



City of Waleska  
Mayor's Newsletter  
February 2017

Dear Citizens of Waleska:

We have completed our February Council Meetings and wish to share some of the information we discussed.

### **February 6, 2017 City Council Meeting**

#### **Mandi Ballinger-State House Representative, District 23**

I informed Council that I had spoken with Ms. Ballinger and requested that she attend the Council Meeting to discuss any new items/information from our District. Ms. Ballinger informed Mayor and Council that she served as Chair for Juvenile Justice and also serves as a member on several Committees such as, Appropriations, Information and Audits, Judiciary Non-Civil, Rules and Transportation. She also serves as the Secretary for the Budget and Fiscal Affairs Oversight Committee. Ms. Ballinger discussed bills that were being worked on and informed Council that she was proud to serve our District and to please reach out to let her know the City's needs.

#### **Approval of Committees, Boards & Authorities for 2017**

City Manager Lou Stewart informed that I had contacted each person on the list and they had all agreed to serve another term. She further informed there were no changes in the members from 2016. City Council approved the list of members unanimously.

#### **Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement for Cherokee County to Conduct Elections**

Lou Stewart informed Council that a lunch and learn was held with Elections Director Kim Stancil in January. During this time, Ms. Stancil informed everyone that each City's agreement has a different date for renewal. She requested to have everyone approve a new agreement at the beginning of the year in order for them all to be on the same renewable cycle. This agreement is the same terms as the one approved prior. The agreement was approved unanimously by City Council.

#### **City Manager's Report**

Ms. Stewart informed Council that the rezoning application on Bartow Street that was distributed was for their review, prior to approval. Cherokee County will hold a Public Hearing and Work Session prior to approval. They will also notify each adjoining property owner of the rezoning request. The City of Waleska will also hold a second Public Hearing on March 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. prior to the regular Council Meeting when final approval will be made.

She also reminded Council of the need to determine SPLOST projects. Ms. Stewart informed, in speaking with the City Auditor that one category that should be considered was Roadway Systems and Water Improvements.

Ms. Stewart also informed Council that Budget preparation will be coming up soon and would like to discuss base rates according to meter sizes and the fee and gallon tier structure for rates.

## **February 20, 2017 City Council Meeting**

### **Water System Report**

Mr. Stanley Townsend distributed a list of large meters from 1 ½ inch to 8 inch in size that were not working and needed to be replaced. The cost of the meters will be approximately \$95,000.00 dollars. After further discussion, it was the consensus of Council to move forward with the purchase of the meters.

### **City Manager's Report**

Ms. Lou Stewart informed Council and I that she had received two quotes from Allan Vigil Ford for state contract pricing on a new Ford F150 truck for the maintenance department. One quote was for a two-wheel drive and one for a four-wheel drive. With the small price difference Ms. Stewart recommended purchasing the four-wheel drive vehicle for \$23,100.00. The purchase of the vehicle is to be paid for with SPLOST funds which were allocated for vehicles and equipment. Council approved unanimously to purchase the vehicle.

Ms. Stewart informed Council and I that the last water rate structure study was completed by Turnipseed Engineers in 2009. Ms. Stewart requested approval to give authority to Turnipseed Engineers to move forward with completing a new rate structure study with a cost of \$7,500.00 dollars. It was the consensus of Council to move forward with the rate study. Ms. Stewart informed that she will bring a budget amendment to the March Council Meeting for approval to move funds from contingency to cover this cost.

Ms. Stewart informed that County Manager Jerry Cooper will schedule a meeting at the end of March for all Cities to meet and discuss the 2018 SPLOST distribution. She further informed that she will contact them when a date has been finalized.

### **Council Remarks**

Councilman Endicott informed that the Waleska Fire Department competed in events in Gatlinburg over the weekend and achieved twelve awards. This is a great accomplishment from our local firemen.



Councilwoman Melissa Fournier informed Council that her last meeting will be the first meeting in July. She further informed that she and her family will be building a new home and it will be located out of the City limits. Councilwoman Fournier's term will expire December 31<sup>st</sup>. Her Council seat is up for re-election in November. Everyone wished Melissa well.

I would also like to share some items listed below with you that is taking place at Reinhardt University.

### **Cline Store City of Waleska/Reinhardt Sign**

For many years, a mural painted on the side of the Cline General Store in Waleska welcomed residents of the City of Waleska, students and families coming to Reinhardt University and people passing through Waleska traveling west on GA 140. Now, Reinhardt University has replaced that mural with a new sign on the east side of the historic store. Read more at [www.reinhardt.edu/clinestore](http://www.reinhardt.edu/clinestore)



### **Reinhardt Celebrates 15 Years of the FPAC**

Hundreds of guests celebrated the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Falany Performing Arts Center at Reinhardt University (FPAC) on Feb. 10 with fabulous performances by talented Reinhardt University School of Performing Arts faculty, alumni and students. President Kina S. Mallard provided remarks recounting the history of the FPAC, and recognizing President Emeritus and Mrs. Floyd (Fay) Falany. Longtime Waleska homeowners Austin and Bea Flint were honored for their \$1 million gift to the University with the naming of "Flint Hall," the 350-seat concert hall in the FPAC. Read more at [www.reinhardt.edu/fpac15](http://www.reinhardt.edu/fpac15).



## **RU Eagles Football Coach Quentin Moses Remembered**

Reinhardt University celebrated the life of Coach Quentin Moses Feb. 15 with more than 800 people in attendance. Moses lost his life in a house fire Feb. 12. Moses was the Reinhardt University defensive line coach and running game coordinator. He led a life of positivity and encourage others to do their best on and off the field. Read more at [www.reinhardt.edu/moses](http://www.reinhardt.edu/moses).



Respectfully submitted,

Doris Jones  
Mayor  
City of Waleska

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