



# CITY OF DAHLONEGA

## City Council Work Session Meeting Summary

March 17, 2025, 4:00 PM

Gary McCullough Council Chambers, Dahlonega City  
Hall

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In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodation for Council meetings should notify the City Clerk's Office at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at 706-864-6133.

Vision - Dahlonega will be the most welcoming, thriving, and inspiring community in North Georgia

Mission Statement - Dahlonega, a City of Excellence, will provide quality services through ethical leadership and fiscal stability, in full partnership with the people who choose to live, work, and visit. Through this commitment, we respect and uphold our rural Appalachian setting to honor our thriving community of historical significance, academic excellence, and military renown.

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### CALL TO ORDER

**Mayor Taylor called the Work Session to order at 4:47 p.m. with all Councilmembers present.**

**Mayor Taylor read aloud a remembrance of Johnnie Loy Jones, former Dahlonega Mayor and City Councilmember, and called for a Moment of Silence.**

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**The Council voted unanimously to approve the Agenda as presented.**

### BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

1. Cemetery Committee - February 2025

Mark Buchanan, City Engineer

**Christopher Worick, Cemetery Committee member, addressed the Council. Mr. Worick announced that Committee member Patricia Turner passed on February 28, and that she will be missed.**

**No Council action was taken.**

2. Downtown Development Authority & Main Street Program 2025 Work Plan  
Awtrey Moore, DDA Board Chair / Ariel Alexander, Downtown Development Director  
**Ariel Alexander, Downtown Development Authority Director, addressed the Council.**

**No Council action was taken.**

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS AVAILABLE AT: <https://dahlonega.gov/category/department-reports/>**

**Allison Martin, City Manager, addressed the Council; the Council held a discussion.**

3. Community Development - February 2025

Allison Martin, City Manager

4. Finance and Administration - February 2025

Kimberly Stafford, Finance Manager

5. Police - February 2025  
George Albert, Chief of Police
6. Public Works - February 2025  
Mark Buchanan, City Engineer
7. Water & Wastewater Treatment - February 2025  
John Jarrard, Water/Wastewater Treatment Director

**No Council action was taken.**

#### **APPOINTMENTS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND RECOGNITIONS**

8. Proposed Proclamation declaring 2025 as the 100th Anniversary Year of Camp Glisson  
Allison Martin, City Manager  
**Allison Martin, City Manager, addressed the Council and advised that this Proclamation will be coming before the Council during the Regular Meeting of April 7, 2025.**

**No Council action was taken.**

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

9. Presentation of Draft Dahlonega Revitalization Plan  
KB Advisory Group  
**Allison Martin, City Manager, addressed and provided a presentation to the Council; the Council held a discussion.**

**No Council action was taken.**

#### **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

10. Deannexation Application  
Doug Parks, City Attorney  
**Doug Parks, City Attorney, addressed the Council.**
11. Change to Open Container Footprint for the DDA/Main Street's *2025 First Friday Concert Series*  
Doug Parks, City Attorney / Ariel Alexander, Downtown Development Director  
**Doug Parks, City Attorney, and Ariel Alexander, Downtown Development Authority Director, addressed the Council.**

**No Council action was taken.**

#### **AGREEMENTS AND CONTRACTS**

12. Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Lumpkin County regarding the 2025 Municipal Election for the City of Dahlonega  
Rhonda Hansard, City Clerk  
**Rhonda Hansard, City Clerk, addressed the Council.**

**No Council action was taken.**

#### **OTHER ITEMS**

13. 147 N Park Street - Future Development - DDA

Awtrey Moore, DDA Board Chair

**Awtrey Moore, Downtown Development Authority Board Chairman, addressed the Council; the Council held a discussion.**

**No Council action was taken.**

## **COMMENTS - PLEASE LIMIT TO THREE MINUTES PER SPEAKER**

### Clerk Comments

**Rhonda Hansard, City Clerk, announced that the Council's Retreat was a success, and thanked the Council for providing the opportunity for staff to attend.**

### City Manager Comments

**Allison Martin, City Manager, thanked Council and staff for a great Retreat; reminded Council that comments regarding the Revitalization Plan are due by March 21; thanked Chief Albert and the Police Department for assisting with the NCAA Division II Southeast Regional Championship at UNG; and, advised that while US Ghost Adventures advertises to be Dahlonge's #1 rated Ghost Tour that the company does not hold a business license with the City and, therefore, is not authorized to conduct tours.**

### City Attorney Comments

**Doug Parks, City Attorney, had no comments.**

### City Council Comments

**Councilmember Bagley wished the Lady Nighthawks good luck for the NCAA Division II Southeast Regional Championship Game.**

**Councilmember Brown wished the Lady Nighthawks good luck for the NCAA Division II Southeast Regional Championship Game, and thanked staff for hosting a great Retreat.**

**Councilmember Reagin wished the Lady Nighthawks good luck for the NCAA Division II Southeast Regional Championship Game.**

**Councilmember Gaddis thanked the Council and staff for a successful Retreat, and recalled a memory of Johnnie Loy Jones (former Dahlonge Mayor and Councilman).**

**Councilmember Shirley announced that he thought the Retreat was the best one held within the last four years, and announced that Mr. Gribben should have a completed drawing and staff will need to have checked right of way(s) and setbacks when this Item returns to the BZA for consideration (BZA-24-8).**

### Mayor Comments

**Mayor Taylor wished everyone a happy St. Patrick's Day.**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**The Council voted unanimously to adjourn the Work Session at 5:27 p.m.**

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Guideline Principles - The City of Dahlonge will be an open, honest, and responsive city that balances preservation and growth and delivers quality services fairly and equitably by being good stewards of its resources. To ensure the vibrancy of our community, Dahlonge commits to Transparency and Honesty, Dedication and Responsibility, Preservation and Sustainability, Safety and Welfare ...for ALL!

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