

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING AND WORK SESSION
G.L. Gilleland Council Chambers, City Hall 2nd Floor
Monday, October 19, 2020
5:00 P.M.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Mike Eason called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.
2. **ROLL CALL:** Present were Councilmember John Walden, Councilmember Mark French, Councilmember Caleb Phillips, Councilmember Stephen Tolson, City Attorney Dana Miles, City Manager Bob Bolz, City Clerk Beverly Banister, Public Works Director Trampas Hansard, Planning Director David Picklesimer and Finance Administrator Hayden Wiggins.
3. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE:** Invocation and Pledge were led by Councilmember Phillips.
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Mayor Eason reminded citizens to vote and to complete the 2020 census. Advanced voting is going on and will be open this Saturday, October 24, 2020.
5. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Motion to approve the agenda as presented made by S. Tolson; second by C. Phillips. Vote carried unanimously in favor.
6. **PUBLIC INPUT:** No comments from the public.
7. **CONSENT AGENDA:** Motion to approve the consent agenda for the following items (a, b, c) made by J. Walden; second by S. Tolson. Vote carried unanimously in favor.
 - a. Approve Minutes
 - Regular Meeting held October 5, 2020
 - Executive Session held October 5, 2020
 - b. Approve 2021 Solid Waste Collection Service Contract
 - c. Approve Bid and Budget Amendment for Dog Park Fencing: ***Awarded to Gateway Fence Company in the amount of \$20,000.00 with a Budget Amendment from General Fund Reserves for the same amount***
8. **EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION**
 - a. **Gary Barr – 30 Years of Service:** Gary Barr could not attend this meeting due to a family emergency; Mayor Eason reported the Council will recognize him in a future meeting.
 - b. **Beverly Banister – Georgia Certified Clerk:** Mayor Eason and the Council recognized Beverly Banister for completing the required training through the Carl Vinson Institute of Government to become a Georgia Certified Clerk and presented her with a plaque from the University of Georgia.

BUSINESS

9. **PROCLAMATION – RETIRED EDUCATORS DAY:** Mayor Eason read the proclamation recognizing Retired Educators Day on November 1, 2020.

Motion to approve the proclamation made by M. French; second by J. Walden. Vote carried unanimously in favor. (Exhibit "A")
10. **RESOLUTION – TAR WARS: DECLARING VAPING AND TOBACCO USE A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS:** Motion to approve the resolution as presented made by S. Tolson; second by C. Phillips. Vote carried unanimously in favor. (Exhibit "B")

WORK SESSION

11. **EAGLE SCOUT CANDIDATE PROJECTS**
 - a. **Dog Park at Main Street Park:** Christopher Palmer Hartley presented his plan to the Council regarding his project to develop the dog park.
 - b. **Trail from Main Street Park to Library:** Austin Wood spoke to the Council explaining his project to develop the trail from Main Street to the Library
 - c. **Lending Library for Small Children at Main Street Park:** No presentation; candidate did not attend the meeting.
12. **2021 MEETING CALENDAR DRAFT:** The draft of the meeting calendar for 2021 was presented. Mayor Eason requested the Council to provide feedback to the City Clerk. This item will be presented at the November 2nd meeting for consideration of final approval.

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13. FIFTY-THIRD MOUNTAIN MOONSHINE FESTIVAL UPDATE: Mayor Eason and Councilmember Tolson provided a brief update on the Moonshine Festival and stated Hwy. 53 will be able to remain open during the festival.

