unanimously in favor. Motion to approve the agenda as amended made by M. French/J. Power. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

1. **OATH OF OFFICE:** Mayor Elect Michael Eason was sworn into office as Mayor by City Attorney Dana Miles; he subsequently executed the oath of office. (Exhibit "A")
2. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** Motion to approve the minutes from the Work Session and Regular Meeting and the Executive Session held on 03/19/2018 and the minutes from the Special Called Meeting and Executive Session held 03/26/2018 made by J. Power/S. Tolson. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

3. **Alcoholic Beverage License Application: Chiragkumari Patel, residing at 2334 Dawson Forest Road, Dawsonville, GA 30534, has applied for the issuance of a license for a retail package for wine and distilled spirits on behalf of Golden Creek Investment LLC dba Discount Package, at the following premises: 2131 Highway 9 North Suite 200, Dawsonville, GA 30534.**

The public hearing was unanimously opened by C. Phillips/M. French. Mayor Eason conducted the public hearing. Planning Director Casey Majewski presented the alcoholic beverage license application. No one spoke in favor or opposition. A motion to close the public hearing was made by J. Power/S. Tolson. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

Motion to approve the alcoholic beverage license application for Chiragkumari Patel of Discount Package made by C. Phillips/J. Power. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

4. **An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 3 Alcoholic Beverages of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Dawsonville; and Other Purposes. Public Hearing Dates: April 9, 2018 and April 23, 2018**

The public hearing was unanimously opened by M. French/C. Phillips. Mayor Eason conducted the public hearing. City Attorney Dana Miles presented and discussed the amendment to the ordinance and requested any final changes be presented to him before the final public hearing and vote on April 23, 2018. No one spoke in favor or opposition. A

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motion to close the public hearing was made by S. Tolson/J. Power. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

5. **City Hall Closure for Moonshine Festival:** Mayor Eason explained the festivities for the Moonshine Festival starts on Friday at City Hall making it difficult for City Hall to function. Employees who do not have to work will take personal time; it will not be a paid holiday by the City. Motion to close City Hall on Friday, October 26, 2018 made by J. Power/M. French. Vote carried unanimously in favor.
6. **Convert Part Time Customer Service to Full Time Administrative Position:** City Manager Bob Bolz spoke on the need to convert a part-time position to a full-time position explaining the major duties for the position. Motion to approve converting the part-time customer service position to a full-time administrative position made by M. French/S. Tolson. Vote carried unanimously in favor.
7. **Acceptance of Stonewall Subdivision Roads:** Motion to accept the right of way warranty deed for acceptance of the roads in the Stonewall Subdivision made by M. French/J. Power. Vote carried 3 in favor (French, Power and Phillips) with 1 abstained (Tolson).
8. **Resolution – Speed Limit Reductions:** Motion to approve the speed limit reduction resolution and to forward it to the Dawson County Board of Education and the Dawson County Commissioners asking them to join in approving this or a similar resolution all of which can be presented to GDOT made by St. Tolson/J. Power. Vote carried unanimously in favor. (Exhibit "B")
9. **Revised Financial Policy:** Finance Administrator Hayden Wiggins presented the changes made to the financial policy. Motion to approve the financial policy as presented made by M. French/C. Phillips. Vote carried unanimously in favor.
10. **Revised Personnel Policy:** Human Resource Manager Donna Blanton presented the revised policy. Motion to approve the personnel policy as presented made by S. Tolson/C. Phillips. Vote carried unanimously in favor.
11. **Memorial Gardens Cemetery Plot Rates:** Public Works Operations Manager Trampas Hansard spoke to the Council regarding the need to increase the cemetery plot rates. Hansard also presented price comparisons of surrounding cities. Motion to increase the Memorial Garden Cemetery Plot rate from \$750.00 to \$1,250.00 per plot made by S. Tolson/M. French. Vote carried unanimously in favor.
12. **New Tenant Rental Agreement – 224 Flat Creek Drive:** Motion to approve the new tenant rental agreement at 224 Flat Creek Drive as presented made by M. French/S. Tolson. Vote carried unanimously in favor.
- 12a. **Contract with GMRC for Concept Plan on the Farmer's Market:** Motion to approve the agreement with GMRC for the concept plan on the farmer's market for \$2500.00 to be paid by SPLOST VI funds made by S. Tolson/M. French. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

