

Special Called Meeting
Mayor and Council and Whitfield County Commissioners
Service Delivery Agreement Discussion
The Brown Center – Dalton State College
October 17, 2019

The Mayor and Council and the Whitfield County Commissioners had a Special Called meeting at the Brown Center at Dalton State College to discuss the Service Delivery Agreement. Present were Mayor Dennis Mock, Council members Denise Wood, Annalee Harlan and Gary Crews, County Commissioners Lynn Laughner, Harold Brooker, Barry Robbins, Greg Jones, and Roger Crossen. Members and Mayors from the cities of Tunnel Hill, Cohutta and Varnell were also present. Also present City and County Administrators Jason Parker and Mark Gibson respectively, and City and County Attorney's Gandhi Vaughn and Robert Smalley and several members of the public and media.

The Service Delivery Strategy process gives local governments and authorities the opportunity to reach agreement on the delivery of services in an effective and cost-efficient manner to Georgia's citizens. The intent of the Act is

- To provide a flexible framework for local governments and authorities to agree on service delivery arrangements.
- To minimize any duplication or competition among local governments and authorities providing local services.
- To provide a method of resolving disputes among service providers regarding service delivery, funding equity and land use.

Whitfield County, the City of Dalton, Tunnel Hill, Cohutta and Varnell must recertify the Service Delivery Agreement by October 31, 2019 or risk losing state grants and other funding and permits. DCA requires cities and counties negotiate a new service delivery agreement every 10 years outlining which services the government will provide and how it will be funded.

A presentation was presented by both the City of Dalton entitled "Whitfield County Service Delivery Presentation for Mediation and Settlement" and Whitfield County outlining tax inequities from their perspective.

Special Legal Counsel Andy Welch of the Smith, Welch Webb and White represented the City and Chief Justice Norman Fletcher was the mediator.

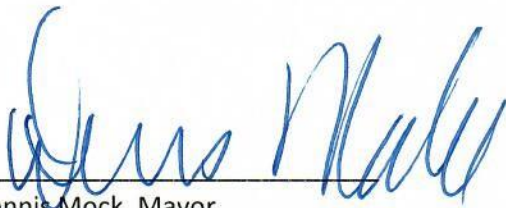
On the motion of Alderman Wood, second Alderman Harlan, the Mayor and Council adjourned into executive session at 10:40 a.m. to go into mediation which is confidential and cannot be disclosed. The vote was unanimous in favor.

On the motion of Alderman Wood, second Alderman Harlan, the Mayor and Council adjourned out of executive session at 5:33 p.m. which closed mediation without reaching an agreement.

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ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Councilmember Wood, second Councilmember Harlan, the Mayor and Council adjourned at 5:39 p.m.



Dennis Mock, Mayor

Bernadette Chattam
City Clerk