14. DISCUSSION OF JOINT MEETING WITH DAWSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGARDING SPLOST VII: Motion to provide the Dawson County Board of Commissioners with the available dates of November 17th, 18th or 19th (early morning or late day) for a joint meeting as requested made by C. Phillips; second by S. Tolson. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

STAFF REPORTS

15. BOB BOLZ, CITY MANAGER: City Manager Bolz had no additions to his report as provided in the agenda packet.

16. HAYDEN WIGGINS, FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR: Financial reports representing fund balances and activity provided through September 30, 2020.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:


At 5:26 p.m. a motion to close regular session and go into executive session for potential litigation was made by J. Walden; second by S. Tolson. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

At 5:41 p.m. a motion to close executive session and resume regular session was made by J. Walden; second by M. French. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 5:43 p.m. a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by M. French; second by J. Walden. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

By: CITY OF DAWSONVILLE



Mike Eason, Mayor



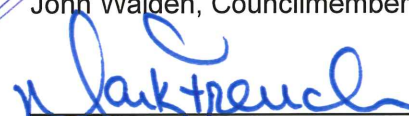
Caleb Phillips, Councilmember Post 1



Stephen Tolson, Councilmember Post 2



John Walden, Councilmember Post 3



Mark French, Councilmember Post 4



Attested: 

Beverly A. Banister, City Clerk

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DAWSON

AFFIDAVIT OF THE CITY OF DAWSONVILLE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Mayor Michael Eason, Councilmember John Walden, 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 October 19, 2020.
2. During such meeting, the Board voted to go into closed session.
3. The executive session was called to order at 5²⁶ 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(b)(1);

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(b)(2);

Other _____ as provided in: _____.

This 19th day of October 2020; By the City of Dawsonville, Mayor and Council:


Mike Eason, Mayor

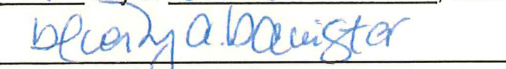

Caleb Phillips, Councilmember Post #1


Stephen Tolson, Councilmember Post #2


John Walden, Councilmember Post #3

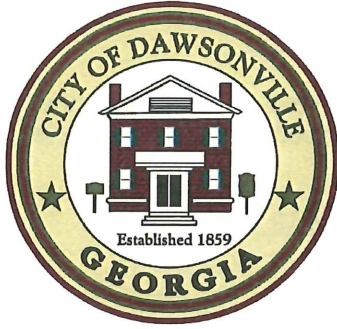

Mark French, Councilmember Post #4

Sworn to and subscribed before me this
19 day of October, 2020.


Signature, Notary Public

My Commission expires: Feb 18, 2024





Proclamation

Retired Educators Day

in Georgia

November 1, 2020



WHEREAS: The Governor of the State of Georgia has proclaimed the day of Sunday, November 1, 2020 as Retired Educators Day in Georgia; and

WHEREAS: There are more than 32,000 retired educators who have devoted their time and talents to public education in our state, fostering the academic development of millions of outstanding citizens in the State of Georgia; and

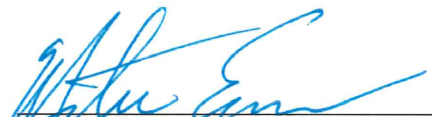
WHEREAS: The retired educators of Georgia donate thousands of hours to volunteer service and make invaluable contributions to the welfare of their respective communities across the state; and

WHEREAS: It is appropriate that a day be designated for citizens to express their appreciation for the contributions that retired educators have made and continue to make the betterment of human lives and for society; and

WHEREAS: Local churches will recognize those lasting contributions made by retired Educators in this community; now

THEREFORE: I, Mike Eason, Mayor of Dawsonville, Georgia do hereby proclaim the 1st day of November, 2020, as "RETIREED EDUCATORS DAY IN GEORGIA" and I call upon the citizens of Dawsonville to observe that day in an appropriate manner honoring retired educators.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Dawsonville to be affixed this 19th day of October, 2020.


Mike Eason, Mayor

Attest:



Beverly A. Banister, City Clerk

Exhibit "A"



A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF DAWSONVILLE, GEORGIA

A RESOLUTION DECLARING VAPING AND TOBACCO USE A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS AND SUPPORTING EARLY EDUCATION OF YOUTH IN DAWSON COUNTY

WHEREAS, the City of Dawsonville recognizes the important role of government in endorsing and promoting healthy living policies and activities for its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the State of Georgia issued a Public Health Advisory in October 2019 declaring vaping a public health crisis in Georgia and calling for the education of the public about the dangers of vaping; and