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- 12b. Discussion on Calling a City Council Meeting:** Councilmember Phillips checked with City Attorney Miles about possibly adding a special called meeting specifically to hear the multiple annexations and rezones at a separate meeting outside of the regularly scheduled City Council meeting. Attorney Miles said due to advertising restrictions an additional meeting could not be called for that purpose.
- 12c. Upgrading the Internet, Router and Firewall:** Public Works Operations Manager Trampas Hansard told council our internet, router and firewall are outdated and needs to be upgraded. Motion to approve upgrading the internet, router and firewall for up to \$4,000.00 made by C. Phillips/M. French. Vote carried unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS

13. CITY MANAGER, BOB BOLZ

- i. The City now has a lending library and food bank located at City Hall; they are made from whiskey barrels.
- ii. Demolition will occur of the two homes on Allen Street once the tenant vacates the property. They are scheduled to leave on or before April 30, 2018.
- iii. Gold Creek Foods: City staff found their chemical spill on 03/22/2018; Gold Creek Foods did not report the spill when it occurred two days prior. The City contacted EPD and the investigation is still ongoing.
- iv. Gold Creek Foods: They installed a 16,000-gallon nitrogen tank without obtaining a building permit. We were made aware of the installation by Airgas. This issue will be addressed with Gold Creek Foods.
- v. Jeremy Porter from the DDA has requested more money for the fireworks in July.
- vi. Main Street Park bid package will go out on Friday, April 13, 2018.

14. CITY CLERK, BEVERLY BANISTER

- i. Received and processed 10 open records requests in the last month.
- ii. Set up GovDeals account and trained on listing assets. To date, five items have been sold at auction for a total of \$9,200.00. We will list old computer equipment, monitors, printers, hand towel and soap dispensers and the old Christmas trees in the next week.
- iii. Completed the GIRMA renewal for updated property and liability exposure information; a quote should be sent back shortly.
- iv. Working with the members of the DDA to acquaint them and myself with the procedures and protocols for meetings.
- v. Completed employee, peer, self and supervisor evaluations.
- vi. Working on organizing the City's records with the help of staff; this will be an ongoing process.

15. FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR, HAYDEN WIGGINS

- i. General fund revenues are at 88%; they are overperforming by approx. 21%. Expenditures are at 66%. Revenues for the Enterprise Fund are at 75% with expenditures at 65%. SPLOST VI will be showing increased expenditures with the Farmer's Market and Main Street Park gearing up. He will be keeping SPLOST V open until the issue with the TAVT from Dawson County is resolved.

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16. UTILITIES DIRECTOR, GARY BARR

- i. His department served 1,376 customers this month with 20 terminated accounts and 21 new accounts. There were 239 late notices mailed, 17 lock offs due to non-payment and 63 works orders were processed. 853 garbage customers were serviced with one can needing repair and zero cans needing to be replaced.
- ii. Balance of the expenditures for the water meter replacement project were submitted today to Ken Bryan for approval through GEFA.
- iii. He reported on an 1,100-acre piece of land this side of Gold Creek in which he received several phone calls regarding providing sewer on this property. Gary instructed the person to reach out to the Council. The property would serve 2,700 homes.

17. PUBLIC WORKS OPERATIONS MANAGER, TRAMPAS HANSARD

- i. He continues to work on getting the blinds in the Council Chambers repaired. He has another vendor coming this Wednesday. He may need to find another option for the blinds altogether.
- ii. The lights throughout the entire City Hall building will be replaced with LED lights.
- iii. The Joe Lane Cox room has been repainted and chair rail has been installed.
- iv. Sidewalk on JC Burt Road is completed. He is hoping with the speed limit reduction resolution being passed we can obtain a crosswalk in the future. The property owners in the Burt's Crossing Subdivision would like to submit a petition to help with the speed limit reduction and the potential of a crosswalk.
- v. The next sidewalk project will be from Shoal Creek to Rainhill Subdivision. It's been engineered; he is trying to obtain an easement and then bids will go out.

