

THE CITY OF DALTON
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MINUTES
MARCH 2, 2026

The Mayor and Council held a meeting this evening at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. Present were Mayor Pro-tem Tyree Goodlett, Councilmembers Dennis Mock and Steve Farrow, City Administrator Andrew Parker and City Attorney Jonathan Bledsoe. Mayor Annalee Sams was absent.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro-tem Goodlett called the meeting of the Mayor and Council to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmembers led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On the motion of Councilmember Mock, second Councilmember Farrow, the Mayor and Council approved the agenda. The vote was unanimous in favor. Mayor Pro-tem Goodlett, Council members Mock and Farrow voted aye.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Brooke Lee, a Dalton resident, requested that the city install a restroom facility at the Mill Line trail, a heavily used 3.5-mile recreational path. She explained that the trail attracts hundreds of users each week—walkers, runners, seniors, families with strollers, and pet owners—yet has no restroom access. Lee continued stating the nearest restroom at Hagmill Lake Park is more than two miles away, accessible only via rugged terrain and not usable by people with dogs or strollers. Further stating that due to the lack of facilities, sanitation issues have become common, with individuals relieving themselves along the trail. Lee noted strong community support for adding restrooms, with over 350 petition signatures collected in under a week and more than 200 social media posts within a day. Lee respectfully asked the council to consider funding options, whether permanent, phased, or temporary, and to place the issue on a future agenda for action.

Dee Goodwin, a lifelong Dalton resident and retired educator, spoke in strong support of installing a restroom facility at the Mill Line trail. Goodwin stated she uses the trail four to five times a week and emphasized how heavily it is used by diverse groups, including college environmentalists, special-needs adult daycare participants, seniors, families with strollers, pet owners, and large community groups. Goodwin described ongoing sanitation issues, including people needing to relieve themselves in the woods and leaving behind toilet paper, and recounted a story of a 72-year-old resident who apologized for doing so due to lack of options. Goodwin urged the city to consider practical solutions such as port-a-lets, locking facilities at night, or using approaches similar to other greenways that provide restrooms every mile. She concluded by asking the council to take action and stating that addressing this need would make someone a “community hero.” Goodwin submitted a petition with 300 signatures.

Response to Mill Line Restrooms

City Administrator Parker stated he will begin working on temporary options this week, especially given the strong community support shown through the petition. Parker stated the city is currently in the design phase for Phase Two of the Mill Line project, where the need for permanent restrooms has already been identified. Parker further stated that installing permanent facilities is challenging because much of the area lies in a floodplain, but staff have begun evaluating higher adjacent land that might be used through partnership or acquisition. In the meantime, Parker stated it is worthwhile to pursue temporary restroom solutions, noting that similar temporary facilities were used at Civitan Park until permanent ones were ready. Staff will research available options and report back to the council.

MINUTES

The Mayor and Council reviewed the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 16, 2026. On the motion of Councilmember Mock, second Councilmember Farrow, the minutes were approved. The vote was unanimous in favor.

ALCOHOL BEVERAGE APPLICATIONS

The Mayor and Council reviewed the following (3) three New 2026 Alcohol Beverage License Applications:

Business Owner: Neelkanth 0612, LLC
d/b/a: Marathon (Gas Station)
Applicant: Ami Gamoth
Business Address: 2201 Chattanooga Rd.
License Type: Package Beer, Wine (Retail Store / Gas Station)
Disposition: New
Staff Comments: None. Have approvals from Fire Department, Code Enforcement and City Attorney's Office

PSC Recommendation: Approve

On the motion of Councilmember Mock, second Councilmember Farrow, the Mayor and Council approved the application. The vote was unanimous in favor. Mayor Pro-tem Goodlett, Council members Mock and Farrow voted aye.

ALCOHOL BEVERAGE APPLICATIONS Cont.

Business Owner: El Costeno Hardware Inc.
d/b/a: El Costeno Hardware Inc.
Applicant: Rosa E. Moreno
Business Address: 1101 New Doris St. Suite 1
License Type: Package Beer (Retail Store)
Disposition: New
Staff Comments: None. Have approvals from Fire Department, Code Enforcement and City Attorney's Office

PSC Recommendation: Approve

On the motion of Councilmember Mock, second Councilmember Farrow, the Mayor and Council approved the application. The vote was unanimous in favor. Mayor Pro-tem Goodlett, Council members Mock and Farrow voted aye.

Business Owner: Shakti 1, LLC
d/b/a: Dalton Food & Tobacco
Applicant: Hirenkumar B. Patel
Business Address: 601 N. Glenwood Ave
License Type: Package Beer, Wine (Retail Store)
Disposition: New
Staff Comments: None. Have approvals from Fire Department, Code Enforcement and City Attorney's Office

PSC Recommendation: Approve

On the motion of Councilmember Mock, second Councilmember Farrow, the Mayor and Council approved the application. The vote was unanimous in favor. Mayor Pro-tem Goodlett, Council members Mock and Farrow voted aye.

RESOLUTION 26-05 AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF LIEN - MASONIC LODGE AT 600 S. HAMILTON STREET

City Administrator Andrew Parker presented Resolution 26-05, will release the lien and cancel the security interest for the Masonic Lodge located at 600 South Hamilton Street. Parker stated several months earlier, the Council approved a demolition consent order, and the City's Public Works Department completed all required demolition work. Additionally, Parker stated the City then invoiced the Masonic Lodge trustees for the cost. Parker reported the trustees of the Masonic Lodge paid the full invoice, and the original agreement required the City to hold a security interest until payment was made. Parker explained Resolution 26-05 authorizes cancellation of that security interest and a quit claim deed provided to the Masonic Lodge trustees. On the motion of Councilmember Mock, second Councilmember Farrow, the Mayor and Council approved the Resolution. The vote was unanimous in favor. Mayor Pro-tem Goodlett, Council members Mock and Farrow voted aye.

AIRPORT GRAZING/HAY HARVESTING LEASE AGREEMENT WITH MR. KENNETH ROBERTSON

Airport Director Andrew Wiersma presented an airport grazing and hay harvesting lease agreement with Mr. Kenneth Robertson. Wiersma stated Robertson has leased airport property since the early 2000s, with the most recent update in 2019. Wiersma stated Mr. Robertson is requesting to release about 50 acres he currently leases and instead add approximately 60 acres located at the opposite end of the field with the understanding that these areas of airport property are kept mowed and maintained. Additionally, Wiersma stated the portion Robertson is releasing will be incorporated into a separate lease for Mr. Luis Magana. On the motion of Councilmember Mock, second Councilmember Farrow, the Mayor and Council approved the Lease. The vote was unanimous in favor. Mayor Pro-tem Goodlett, Council members Mock and Farrow voted aye.

Wiersma noted said property was purchased by the city in 2021 to clear obstructions in the Runway Protection Zone near Runway 32.

AIRPORT GRAZING/HAY HARVESTING LEASE AGREEMENT WITH MR. LUIS MAGANA

Airport Director Andrew Wiersma presented an airport grazing and hay harvesting lease agreement with Mr. Luis Magana. Wiersma stated Mr. Magana is requesting to lease about 50 acres that was previously leased by Mr. Robinson with the understanding that this area of airport property is kept mowed and maintained.

On the motion of Councilmember Mock, second Councilmember Farrow, the Mayor and Council approved the Lease. The vote was unanimous in favor. Mayor Pro-tem Goodlett, Council members Mock and Farrow voted aye.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, on the motion of Councilmember Mock, second Councilmember Goodlett the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:14 p.m.

Bernadette Chattam
City Clerk

Annalee Sams, Mayor

Recorded
Approved: _____
Post: _____