

THE CITY OF DALTON  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MINUTES  
OCTOBER 21, 2024

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

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Sams called the meeting of the Mayor and Council to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Lama led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On the motion of Councilmember Farrow, second Councilmember Mock, the Mayor and Council approved the agenda. The vote was unanimous in favor.

PROCLAMATION

Dalton State College Men's Golf Day - October 21, 2024

Mayor Sams presented Dalton State College Men's Golf team with a proclamation proclaiming Monday, October 21, 2024 as "Dalton State College Men's Golf Day" in the City of Dalton. Dalton State Men's Golf team is the 2024 NAIA Men's Golf National Champion.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

There were no Public Comments.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Director of Tourism at Dalton CVB & Dalton Convention Center reported to the Mayor and Council that Governor Kemp released 2023 tourism numbers. Thigpen stated she wanted to give a snap shot of those numbers in which the State of Georgia has seen 9.1% increase in total tourism economic impact to the tune of \$79.7 billion. Thigpen further stated that Whitfield County's total visitors spending was 167.3 million with a growth rate of 2.9 % from 2022. Thigpen stated that if the trend holds, Whitfield Council will continue to grow more this year as the economic impact trends in that direction.

MINUTES

The Mayor and Council reviewed the Regular Session minutes of October 7, 2024. On the motion of Councilmember Goodlett, second Councilmember Farrow, the minutes were approved. The vote was unanimous in favor.

The Mayor and Council reviewed the Special Called meeting minutes of October 10, 2024. On the motion of Councilmember Lama, second Councilmember Farrow, the minutes were approved. The vote was unanimous in favor.

SECOND READING ORDINANCE 24-28 TO AMEND UNIFIED ZONING ORDINANCE OF WHITFIELD COUNTY, GEORGIA

The Mayor and Council held a Second Reading of Ordinance 24-28 To Amend Unified Zoning Ordinance of Whitfield County, Georgia; To Provide an Effective Date; To Repeal All Conflicting Ordinances; To Provide for Severability; And for Other Purposes.

City Administrator Andrew Parker stated this ordinance is a text amendment that will delete the current definition and replace it with the new definition as follows:

***Junk Vehicles.** Any automobile, vehicle, or part thereof which is in an inoperative condition, by reason of it having been wrecked, dismantled, partially dismantled, abandoned, or discarded, and which does not have a valid license plate and current year tag attached there to. For purposes of this Ordinance, a vehicle is “inoperative” if it is incapable of movement by its own power. This definition shall not apply to any vehicle within a carport, shed, or other accessory structure. This definition shall also not apply to any vehicle located upon a parcel within the R-5, SA, or GA zoning district if such vehicle is fully enclosed within a fence providing not less than 90% visual blockage and which is not less than eight (8) feet in height. Such fence shall require a building permit and meet International Building Code requirements, and comply with the defined building setbacks for the zoning district which the fence is located.*

Parker noted this definition is in conflict with the current City Code. After discussion, on the motion of Council member Farrow, second Council member Mock, the Mayor and Council denied the text amendment. The vote was unanimous in favor.

SECOND READING ORDINANCE 24-32 - REZONING REQUEST OF CROW ROAD HOLDINGS

The Mayor and Council held a Second Reading Ordinance of Ordinance 24-32 a request from Crow Road Holdings to rezone from Heavy Manufacturing (M-2) to Rural Residential (R-5) a tract of land totaling 1.00 acres located on Waring Road, Dalton, Georgia. Parcel (12-143-11-004). City Administrator Andrew Parker stated this request came with a positive recommendation from the Staff and the Planning Commission. On the motion of Council member Lama, second Council member Farrow, the Mayor and Council approved the request. The vote was unanimous in favor.

SECOND READING ORDINANCE 24-33 - REZONING REQUEST OF CODY SPENCE

The Mayor and Council held a Second Reading of Ordinance 24-33 a request from Cody Spence to rezone from Medium Density Single Family Residential (R-3) to Rural Residential (R-5) a tract of land totaling 0.25 acres located at 801 Cumberland Drive, Dalton, Georgia. (Parcel 12-201-01-162). City Administrator Andrew Parker stated this request came with a negative recommendation from the Planning Commission and Staff citing R-5 zoning would allow use of the property in a manner that would conflict with the established pattern of zoning. On the motion of Council member Mock, second Council member Goodlett, the Mayor and Council denied the request. The vote was unanimous in favor.

RENEWAL OF AETNA EAP AGREEMENT

City of Dalton Human Resources Generalist Haliyma Jones presented a Renewal Agreement with Aetna for the City's Employee Assistance Program. Jones stated the term of the agreement is 01/01/2025 through 12/31/2027 for \$1.94 PEPM or \$10,000 annually.

On the motion of Council member Mock, second Council member Lama, the Mayor and Council approved the agreement. The vote was unanimous in favor.

NORFOLK SOUTHERN - HAMILTON STREET PROPERTY LEASE

Assistant City Administrator Todd Pangle presented the Property Lease with Norfolk Southern for a property located at the SE corner of Hamilton Street and Hawthorne Street. Pangle stated the purpose for the lease of the property will be a beautification lease giving the city the opportunity to grade the lot, plant trees and grass, and to make coming into downtown more aesthetically pleasing. Pangle further stated the lease amount is \$300.00 per annum with a \$500.00 one-time administration fee with the lease beginning November 1, 2024. On the motion of Council member Mock, second Council member Farrow, the Mayor and Council approved the Property Lease. The vote was unanimous in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, on the motion of Councilmember Farrow, second Councilmember Lama the meeting was adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bernadette Chattam  
City Clerk

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Annalee Sams, Mayor

Recorded  
Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Post: \_\_\_\_\_