

THE CITY OF DALTON
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MINUTES
NOVEMBER 3, 2025

The Mayor and Council held a meeting this evening at 6:06 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. Councilmember 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 Farrow, the Mayor and Council approved the agenda. The vote was unanimous in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

There were no Public Commentary.

STAFF REPORTS

There were no Staff Reports.

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

Recognition of Cub Scout Pack 60

Mayor Sams recognized Cub Scout Pack 60, representing both City Park and Tunnel Hill Elementary Schools for their interest in learning about government—both direct and representative forms. Sams thanked the Pack for attending and engaging in the civic process."

MINUTES

The Mayor and Council reviewed the Regular meeting minutes of October 20, 2025. On the motion of Councilmember Farrow, second Councilmember Goodlett, the minutes were approved. The vote was unanimous in favor.

APPROVAL OF THE 2025 MILLAGE RATE OF 1.499 MILLS

CFO Cindy Jackson presented the 2025 Millage Rate. Jackson stated the rollback rate has been updated from 1.493 to 1.499 due to revised exemption data from Whitfield County. Jackson further stated this change results in lower revenue than originally projected, but no re-advertising is required, and the shortfall can be covered through other revenue sources. On the motion of Councilmember Farrow, second Councilmember Lama, the 2025 Millage Rate was approved. The vote was unanimous in favor.

MASA ACCESS - VOLUNTARY BENEFIT AGREEMENT FOR MEDICAL
TRANSPORTATION COVERAGE

HR Director Haliyma Jones presented an agreement with MASA to offer emergency medical transportation services as a voluntary employee benefit. Jones stated coverage is for ground ambulance, air ambulance, and hospital-to-hospital transfers. Jones further stated participation is optional and available during open enrollment through payroll deduction. Jones continued stating the program offers two tiers of coverage and serves as secondary insurance, requiring employees to be enrolled in a primary healthcare plan. On the motion of Councilmember Lama, second Councilmember Farrow, the Agreement was approved. The vote was unanimous in favor.

PROGRESSIVE INSURANCE GEORGIA PROPERTY DAMAGE RELEASE

Public Works Director Chad Townsend presented a Property Damage Release from Progressive Insurance Georgia. Townsend stated this item requests ratification of a property damage release with Progressive Insurance for reimbursement of \$2,592.12. Townsend further stated by signing the release, the City agrees not to pursue any further claims related to an automobile accident that damaged pedestrian signal equipment at the intersection of East Morris Street and Walnut Avenue. On the motion of Councilmember Farrow, second Councilmember Goodlett, the Release was approved. The vote was unanimous in favor.

BUSKER LOW VOLTAGE CHANGE ORDER FOR NEW JOHN DAVIS CENTER

IT Director Jorge Paez stated The IT Department along with contractor Busker Communications identified that the ceilings in the older section of the John Davis building are too shallow to accommodate the originally planned cable trays—an issue not clearly indicated on the floor plans. Paez stated as a result, a change order is being requested to modify the cable trays, at a cost of \$500. On the motion of Councilmember Goodlett, second Councilmember Farrow, the Change Order was approved. The vote was unanimous in favor.

CONSOR MILL LINE TRAIL EXTENSION ADDENDUM FOR ADDITIONAL ECOLOGY
SURVEY

City Administrator Andrew Parker presented an Addendum for Additional Ecology Survey. Parker stated due to identified wetlands along the original trail alignment near Cornett Drive and Chattanooga Avenue, engineers recommended a realignment to avoid costly mitigation. Parker further stated an addendum of \$6,827 is requested for additional wetland studies in the new area, funded by the 2024 SPLOST. On the motion of Councilmember Goodlett, second Councilmember Lama, the Addendum was approved. The vote was unanimous in favor.

