

THE CITY OF DALTON
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MINUTES
JULY 21, 2025

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 Administrator Andrew Parker and City Attorney, Jonathan Bledsoe.

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 Mock, second Councilmember Farrow, the Mayor and Council approved the amended the agenda to include “Civic Plus Website Agreement”. The vote to approve the amended agenda was unanimous in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

(1) Jim and Jillian Lidderdale from Garmony House located on Cuyler Street expressed concerns about the ongoing streetscape construction and the effects it is having on their business.

City Administrator Andrew Parker mentioned the City’s frustration with the contractor’s delays and are actively working with the City Attorney’s office to resolve the construction delays and improve communication with affected businesses.

(2) Octavio Perez raised concerns with increased panhandling and safety issues in the City.

Mayor Sams responded stating the need for better enforcement and possible ordinance updates.

City Administrator Andrew Parker expressed the City is reviewing its panhandling ordinance and looking at peer cities to tighten regulations, to address safety concerns and improve enforcement.

STAFF REPORTS

There were no Staff Reports.

MINUTES

The Mayor and Council reviewed the Regular meeting minutes of June 30, 2025. On the motion of Councilmember Mock, second Councilmember Lama, the minutes were approved. The vote was unanimous in favor.

SECOND READING ORDINANCE 25-16 - REZONING REQUEST FOR SEBASTIAN ARROQUI

City Administrator Andrew Parker presented a Second Reading of Ordinance 25-16 a request of Sebastian Arroqui to rezone from Neighborhood Commercial (C-1) to Rural Residential (R-5) a tract of land totaling 1.74 acres located on Trammel Street and Jones Street, Dalton, Georgia. Parcels (12-182-02-024, 12-182-02-025, 12-182-02-019, 12-182-02-012, 12-182-02-013, and 12-182-02-014). Parker stated the request received a positive recommendation from Staff and the Planning Commission. On the motion of Councilmember Mock, second Councilmember Lama, the request was approved. The vote was unanimous in favor.

SECOND READING ORDINANCE 25-17 - REZONING REQUEST FOR OCTAVIO PEREZ

City Administrator Andrew Parker presented a Second Reading of Ordinance 25-17 the request of Octavio Perez to rezone from High Density Residential (R-7) to General Commercial (C-2) a tract of land totaling 0.70 acres located 501 N. Hamilton Street, Dalton, Georgia. Parcel (12-200-24-000). Parker stated the request received a positive recommendation from Staff and the Planning Commission. On the motion of Councilmember Lama, second Councilmember Goodlett, the request was approved. The vote was unanimous in favor.

SECOND READING ORDINANCE 25-19 - TO AMEND CHAPTER 6 OF THE 2001 REVISED CODE OF THE CITY OF DALTON, GEORGIA CAPTIONED "ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES"

Assistant City Administrator Todd Pangle presented the second reading of Ordinance 25-19. Pangle stated the primary purpose is to place a limit on the number of liquor store licenses in the city. Pangle stated after reviewing several peer city ordinances it was decided to base the number of licenses on population. Pangle further stated that since the first reading there were two proposed revisions 1. the ability to transfer the license to a potential buyer that is a current license holder in the State of Georgia and 2. increased the number of drinks that can be sold from one to two drinks per ID at Burr Park and all other downtown locations that currently sell alcohol.

Motion to Adopt

Council member Goodlett made a motion to approve, Council member Mock seconded the motion.

Luis Gomez asked for clarification of the ordinance given the fact that although he has not filed an application, he is planning to open a liquor store and wanted to know if it would be possible with the adoption of the ordinance.

Mayor Sams stated a request was made from several liquor store owners asking the City investigate whether it's appropriate to have a cap and limit the amount of liquor licenses issued. Sams stated the liquor store owners came to both the Public Safety Commission and the Mayor and Council with the request.

Assistant City Administrator Todd Pangle reiterated Mayor Sams remarks stating the request was made from the current liquor store owners. Pangle stated City Staff researched other communities and learned where there is not a limit on licenses, the market can become saturated very easily. Pangle further stated in researching other communities, Cities are basing the number of licenses by population. Pangle reported the City of Dalton's population is 34,450 based on the census which is one liquor store per 2500 with a total of 14 licensed liquor stores which will be the limit. Pangle further stated should this ordinance pass the City will no longer issue any more liquor license until one goes out of business, changes ownership, or Dalton's population increase which is outlined in the ordinance.

SECOND READING ORDINANCE 25-19 - TO AMEND CHAPTER 6 OF THE 2001
REVISED CODE OF THE CITY OF DALTON, GEORGIA CAPTIONED “ALCOHOLIC
BEVERAGES”
CONTINUED

Citizen Octavio Perez questioned the population of 34,450 stating the population increases in the day time for people that work in the City but does not live there.

Mayor Sams clarified there is not a way to measure the daytime increased population so the census was used. Further, the Mayor stated that by adopting this ordinance it does not preclude the Mayor and Council from amending the ordinance at a later date, continuing she stated that should the population increase, the number of licenses issued will increase.

