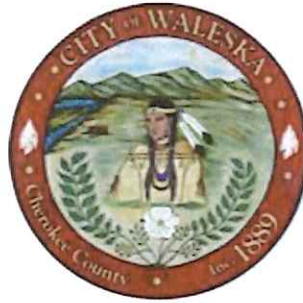




CITY OF WALESKA
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

June 1, 2026

Present:

Mary Helen Lamb – Mayor

Dennis Cochran – Pro Tem

Michael Greene – Councilmember

Walt Cook – Councilmember

Eddie Blackwell – Councilmember

Peter Brown – Councilmember

Lauren Garrett – City Clerk

Kathryn Hurley – Associate Attorney Representing the City Attorney

Lamar Rogers – Engineer

Chris Lumpkin – Water Maintenance Manager

Absent:

Kristi Bosch – Councilmember

Item 1: Call to Order

Mayor Mary Helen Lamb called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with a quorum present.

Item 2: Invocation / Pledge of Allegiance

The invocation was delivered, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 3: Five Minute Public Input

None.

Item 4: Consideration to Approve Regular Council Meeting Minutes May 18, 2026

Councilmember Cochran made a motion to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes from May 18, 2026. Councilmember Greene seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 5: America 250 Proclamation

Mayor Lamb presented a proclamation recognizing the upcoming 250th Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The proclamation, brought forward by the Georgia Daughters of the American Revolution, encourages residents to reflect on the nation's history, honor the sacrifices and achievements of past generations, and look toward the future as America approaches this historic milestone. Mayor Lamb commended the America 250 Commemoration to the residents of Waleska.

Item 6: Water System Report

Staff reviewed EPD-required backflow prevention requirements for Reinhardt University. Discussion included installation requirements, annual testing procedures, compliance obligations, and enforcement measures for noncompliance. Staff will maintain records and notification schedules for all required annual testing.

Council discussed a proposed water line extension on Dixon Road. The applicant indicated a willingness to pay all associated costs, including surveying, engineering, and installation expenses. Staff will continue discussions with the property owner and provide additional information as it becomes available.

Chris Lumpkin reported on a recent water line break near the fire station that occurred during excavation work. The line was repaired, and service was restored promptly.

Chris Lumpkin also reported that the Byrd Mountain water tank has been pressure-washed and painted. The Silver Creek water tank has been pressure washed, and painting is currently underway.

Council discussed potential cost savings associated with replacing existing internet service at water system facilities with Starlink service. Staff was directed to research available options, costs, and potential savings and report back to Council.

Item 7: City Clerk's Report

Lauren Garrett reported receipt of information regarding a Local Road Assistance Grant in the amount of approximately \$13,000. Council discussed several potential road improvement projects that may be eligible for funding, including Bartow Street, Grady Street, and Lee Street. Staff was directed to complete and submit the grant application for consideration.

Lauren also reported receipt of a new water meter application for property located at 420 Cable Road.

Upon recommendation from Lauren Garrett, Council amended the agenda to add an Executive Session for personnel matters. A motion was made by Councilmember Greene, seconded by Councilmember Cochran, and approved unanimously.

Item 8: City Attorney's Report

Kathryn Hurley – Associate Attorney, reported that a representative from the Cherokee County Zoning Department will attend the next council meeting to discuss the proposed Telecommunications Ordinance, Sign Ordinance, and Personal Transportation Vehicle Ordinance. The ordinances are currently progressing through the county review and adoption process and will be presented for further consideration by Council.

Item 9: Mayor's Report

None.

Item 10: Council Remarks

Council discussed concerns regarding streetlight services for residents in the Cable Road subdivision and reviewed potential options for addressing the issue. Staff was directed to gather additional information regarding available services and associated costs.

Council also discussed stormwater maintenance fees utilized by some municipalities to fund drainage infrastructure maintenance and improvements. The discussion was informational in nature, and no action was taken.

Additionally, Council discussed business licensing requirements within the city and directed staff to contact a local contracting company to ensure compliance with the City's business license requirements.

Item 11: Executive Session – Personnel Matters

Councilmember Greene made a motion to enter Executive Session at 7:05 p.m. for personnel matters. Councilmember Cochran seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 12: Reconvene Regular Council Meeting

Councilmember Greene made a motion to exit Executive Session at 7:10 p.m. and reconvene the Regular Council Meeting. Councilmember Brown seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Upon reconvening, Council approved an amendment to the agenda to add discussion regarding in-house water maintenance operations.

Council discussed the possibility of bringing water system maintenance operations in-house rather than continuing to contract services through T. Stanco. Discussion included equipment acquisition and maintenance costs, liability and insurance considerations, emergency response capabilities, staffing needs, contractual obligations, and the potential financial impact on the Water Fund. Council determined that additional information regarding costs, equipment requirements, and contractual arrangements was needed before making a decision. Staff was directed to gather additional information and communicate with T. Stanco regarding current service arrangements.

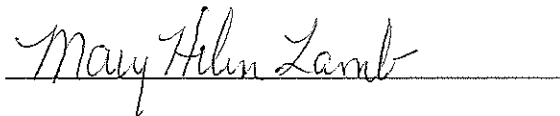
Council also received an update regarding communication with former City Clerk Kim Kirsch concerning her Municipal Clerk certification. City Clerk Lauren Garrett reported that the certification documentation had been mailed.

Item 13: Adjournment

Councilmember Greene made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Cochran seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

APPROVED THIS 15th DAY OF June, 2026.



Mary Helen Lamb, Mayor

Attest



Lauren Garrett, City Clerk