



# CITY MANAGER'S

# COUNCIL REPORT

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City of Hogansville | David A Milliron, City Manager | 706.637.8629 | July 2, 2018

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**City Hall Closed Wednesday:** In observance of Independence Day, the following services will be closed or suspended on Wednesday, July 4, 2018:

- City Hall: Closed
- Police Department: Open
- Utility Emergencies: Call 706.637.6648 for after-hour Natural Gas, Water, Sewer or Electric emergencies
- Sanitation: C&C Sanitation, Inc. picks-up residential household garbage under contract for the City of Hogansville. For those with scheduled pickup on Wednesday, your pickup day will be on the next day.
  - 2018 Sanitation Holiday Schedule: <http://www.cityofhogansville.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Residential-Sanitation-Guidelines.pdf>

**Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (GICH):** The Mayor & City Council are invited to the July 2018 GICH committee meeting that will feature guest speaker Monica H. Callahan, Planning Director for the City of Madison. The talk will take place from 5:30 to 7:00 pm on July 26, 2018 at the LaGrange-Troup County Chamber of Commerce, 111 Bull Street, in LaGrange.

**Job Fair:** The Georgia Department of Labor is assisting Mando America hire for several positions in Hogansville. The event is July 11 from 9 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. at Mando America Corporation, 955 Meriwether Park Drive, Hogansville.

**Elm Street Bridge:** Construction bids to repair the Elm Street Bridge came in significantly higher than budgeted. The bridge was damaged in the December 2015 flood and the city was awarded funds by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to make repairs. The low-bidder was \$350,932.48 but there is only \$145,217.72 allocated by FEMA for the historic bridge project. Contract engineers for the city met with Crawford Grading, the low bidder on the project, and have proposed abandoning the historic restoration of the bridge to reduce construction costs. The alternate approach would cost \$194,449.48 and the city could take the following credits:

- (\$7,200) for no electronic messaging sign boards to alert the motoring public to the roadway closure;
- (\$20,300) for elimination of Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) spec guardrails; and
- (\$1,968.80) for no additional valves as the city already installed the necessary valves.

The net cost is approximately \$164,981 with the deducts. The City could install a more decorative guardrail/hand rail if the GDOT standard guardrails were omitted. Also, the City could salvage the WPA marker in the existing bridge for display purposes, but much of the cost savings relies on not re-using the old bridge decking and not having to pour in place new concrete abutments. Demolition and removal of all existing materials is included in Crawford's quote. The city would have to forgo the nominal amount FEMA budgeted for the historic restoration, which reduced the available funds to about \$106,733.75 after design and other consultant fees. Staff recommendation is to take the deducts except for the GDOT guardrails, use Local Maintenance & Improvement Grant (LMIG) funds from 2016 and 2017 plus the city required 30 percent match from Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) IV dollars to complete the project. This will leave LMIG 2018 dollars in tact plus the remaining SPLOST IV dollars reserved for roadwork in the city.

**Personnel:** Travis New in the Waste Water Department has given notice and his last day will be July 13, 2018. Travis plans to concentrate on expanding his landscaping business.

**Waste Water Treatment Plant Project:** Based on the Council's recent action of adopting the FY2019 annual budget in addition to Phase 1 of the Water and Waste Water utility rates as proposed by Electric Cities of Georgia (ECG), please know Assured Guaranty Companies (AGC) has issued Hogansville a Certificate of Consent for Additional Bonds upon payment of \$5,000 to cover AGC's review and execution of same. Upon bond validation and confirmation of all funding sources, the city will execute the contracts with the low-bidder (P.F. Moon & Company) and proceed with construction and expansion of the city's waste water treatment facility, as mandated by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division.

**FEMA:** The City of Friday received a reimbursement check for \$164,943.93 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for various projects stemming from the December 2015 floods. These are projects whereby the city fronted the funds to do the projects and FEMA is now making reimbursement. The city is due approximately \$235,000 in FEMA receivables for similar projects and expects the funds in the coming weeks.

**Police Vehicles:** Ford Motor Credit agreed to financing for the first three of six Ford Explorer Police Pursuit vehicles approved for purchase by the Council, however has informed the city it will not finance any additional vehicles until Hogansville has "established a track record" with Ford, which wants to "see some stabilization in (the city's) financial condition." Ford Motor Credit based its analysis on "continued financial issues and recent negative press" despite the vehicles being purchased with restricted drug and asset forfeiture funds together with SPLOST V dollars that were assigned to cover the purchase. Staff is pursuing other financing and grant options and will bring them forth to the City Council in the near future.

#### **Upcoming City Manager Training/Travel/Meetings**

July 8-11: MEAG Power 2018 Annual Meeting

July 16: Troup County Tax Commissioner

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