



City of Waleska
Mayor's Newsletter
July 2017

Dear Citizens of Waleska:

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

July 3, 2017 City Council Meeting

Public Hearing: Zoning/Permitted Use Table

City Attorney Dana Thompson informed this was not a Public Hearing for a property rezoning request. She further informed this was a revision to the City Zoning Ordinance to include a Bed and Breakfast and some revisions to the City Permitted Use Table. Ms. Thompson stated that Ms. Margaret Stallings was present and had suggested some valid updates to the revisions and asked that she present these updates. Ms. Stallings informed that the Bed & Breakfast Ordinance stated that the facility be operated by the property owner and suggested a revision to state it could be operated by an onsite manager to reside at the Inn when tenants are there. She also suggested that special events not be prohibited and put a stipulation to limit up to fifty (50) guest as long as sufficient parking is available. After further discussion, it was the consensus of Council to amend the Ordinance to allow the Inn be operated by an on-site manager/staff and to limit a maximum of fifty (50) guest for events and if application was greater than fifty, it will require a variance from City Council. Ms. Thompson will submit a revised Ordinance at the next Council meeting.

Council Remarks

Council requested Margaret Stallings to give an update on the Comprehensive Plan. She informed that approximately thirty to thirty-five people attended the two workshops on Tuesday, June 27th and Thursday, June 29th. She further informed the Waleska meeting will be held sometime in late August or early September at the Waleska Fire Department Community Room.

Councilwoman Cook informed she had attended the GMA Conference in Savannah and enjoyed the training sessions. She stated one of her classes was Building Bike Paths and they discussed how it was great for all ages. Some areas held senior races on the bike path along with activities for all ages. She also stated she would like to see a bike path on Hwy 108 from Waleska to Jasper.

Councilwoman Lamb also attended the Conference in Savannah and one of her classes was Strengthening Communities. The class discussed by year 2020 that all children will be at reading proficiency by third grade. After third grade, they will be more at the level of organization, classifying

things, more on-line work related tasks. She also informed of a website called icivics.org that is full of ideas for teacher lesson plans.

Yard of the Month Recognition

Councilwoman Fournier informed that through citizen comment that the Yard of the Month Recognition be awarded to Ms. Amy Lewis at 420 Bartow Street.



July 17, 2017 City Council Meeting

Consideration to Approve Revised Zoning/Permitted Use Table

City Council approved the revised zoning/permitted use table. This revision allows for a Bed and Breakfast to be in a Neighborhood Commercial zoning. Councilwoman Lamb informed during Council's prior discussion, it was the consensus of Council if a business held an event and there were to be more than fifty (50) guests, a variance approval will be required from City Council.

Consideration to Approve Auditor Engagement Letter

City Manager Lou Stewart informed this was the same engagement letter that have been submitted in prior years to approve the auditor to begin audit procedures. The engagement letter was approved by all members present.

Discussion to Set Millage Rate

City Manager Lou Stewart informed with the final property tax digest totals; to be revenue neutral in collections, the millage rate will need to be 4.22. This is a slight rollback from last year at 4.285 because the digest increase approximately \$100,000.00 dollars. It was the consensus of Council to move forward with advertising the five (5) year levy with the millage rate of 4.22. The millage rate will be adopted at the August 7th Council Meeting.

City Manager's Report

Ms. Stewart informed that the bank balances included in the packet are audited balances as of June 30th. She further informed there will be more June invoices that will need to be paid therefore; the balances will change some for the final June 30th financial statement.

Employment Opportunities

The City of Waleska, GA seeks qualified candidates for the position of City Clerk. This position reports to the Mayor and a six-member council. The position serves as chief administrative officer of the City and carries out the policies and directives of the Mayor and Council. Under the oversight of the Mayor and Council, the position oversees all aspects of the City government, including the day to day operations of the City, development and implementation of all programs and events, management and administration of the City budget, records management, contract management and administration, and management and supervision of all City employees.

Applicant should have knowledge of general management, accounting practices, personnel management, public relations, and possess the skills to coordinate with local, state and federal entities. Previous experience in local government management is preferred, but not a requirement. The salary will be determined based on qualifications and experience.

All applicants must submit a letter of interest and resume to: City of Waleska, 8891 Fincher Road, Waleska, GA 30183 or by e-mail to rsmith@cityofwaleska.com

The City of Waleska is an equal opportunity employer.

Respectfully submitted,

Doris Jones
Mayor
City of Waleska

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