

THE CITY OF DALTON  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MINUTES  
AUGUST 18, 2025

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

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 Lama, second Councilmember Goodlett, the Mayor and Council approved the agenda. The vote was unanimous in favor.

PRESENTATIONS/STAFF REPORTS

World's Greatest Convention Center Video - Margaret Thigpen

Margaret Thigpen, Tourism Director presented a brief video from the Bloomberg TV series "World's Greatest". Thigpen stated The Dalton Convention Center was selected by How to Media to be featured in the World's Greatest series. Thigpen stated the segment aired on July 19th and July 26<sup>th</sup> and reached approximately 70 million households.

Recreation Update

Steve Roberts, Recreation Director updated the Mayor and Council on the department's summer aquatics program and summer camps. Roberts stated John Davis Recreation Center pool made a big comeback after two summers of construction—welcoming 6,126 swimmers in a shortened season with swim lessons nearly full with 388 out of 390 slots filled. Roberts continued stating the Summer Fun Camp at the Mack Gaston Center grew to 70 campers, with an average of 56 kids per week and additionally camps were hosted for children with special needs, sports camps and fishing camp.

Citizen Octavio Perez questioned were the rates being lowered under 501 (c)3 non-profit designation.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

There was no Public commentary.

MINUTES

The Mayor and Council reviewed the Regular meeting minutes of August 4, 2025. On the motion of Councilmember Goodlett, second Councilmember Farrow, the minutes were approved. The vote was unanimous in favor.

**RESOLUTION 25-17 PARTICIPATION IN GMA DIRECT LEASE PROGRAM**

CFO Cindy Jackson presented Resolution 25-17 - Participation in GMA Direct Lease Program. Jackson stated the resolution allows the city to participate in the Georgia Municipal Association's (GMA) direct lease program, which provides flexible financing options for equipment and vehicles. Jackson further stated this program offers attractive interest rates and payment terms ranging from 2 to 13 years, with no early payoff penalties or membership fees. Jackson continued stating that under the lease, GMA retains ownership of the equipment until the lease is fully paid, at which point the city receives the title. Jackson stated this tool is intended to help finance public works and public safety equipment without requiring large upfront payments or issuing revenue bonds. On the motion of Councilmember Goodlett, second Councilmember Lama, the Resolution was approved. The vote was unanimous in favor.

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

City government offices will be closed Monday, September 1, 2025 in observance of Labor Day. The next regularly scheduled City Council meeting will be held Monday, September 15, 2025.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On the motion of Council member Lama, second Council member Goodlett, the Mayor and Council adjourned into executive session to discuss real estate matters at 6:20 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:05 p.m.

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Bernadette Chattam  
City Clerk

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Annalee Sams, Mayor

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