WHEREAS, the State of Georgia suffered the loss of six Georgians due to e-cigarette or vaping product use-associated lung injury (EVALI) in 2019; and

WHEREAS, as of February 18, 2020, a total of 2,807 hospitalized EVALI cases or deaths have been reported to CDC from 50 states, the District of Columbia, and two U.S. territories (Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands) and sixty-eight deaths have been confirmed in 29 states; and

WHEREAS, the percentage of Dawson County students in the 6th through 12th grade who reported vaping in 2019 was 12.53%, an increase of more than 25% since 2015; and

WHEREAS, the percentage of Dawson County students who report vaping is higher than the state average of 9.27%; and

WHEREAS, tobacco use has been linked to diseases and cancers that impact every organ in the human body and can harm those who inadvertently inhale tobacco smoke exhaled from the user; and

WHEREAS, tobacco use is the largest contributor to premature death in the United States, followed closely by poor diet and lack of physical activity; and

WHEREAS, vaping has been linked to nicotine addiction and permanent lung damage in adolescents, as well as death; and

WHEREAS, nicotine, the highly addicting ingredient in cigarettes, is also found in vaping devices and has been proven to lead to lifelong addiction for youth and negatively impact adolescent brain development, including affecting working memory and attention; and

WHEREAS, those who vape and use cigarettes are seven times more likely to be diagnosed with COVID-19 according to the Journal of Adolescent Health; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of Dawsonville passed Ordinance of 5-6-2019, § 1 and Ordinance of 7-15-2019, § 6 expressly prohibiting the use of vaping and tobacco products in or around government buildings, schools and churches; and

WHEREAS, the Georgia Healthy Family Alliance (GHFA), the philanthropic arm of the Georgia Academy of Family Physicians, is spearheading an effort to educate Georgia students about the dangers of vaping and tobacco use with "Tar Wars"; and

WHEREAS, the mission of GHFA is to serve the people of Georgia by enhancing their well-being through educational and outreach programs that promote healthy practices consistent with the principles of family medicine.

WHEREAS, Tar Wars is an evidence-based program that has been used since the late 1980s to teach students about the dangers of tobacco use and has been adapted to include information about vaping; and

WHEREAS, since the development of Tar Wars in 1988, the program has reached more than 10 million children worldwide; and

WHEREAS, Tar Wars is consistent with the guidelines for youth tobacco prevention programs set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

WHEREAS, GHFA has a goal of educating 20,000 students in Northeast Georgia about the dangers of vaping and tobacco use; and

WHEREAS, GHFA is proud to have the support of Northeast Georgia Health System as the presenting sponsor for Tar Wars in Northeast Georgia; and

WHEREAS, interventions targeting youth, such as the Tobacco-Free Schools policy, provider screening and referral, and cessation support, are effective at reducing initiation and use of tobacco and nicotine products and improving cessation outcomes for youth.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Dawsonville is committed to dedicating resources to preventing vaping and tobacco use initiation by its youth and fully supports the efforts of the Georgia Healthy Family Alliance in educating the youth of Dawsonville.

SO ADOPTED AND RESOLVED by the Dawsonville City Council of the Dawsonville, GA, this 19 day of October, 2020.

**MAYOR AND DAWSONVILLE CITY
COUNCIL**

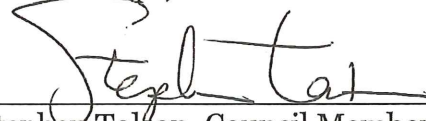
By:



Mike Eason, Mayor



Caleb Phillips, Council Member Post 1



Stephen Tolson, Council Member Post 2

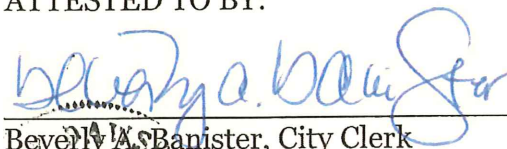


John Walden, Council Member Post 3



Mark French, Council Member Post 4

ATTESTED TO BY:



Beverly A. Banister, City Clerk