Motion to Table

After a lengthy discussion, Council member Lama made a motion to table the adoption of the ordinance, Council member Farrow seconded that motion. Council member Farrow noted that the motion to table supersedes the previous motion to approve. Mayor Sams called for a vote – Council members Lama and Farrow voted in favor of the motion to table, Council member Mock and Goodlett voted against the motion to table. Mayor Sams broke the tie in favor of not tabling the ordinance.

Motion to Adopt

Council member Goodlett made a motion to approve the ordinance, Council member Mock seconded the motion, Mayor Sams called for a vote and the ordinance was adopted. The vote was unanimous in favor.

RESOLUTION 25-12 - PARTICIPATION IN AN AMICUS BRIEF IN THE CHANG V. CITY
OF MILTON

City Administrator Andrew Parker presented Resolution 25-12 to authorize participation in an amicus brief in the Chang v. City of Milton appeal. Parker stated the resolution authorizes participation in an amicus brief with other Georgia Cities asking the Supreme Court to reverse the decision of the Court of Appeals and that responses to the Supreme Court’s three proffered questions be answered in a way that is advantageous to Georgia Cities. On the motion of Councilmember Mock, second Councilmember Goodlett, the Resolution was approved. The vote was unanimous in favor.

RESOLUTION 25-13 TO AUTHORIZE PARTICIPATION IN OPIOID SETTLEMENT
AGREEMENTS WITH PURDUE PHARMA AND THE SACKLER FAMILY

City Administrator Andrew Parker presented Resolution 25-13 to authorize participation in opioid settlement agreements with Purdue Pharma and the Sackler family. Parker stated the Resolution outlines that it is in the best interest of the City of Dalton to participate in the Settlement Agreement and receive settlement funds for the purpose of mitigating the effects of opioid abuse in the community. Parker further stated that the Resolution authorizes the City Administrator and the Chief Financial Officer to execute all documents that may be required to opt in. On the motion of Councilmember Mock, second Councilmember Lama, the Resolution was approved. The vote was unanimous in favor.

RESOLUTION 25-14 A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PARTICIPATION IN OPIOID SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH EIGHT OPIOID MANUFACTURERS

City Administrator Andrew Parker presented Resolution 25-14 to authorize participation in opioid settlement agreement with Eight Opioid Manufacturers. Parker stated the Resolution outlines that it is in the best interest of the City of Dalton to participate in the Settlement Agreement and receive settlement funds for the purpose of mitigating the effects of opioid abuse in the community. Parker stated the eight opioid manufacturers are listed in the Resolution. Parker further stated that the Resolution authorizes the City Administrator and the Chief Financial Officer to execute all documents that may be required to opt in. On the motion of Councilmember Mock, second Councilmember Lama, the Resolution was approved. The vote was unanimous in favor.

DEMOLITION AGREEMENT AND EASEMENT MASONIC LODGE NO. 238

City Administrator Andrew Parker presented a Demolition Agreement with the Masonic Lodge to demolish the dangerous building located on the corner of S. Hamilton Street and Emery Street specifically 602 South Hamilton, with the lodge reimbursing the city for costs. On the motion of Councilmember Mock, second Councilmember Goodlett, the Agreement was approved. The vote was unanimous in favor.

RATIFICATION OF CITY HALL HVAC PROJECT CHANGE ORDER 001

City Administrator Andrew Parker presented Change Order 001 for the City Hall HVAC Project for additional duct work and air controls to the west wing on the second floor. On the motion of Councilmember Lama, second Councilmember Goodlett, the Change Order in the amount of \$36,000 was approved. The vote was unanimous in favor.

INTEGRATED BUILDS CHANGE ORDER #4 ON HANGAR PROJECT AT AIRPORT

Airport Director Andrew Wiersma presented a change order for the Airport Hangar Project in the amount of \$1100 for crushed stone to backfill certain areas identified during excavation. On the motion of Councilmember Mock, second Councilmember Lama, the Change Order was approved. The vote was unanimous in favor.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

On the motion of Councilmember Farrow, second Councilmember Lama, the Mayor and Council approved the following re-appointment:

- Zoning Appeals Board Kenneth Harless 5 year

The vote was unanimous in favor.

On the motion of Councilmember Goodlett, second Councilmember Farrow, the Mayor and Council approved the following re-appointment:

- Planning Commission Jim Lidderdale 4 year

The vote was unanimous in favor.

On the motion of Councilmember Farrow, second Councilmember Lama, the Mayor and Council approved the following appointment:

- Planning Commission Steve Laird 4 year

The vote was unanimous in favor.

AGREEMENT - TOP SHELF FOOD AND BEVERAGE MANAGEMENT AND DALTON
PARKS AND RECREATION

City Administrator Andrew Parker presented a renewal Agreement with Top Shelf Food and Beverage Management for Concession Stand Operations at Dalton Parks and Recreation. On the motion of Councilmember Lama, second Councilmember Goodlett, the renewal Agreement was approved. The vote was unanimous in favor.

CIVIC PLUS WEBSITE AGREEMENT

City Administrator Andrew Parker presented Civic Plus Website Agreement for the renewal and upgrade of the City's website with Civic Plus. On the motion of Councilmember Lama, second Councilmember Goodlett, the Agreement was approved. 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 approximately 6:58 p.m.

Bernadette Chattam
City Clerk

Annalee Sams, Mayor

Recorded
Approved: _____
Post: _____