18. PLANNING DIRECTOR, CASEY MAJEWSKI

- i. The department has been busy with 48 annexations and rezones. They have received a request from a property owner who was out of the country during the 60-day period to annex in for no cost. She presented Council with the request from the owner asking to annex in at no cost.
- ii. Majewski explained all the work that went into processing the 48 annexations and rezones and stated it was a team effort with the help of other staff and Majewski expressed her gratitude. She specifically wanted to recognize Nalita Copeland who spear-headed the whole thing and she feels the process could not have been possible without her.
- iii. Inspections are about the same; approximately 50 for the month. Final closings and permits continue to come in at a steady flow.
- iv. Assisted with the Main Street Park bid package.
- v. Code enforcement complaints have been coming in for sediment and erosion control specifically with Maple Heights; the department has been working with them to resolve the issues, however, they are at a point in which they will need to issue stop work orders for Adam's Homes since they are not responding to requests.
- vi. Animal control complaints have also come in; a dog bite incident occurred last week.
- vii. Software is being updated online.
- viii. The Gold Creek Foods chemical spill has also had an impact on the department in the last several weeks.

19. HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGER, DONNA BLANTON

- i. As the Pension Committee secretary, she has been working with GMA on the retirement benefits and completing forms for past employees. Blanton is also completing an employee census for GMA which is due April 20, 2018.

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- ii. Safety issues are distributed and discussed at the monthly staff meeting. The safety committee recently conducted an inspection of all the city's properties and the findings were submitted to the City Manager.
- iii. A college intern from the University of Georgia and will be starting on May 7, 2018 and working 40 hours in May and June. He is majoring in Political Science and his goal is to become a City Manager

MAYOR/COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Eason reported his attendance in the matters listed below:

- i. The closing on the new city property on Allen Street.
- ii. Ribbon cutting for Edge Roofing a new business in Dawson County
- iii. Class at GMRC on resources available from them.
- iv. Met with staff and the Chamber director to discuss plans for marketing our city.
- v. The Chamber lunch and heard a very good presentation from the Norton agency about economic information about our community stressing growth and potential growth
- vi. Met and talked with staff and council members on establishing a Specially Called Meeting
- vii. Ribbon cutting for the Rhoads Group, a new insurance company in the county providing both personal and commercial insurance here in Dawsonville and the county
- viii. The Comprehensive Planning meeting with a number of citizens to look at what we want Dawsonville to be in the future. They next public meeting with this group is on April 11th and the public is welcome to attend.
- ix. Conducted a presentation with members of the city staff for approximately 25 participants of the Chamber's Leadership 2018
- x. Ribbon cutting for Pokeyaki near Publix
- xi. Ribbon cutting for Bealls near Kroger
- xii. The Family Connection monthly meeting
- xiii. The closing on the Hamby property; 30 acres near well 111
- xiv. Went out with council members and staff on the chemical incident from Gold Creek Foods
- xv. Along with the council held the Special Called Meeting for the annexation of properties into the city

Councilmember Power reported he was out in the field during the Gold Creek Foods chemical spill incident and he will be attending the Board of Health meeting tomorrow morning at 9:00 am.

Councilmember Phillips reported he was also out in the field during the Gold Creek Foods chemical spill incident. He also attended the Planning Commission meeting where they approved a conditional use permit beside Amicalola Propane for Highway Business on the front and storage units on the back. Multiple annexations and rezones were also heard by the PC all of which the rezoning of the property was approved.

Councilmember Tolson wanted to recognize the work of the staff dealing with issues that are rarely seen by the public and thank them on behalf of the citizens and himself.

