



**CITY OF WALESKA
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
November 4, 2024**

Present: Mary Helen Lamb, Mayor
Kristi Bosch, Councilmember
Peter Brown, Councilmember
Logan Patrick, Councilmember
Michael Greene, Councilmember
Dennis Cochran, Pro Tem
Kim Kirsch, City Clerk/Manager
Chris Lumpkin, Water Maintenance
Lamar Rogers, Turnipseed Engineers
John Meier, City Attorney

Absent: Eddie Blackwell, Councilmember

Item 1: Call to Order
Mayor Mary Helen Lamb called the meeting to order with a quorum present.

Item 2: Pledge of Allegiance/Innovation
Mayor Lamb led the Pledge to the Flag

Item 3: Consideration to Approve Regular Council Meeting Minutes October 21, 2024
Mayor Mary Helen Lamb asked for a motion to approve the Regular council minutes for October 21, 2024. A motion was made by Councilmember Brown, seconded by Councilmember Cochran, and approved by all members present.

Item 4: Five Minute Public Hearing

- None

Item 5: Consideration to repeal Code: Sec. 16-50, Weapons; discharge in city, second reading.

- After discussion with council, it was decided the City of Waleska will amend the ordinance and within that ordinance cite the State of Georgia parameters. A motion was made by Councilman Greene and seconded by Councilman Brown and approved by all members present.

Item 6: Water System Report

- Lamar Rogers updated the council that he had found the closed valve near Sam Nelson Road. That valve will remain closed due to older lines that may be affected if it were open.
- Chris Lumpkin is continuing to flush the meter at the end of Sam Nelson Road to maintain the chlorine level.
- Lamar Rogers discussed budget, funds, and projects that are tied to ARPA and GEFA grants/loans. The city's deadline to use the ARPA funds is December 31, 2024. We must have signed contracts to reserve those funds. If the city does not have signed contracts for ARPA funds by December 31st we lose that money. After contracts have been obtained, we can push these projects till 2026 if necessary. Kim Kirsch will work with Lamar and the city's auditor to encumber these funds.
- Concerning the GEFA loan, Kim Kirsch is working with Lamar and the city's auditor to complete the application process. Updates will be provided as staff proceed through this process.

Item 7: City Manager Report

- Kim Kirsch discussed \$50.00 yearly bonuses for employees that are with the city 5/10/15/20 years. This was originally approved in July 2022 and in those minutes, it was noted this needed to be revisited and approved in 2024. A motion was made by Councilman Cochran and seconded by Councilman Patrick and approved by all members present.
- Kim Kirsch gave the council a copy of the Income Statement, period ending: 12/31/2024, report dated: 10/29/2024.
- Kim Kirsch updated the council that a notice was sent to Mr. Townsend that the city will no longer require him to read the water meters. The city will now do that in-house.
- Due to the meter reading being done in house the council did approve a pay increase for Chris Lumpkin. Chris will start reading the meters in January 2025.
- Kim Kirsch was approached by Cherokee County Chamber about their annual magazine update. This is a free service offered by the chamber. Kim will update the article.
- The city had a call from 2759 Reinhardt College Parkway a few weeks ago about an unpaved section of their parking lot. This dates to 2022 when a line was replaced. Kim Kirsch and Chris Lumpkin reached out to Cherokee County and 3 companies for a bid to asphalt that section. The bid was awarded to Pierce Paving & Sealing, LLC for \$4,200.00. Kim Kirsch will accept that bid tomorrow so that work can be completed.
- Kim Kirsch presented the council an updated IGA for a new Magistrate Judge with Cherokee County. Kim will email that to Councilman Greene for him to do a comparison. If nothing else is changing in this IGA Mayor Lamb and Kim will sign and return to Cherokee County.

Item 8: City Attorney's Report

- Petition for Annexation – 75-acre site on Cable Road. We need an IGA with Cherokee County for maintenance of a section of Cable Road within city limits. The county has responsibility on both sides of the section in the city.
- Petition for Annexation – 6.37 +/- acres – TIG Custom Homes – 60% method. Copy of application for the 60% method obtained from Cherokee County. John sent the property owner's certification portion of the application to TIG Custom Homes, LLC. John called and left voice messages for officers with TIG. No response. Will follow up on status. When obtained, Waleska will need to pay fees estimated to be \$600.00. Waleska will need to manage the process with Cherokee County (public notices, and signage on the property, meetings, etc.)
- Bryan Roach – No update since sending all the information to Mr. Roach.
- Buice Property Services, LLC – Water Line Easement – A letter was sent to the property owner. Confirmed delivery on Friday, October 25th. No response. Requested that we be provided with the information needed to prepare documentation of approval of the conveyance by the offices/members of the LLC by November 9th. The Easement Agreement modified to include just the permanent easement.
- Habitat for Humanity – N. GA community Housing Development Corp. – Sketch of the Easement updated. Easement Agreement updated. Contact information obtained for N. GA Community Development, Inc. ("NGCHD"). Have a draft of a Corporate Resolution that can be presented to NGCHD to document its approval of the Easement agreement. Plan to communicate with Hal Stringer about Habitat for Humanity. It is developing the residences on the property owned by NGCHD. He is the only person previously dealt with for the water line.

Item 9: Mayor's Report

- Mayor Lamb notified the council that RM Moore Elementary School is requesting members of council attend their program either December 5th or 6th. The Mayor, Councilwoman Bosch, and Councilman Cochran will attend on the 5th to represent the City of Waleska.
- Mayor Lamb reminded everyone of the tree lighting on December 2nd at 6pm. Chris Lumpkin and Kim Kirsch have planned for all of the festivities.

Item 10: Council Remarks

- None

Item 11: Adjourn Regular Council Meeting

APPROVED THIS ___ DAY OF _____, 2024.

Mary Helen Lamb, Mayor
Attest:

Kim Kirsch, City Clerk