

# Town of Georgia

## Town Administrator Report

**Selectboard Meeting:** February 23, 2026

**Prepared by:** Stacy Katon, Town Administrator

**Reporting Period:** February 5 – February 19, 2026

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## 1. General Updates

### Short-Term Rental (STR) Ordinance

The STR Ordinance became fully effective on February 13, 2026.

### Animal Control Coverage

ACO Sara Currier will be out beginning February 24, 2026, for shoulder surgery. Assistant ACO Jim Benson has confirmed availability to provide field coverage as needed. All calls will continue through normal Animal Control contact channels.

### Nuisance Dog Enforcement

Two tickets previously issued related to a nuisance dog complaint were dismissed due to untimely submission. At the Board's request, the Town Attorney has been consulted to clarify what enforcement actions are legally available in similar situations moving forward.

### ACO Operational Support Concerns

ACO Sara Currier has expressed concerns regarding municipal support in handling stray, neglected, and abandoned animals, citing the extended care of a dog from fall 2025 as an example. She recommends establishing clearer procedures and support mechanisms for future cases. This may warrant future policy or operational discussion.

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## 2. Departmental Updates

### Library

The Library Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been forwarded to the Town Attorney for review and recommendations. Feedback is expected by the third week of February.

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## 3. Projects and Grants

### Active Grants

- **FY26 GIA Grant #GA1022 — \$24,000 (AOT)**  
Highway Department work anticipated to begin in spring.
- **FY26 Better Roads Grant — \$7,968**  
Funds a town-wide Road Erosion Inventory (REI).

- Total project cost: \$9,900 (80% grant coverage).  
Coordination initiated with NRPC.
- **FY26 United Way Sub-Agreement — \$36,000**  
Library grant supporting substance misuse prevention.

## **Pending Grant Applications**

- **FY25 Historical Preservation Grant — Brick Schoolhouse**  
Potential award: up to \$20,000.  
Follow-up initiated requesting formal agreement status.
  - **FY26 TAP/MHSMP — Bridge #28 Replacement/Repair**  
Submitted November 2025.  
Awards expected late March 2026.  
Potential award: up to \$950,000.
  - **FY26 HSIP — Guardrail Replacement**  
Submitted February 2, 2026.  
Amount requested: \$43,000.
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## **4. Financial / Budget Updates**

### **FY26 Strategic Planning**

Preliminary concepts and priorities are being developed to support FY26 planning discussions. A framework will be presented to the Board as a starting point for goal setting.

### **GIDC / CDBG Informational Discussion**

Preliminary conversations occurred with Greg Maguire and Tim Smith regarding LMS expansion within the industrial park and potential Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding. LMS has invited the Selectboard to tour their facility to better understand operational needs and growth plans. April is being considered; Board input on scheduling is requested.

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## **5. Policy, Ordinance, and Compliance**

Ongoing work continues to organize and modernize Town policies and procedures. Items scheduled for Board action at this meeting include:

- Adoption: Social Media Policy
- Adoption: Tobacco-Free Policy
- Adoption: Video Surveillance & Physical Access Policy
- Repeal: Sidewalk Ordinance
- Repeal: Stump Dump Ordinance

Additional review continues on procurement standards, including recommended updates to align with federal compliance requirements. Supporting materials are attached.

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## **6. Other Business / Board Input Requested**

### **Fire Truck Insurance Claim**

Follow-up continues regarding recovery of the \$1,000 deductible. Coordination with the other driver's insurer is ongoing.

### **Law Enforcement Services — June 2026**

Finalization remains contingent on Town Meeting budget approval and Franklin County Sheriff's Department capacity.

Hiring update from FCSD: A full-time Level III deputy begins March 16, 2026.

### **March 9, 2026 Reorganization Meeting**

Preparation is underway. Board members are encouraged to submit agenda items or questions.