Councilmember French reported on attending the GRHOF meeting; he heard of several projects they are involved with.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

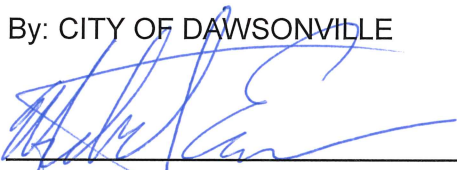
At 8:04 p.m. the Council motioned to close regular session and go into executive session for the purpose of Pending or Potential Litigation and Land Acquisition made by J. Power/C. Phillips. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

At 9:14 p.m. a motion to close executive session and resume regular session was made by M. French/S. Tolson. Vote carried 3 in favor (French, Tolson and Power) with 1 against (Phillips).


ADJOURNMENT

With there being no further business to attend to, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m. by S. Tolson/M French. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

By: CITY OF DAWSONVILLE



Michael Eason, Mayor



Caleb Phillips, Councilmember



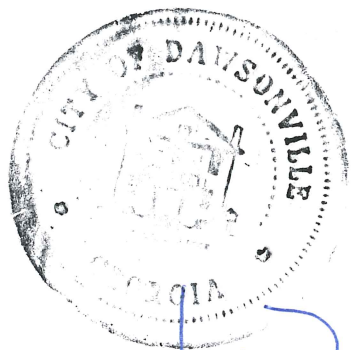
Jason Power, Councilmember

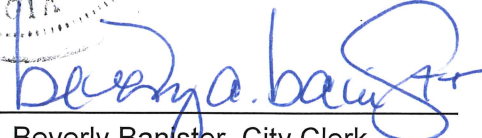


Stephen Tolson, Councilmember



Mark French, Councilmember



Attested: 

Beverly Banister, City Clerk

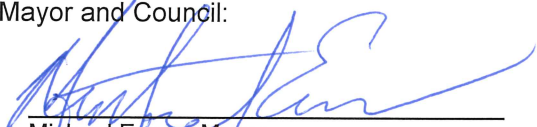
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DAWSON

AFFIDAVIT OF THE CITY OF DAWSONVILLE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Mayor Michael Eason, Councilmember Jason Power, Councilmember Caleb Phillips, Councilmember Stephen Tolson, and Councilmember Mark French; being duly sworn, state under oath that the following is true and accurate to the best of their knowledge and belief:

1. The City of Dawsonville Council met in a duly advertised meeting on the April 9, 2018.
2. During such meeting, the Board voted to go into closed session.
3. The executive session was called to order at 8:04 p.m.
4. The subject matter of the closed portion of the meeting was devoted to the following matter(s) within the exceptions provided in the open meetings law: (check all that apply)
 - Consultation with the City Attorney or other legal counsel to discuss pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the City or any officer or employee or in which the City or any officer or employee may be directly involved as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1);
 - Discussion of tax matters made confidential by state law as provided by O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(2) and _____;
 - Discussion of future acquisition of real estate as provided by O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(4);
 - Discussion or deliberation on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a City officer or employee as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(6);
 - Other _____ as provided in: _____.

This 9th day of April 2018; By the City of Dawsonville, Mayor and Council:



Michael Eason, Mayor



Caleb Phillips, Councilmember



Jason Power, Councilmember

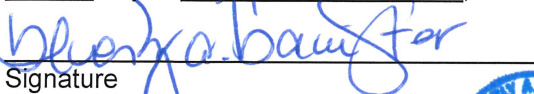


Stephen Tolson, Councilmember



Mark French, Councilmember

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 9th day of April, 2018.



Signature

Notary Public
My Commission expires:
02.18.2020



Beverly A. Banister
NOTARY PUBLIC
Dawson County, Georgia
My Commission Expires
February 18, 2020

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Dawsonville, Georgia 30534



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Section 3.16. Oath of officers.

Before a person takes any office in the city government, he or she shall take before an officer of the state authorized to administer oaths the following such oath or affirmation:

"I solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and of the State of Georgia; that I will in all respects observe the provisions of the Charter and ordinances of the City of Dawsonville; and I will faithfully discharge the duties of Mayor. So help me God."

