

THE CITY OF DALTON
SPECIAL CALLED
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MINUTES
JANUARY 27, 2026

The Mayor and Council held a Special Called meeting this morning at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Present were Mayor Annalee Sams, Council members Dennis Mock, Tyree Goodlett and Steve Farrow, City Administrator Andrew Parker and City Attorney Jonathan Bledsoe.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Sams called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Mock led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On the motion by Council member Goodlett, second by Council member Mock, the agenda was approved. The vote was unanimous in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

There were no Public Comments

UPDATE ON STORM SUPPORT

CEO John Thomas updated the Mayor and Council on Dalton Utilities efforts to assist other communities during the Ice Storm of 2026. Thomas stated approximately 10 staff members, including two powerline crews, were deployed to assist in storm restoration efforts in Holly Springs, Mississippi (suburb outside Memphis). Thomas stated the area experienced significant ice and snow, requiring additional support. Thomas further stated crews are working with the local community to restore power and address storm damage.

Mayor Sams expressed appreciation for the crews' willingness to assist other communities. Leadership's support in enabling this effort.

RESOLUTION 26-04 – RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DALTON, GEORGIA DECLARING ITS OFFICIAL INTENT TO PROCEED WITH THE PROPOSED ISSUANCE OF THE CITY OF DALTON GEORGIA COMBINED UTILITIES REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2026 FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINANCING CERTAIN PUBLIC UTILITY PROJECTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF DALTON UTILITIES

CEO John Thomas stated the proposed project by Dalton Utilities involves pursuing a debt offering of up to \$130 million to construct a 57-megawatt natural gas-powered electric generation facility on existing property, including all necessary infrastructure and grid connections. Thomas stated this will be a private placement with Regions Bank, offering flexibility and a lower interest range, with final rates determined at closing in April or May. Thomas further stated up to \$30 million can be prepaid within 24 months if unused, reducing interest costs. Financially, he stated the project is expected to save approximately \$1.5 million annually during the first ten years while paying debt service, and after payoff, about \$10 million annually, totaling \$150–\$200 million over 20 years. Thomas elaborated that the facility is projected to last 35–40 years.

Question

Council member Farrow asked Thomas to explain the projects connection to data centers.

Thomas clarified that the proposed project has no connection to data centers. Dalton Utilities has been transparent with data center customers Thomas said, stating they will not make long-term infrastructure investments solely to serve them; such investments would require partnership. The current project is based on historical analysis of purchased power over an extended period, not recent years.

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RESOLUTION 26-04

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Question

Council member Goodlett asked Thomas clarify any future rate increases as it relates to this project. Thomas emphasized that any future rate increases are unrelated to the proposed project and are part of normal operational adjustments. The project is intended to mitigate potential future market-driven increases, helping reduce their impact over time. While rates may not decrease, the initiative provides long-term cost stability.

Motion

There being no further discussion, on the motion of Council member Mock, second Council member Farrow, the Resolution was approved. The vote was unanimous in favor.

MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Sams made the following Mayoral appointments

Landbank Authority

Dennis Mock - 1-year term to expire 12/31/26
Annalee Sams - 1-year term to expire 12/31/26

Historic Preservation Commission - 1-year term to expire 12/31/26

Steve Farrow

APPOINTMENT – HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

On the motion Council member Farrow, second Council member Goodlett, the Mayor and Council appointed Rachel Dossche to the Historic Preservation Commission to fill the unexpired 3-year term of John Hutcheson to expire February 1, 2027. The vote was unanimous in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - PERSONNEL MATTERS AND POTENTIAL LITIGATION

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, on the motion by Council member Mock, second by Council member Goodlett, the Mayor and Council adjourned into Executive Session at 5:18 p.m. to discuss personnel matters and potential litigation.

Bernadette Chattam
City Clerk

Annalee Sams, Mayor

Recorded
Approved: _____
Post: _____