FIRST READING ORDINANCE 25-23 - REZONING REQUEST FOR CKD PROPERTIES AND INVESTMENTS

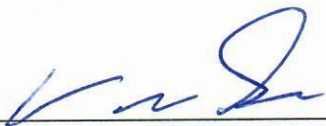
Assistant Planning Director Ethan Calhoun presented a First Reading of Ordinance 25-23 To hear the request of CKD Properties and Investments to rezone from General Commercial (C-2) to Rural Residential (R-5) a tract of land totaling 0.546 acres located at 1506 E. Morris Street, Dalton, Georgia. Parcel (12-241-13-003). Calhoun stated the request was submitted to rezone a recently subdivided property on East Morris Street for the development of two duplex dwellings. The property, formerly commercial, Calhoun stated is surrounded by commercially zoned land and is designated for commercial use in the joint comprehensive plan. Calhoun further stated Staff identified conflicts with the plan and noted that rezoning to residential would impose buffer requirements on adjacent properties, potentially creating development hardships. As a result, Calhoun stated the staff recommended denial, and the Planning Commission upheld that recommendation. No public opposition was received.

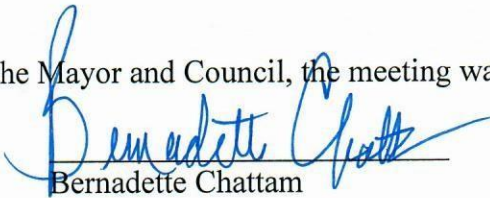
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Sams announced a Public Hearing will be held Monday, November 10, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall regarding the Proposed City of Dalton 2026 Budget. The 2026 Budget adoption is scheduled for the meeting of the Mayor and Council on Monday, November 17, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. The proposed budget is available for inspection by the public during regular office hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday at the Finance Office.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:20 p.m.


Annalee Sams, Mayor


Bernadette Chattam
City Clerk

Recorded
Approved: 11-17-25
Post: 11-18-25

THE CITY OF DALTON
SPECIAL CALLED
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MINUTES
BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING
NOVEMBER 10, 2025

The Mayor and Council held a Special Called meeting this afternoon at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. Present were Mayor Annalee Sams, Council members 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 Budget Public Hearing was called to order.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On the motion by Council member Lama, second by Council member Goodlett, the Mayor and Council moved the item entitled "Public Commentary" to the end of the meeting and the agenda was approved. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Budget Hearing

City Administrator Andrew Parker began by giving the following overview of the proposed 2026 Budget:

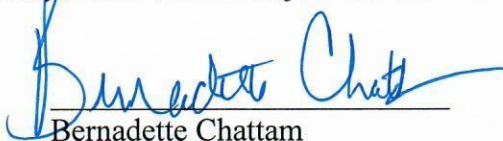
- 2026 Expense Summary:
 - Total Expenditures = \$49,820,000; increase of 7.5% compared to 2025
 - Health Insurance Benefits increase of 35% (was initially higher, but City will implement plan design changes to reduce increase)
 - Compensation and Classification Study Completed in 2025 for implementation in 2026
 - Implementation of step and grade system for Fire Department
 - OPEB trust funds exhausted; now captured as pay-go (approximately \$567,000) phased out for employees hired on or after September 1, 2007
 - Commercial increase of 19% anticipated (working through renewal currently)
 - Utility rate increases for Electric, Water, and Wastewater
 - Added funding for full staffing at Police Department (90 sworn officers; 3 new SRO positions)
 - Added new facility manager position at DPRD for John Davis Center
 - Added Special Events and Community Engagement Coordinator in Admin

CFO Cindy Jackson reviewed the proposed 2026 Budget in detail, reviewing the General Fund comparative amounts 2024 actual verses 2025 adopted revenues and expenditures. Jackson further reviewed the proposed 2026 revenues and expenditures, other agency allocations, current proposed capital projects budget in which City Administrator Andrew Parker noted the Capital Projects budget is normally completed in March after the year end is finalized. Jackson lastly reviewed the 2026 proposed Special Revenue Funds. A copy of the complete budget is a part of these minutes.

There were no Public Comments.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, on the motion by Council member Goodlett, second by Council member Lama, the Mayor and Council adjourned the Hearing at 6:42 p.m.



Bernadette Chattam
City Clerk



Annalee Sams, Mayor

Recorded
Approved: 11-17-25
Post: 11-18-25