This 9th day of April 2018

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Michael M. Eason", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Michael M. Eason, Mayor

Witness:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Beverly A. Banister", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized.

Beverly A. Banister, City Clerk

EXHIBIT "A"

**A RESOLUTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF REQUESTING SPEED LIMIT
REDUCTIONS FROM THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ON
CERTAIN STATE HIGHWAYS LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF
DAWSONVILLE**

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Mayor and Council of the City of Dawsonville to see safe and orderly movement of both pedestrian and vehicular traffic through the City;

WHEREAS, over the past decade the City has experienced significant growth in population close to doubling in size;

WHEREAS, as a consequence of and to accommodate that growth, the Dawson County Board of Education has erected two new schools (Dawson County High School and Dawson County Middle School) and done improvements and renovations to the existing Elementary School (Robinson) and Lanier Tech has opened a campus in the City resulting in increased vehicular and pedestrian school traffic;

WHEREAS, portions of State Highway 9 and State Highway 53 go through the City limits in areas that are increasingly populated with pedestrians and in particular by school children as well as by vehicles including school buses; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council find that public safety would be increased by reduction of speed limits on the state highways in the City that are adjacent to areas of increased growth and development that are in need of both sidewalks and crosswalks.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Mayor and Council of the City of Dawsonville Georgia to respectfully request of the Georgia Department of Transportation that speed limits be reduced on State Highway 9 and State Highway 53 in the City limits in the following locations:

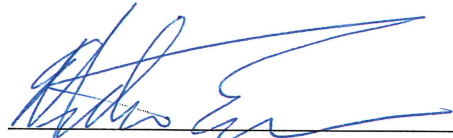
Highway 9 North- Reduce the speed limit from 45 mph to 35 mph beginning at Bruce Road (just north of First Baptist Church) and traveling south to the intersection with Highway 53 (stop sign).

Highway 9 South- Reduce the speed limit from 45 mph to 35 mph beginning approximately ¼ mile south of Perimeter Road (near Dawsonville Florist) and traveling north to the intersection with Highway 53 (historic courthouse round-about).

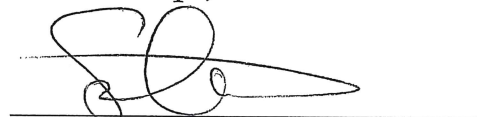
Highway 53 East- Reduce the speed limit from 45 mph to 35 mph beginning at Acorn Road (approximately ¼ mile east of Perimeter Road) and traveling west to the intersection with Highway 9 (stop sign).

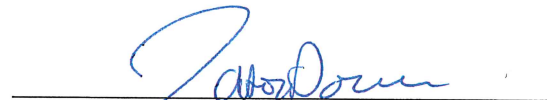
Highway 53 West- Reduce the speed limit from 45 mph to 35 mph beginning at Creekstone Lane and continuing to the east until it reduces to 25 mph at the present location near Maple Street.

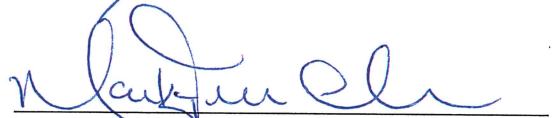
SO RESOLVED this 9th day of April, 2018.


Mike Eason, Mayor


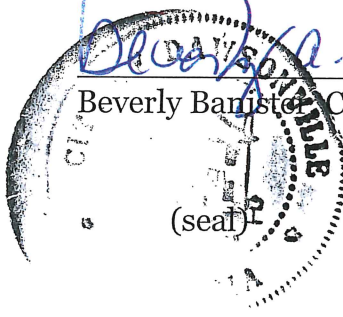

Caleb Phillips, Councilmember


Stephen Tolson, Councilmember


Jason Power, Councilmember


Mark French, Councilmember

Attested to:


Beverly Banister, City Clerk

(seal)