



City of Waleska  
Mayor's Newsletter  
March 2016

Dear Citizens of Waleska:

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

**March 7, 2016 CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**Discussion of Committees, Boards and Authorities:**

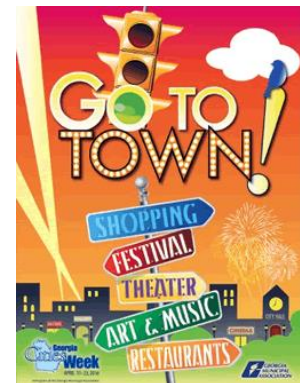
Attorney Will Tate informed Council that the list of members were appointed in 2015 and any changes made will need to be approved for 2016. Councilwoman Lamb informed that Rick Whiteside was listed as the Planning and Zoning Board Member and requested that the name be corrected to the current member Ken Smith. I asked that Mr. Smith be contacted and asked to please attend a Council Meeting quarterly to give Council a report on Planning & Zoning information.

**City Managers Report:**

Ms. Stewart informed that Georgia Power is willing to extend their service line as close as possible to the City entrance signs at no cost to the City. She further informed that she had contacted two electricians to submit a quote to run the lines and set meter bases. Once these quotes are received and Council approves to move forward, permits will need to be acquired from DOT for installation in their right-of-way.

Ms. Stewart informed that Georgia Power will begin the change out of the Roadway Lighting to LED. They will begin this process in April.

Councilwoman Lamb had requested that the City participate in Georgia Cities Week, which is scheduled for April 17-23, 2016. This week has been set aside to recognize the services City governments provide and their contribution to a better quality of life in Georgia. During this week the City will sponsor a Community Clean Up Day and will place a dumpster at City Hall on April 23rd for citizens to bring household items for disposal at no charge. A notice will be posted on the City website and water bills. Councilwoman Lamb also requested that Ms. Stewart ask Northside Pharmacy to post the information on their sign.



Ms. Stewart informed Council that she had contacted DOT concerning the completion of the storm water drain located at the corner of Hwy 108 and Grady Street. DOT is reviewing information submitted and should have a response soon. Ms. Stewart further informed there are supplemental funds that the City can apply for, with a thirty (30%) match to complete projects that are transportation safety related.

The Council and I were pleased to have Boy Scout Troop 4056 present at the meeting. Boy Scouts Sam Vester, Oliver Mullen and Daniel Green were in attendance to receive their Citizens Involvement Badge. Their Troop Leader Jeremy Vester was also present.

## **MARCH 27, 2016 CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

### **Water System Report:**

Mr. Stanley Townsend informed Council that he had repaired two water leaks last week. He further informed that due to the age of the infrastructure that he would like for Council to consider budgeting for replacement of some of the water lines during the budget discussion process.

### **City Managers Report:**

Ms. Lou Stewart informed Council that Jason Townsend completed the meter readings and had taken the readings from the Cherokee and Canton meters. The total amount billed compared to the total purchased was at eighty-six percent (86%). Jason will continue to read the Cherokee and Canton meters at the end of each reading cycle to continue our water loss monitoring.

Ms. Stewart informed Council that only one quote had been received from an electrician concerning lighting of the four (4) City entrance signs. She further informed that she had spoken with Amicalola Electric about the sign on Hwy 108 that was in their service area. They stated there will be a charge of \$1,500.00 dollars for a transformer to be located on the power pole and the cost of the meter base. After further discussion, it was determined to wait on the other electrical quote before moving forward.

Ms. Stewart informed Council she had included a FY 2016 Budget Calendar for their information concerning meeting dates, advertisements and other items.

Ms. Stewart informed that a copy of the City credit card statement was included in their packet for review.

Ms. Stewart informed that Council had requested that she research speed bumps for Grady Street. She included two quotes, one for the same style that already existed on Grady Street and one that was larger in size. After further discussion, Councilwoman Cook made a motion to move forward with the purchase of the speed bump that is like the ones that are existing now, seconded by Councilwoman Lamb and approved by all members present.

Ms. Stewart stated that she contacted North Metro concerning placing a dumpster at City Hall for Community Clean-up Day on Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. She also informed that North Metro's contract with the City for sanitation services will expire on June 30<sup>th</sup> and renewal must be submitted thirty (30) days prior. The contract states that the City can renew under the same terms for a one or two year period. After further discussion, Council agreed that the contract should be renewed for another two (2) years.

Ms. Stewart informed that one of the FY 2015 Audit Comments was concerning utility accounts that did not have a deposit. She stated that she will be sending out a letter asking for payment from each account holder without a deposit. A copy of the ordinance section that defines account deposits will also be included.

Ms. Stewart stated that each year the City pays a \$3,500.00 annual fee to the library. The City wants to continue this relationship with the library however; to be compliant we need a signed agreement/contract with the library. Ms. Stewart informed that she will contact the library to ask for an agreement, send to the City Attorney for review and bring before Council for approval.

Ms. Stewart submitted a budget report of year-to-date revenue and expenditures for Council review. She explained some reallocations that were completed in various expenditure departments and she will be bringing some budget amendments before Council for approval before year end.

**Mayor's Report:**

I informed Council that the GMA Spring Listening Session will be held in Ball Ground and I would like for all of Council to participate, if possible. I also informed that Ms. Holly Padgett contacted me and asked that Council and I meet at Northside Hospital on May 19<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. for a tour of the facility.

I also wanted everyone to know that the Waleska Farmers Market located at Reinhardt University will be open Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> through Thursday, September 1<sup>st</sup>.



**Council Remarks:**

Councilman Cochran informed that the City needed to divert the water from Ms. Jackson's property located behind City Hall. I stated that I had spoken with Ms. Jackson about the repairs needed and Stanley Townsend has been asked to work on correcting the drainage issue. It was also discussed that North Metro had once expressed interest in paving a concrete pad for the recyclable dumpster behind City Hall. Council asked Ms. Stewart to speak with North Metro to see if this was still an option.

Councilwoman Cook informed that she had citizens tell her they liked the new layout of the newsletter.

Councilwoman Lamb informed that rabies shots will be given at R. M. Moore Elementary School on April 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. and the cost is \$10.00 per animal.



Councilwoman Fournier asked that the Council start Yard of the Month awards again in April.

Respectfully submitted,

Doris Jones  
Mayor  
City of Waleska