



CITY MANAGER'S

COUNCIL REPORT

City of Hogansville | David A Milliron, City Manager | 706.637.8629 | November 5, 2018

Royal Theatre Project: The Fox Theatre Institute has awarded Hogansville another grant toward the project to restore the historic Royal Theatre. The latest grant is for \$51,250 and will pay for half of the cost for Carter Watkins & Associates to develop plans and specifications for the project. Representatives of the Fox Theatre are planning a visit to the Royal Theatre to view the restoration effort soon.

Historic Marker: The Georgia Historical Society has awarded Hogansville a grant toward the purchase and installation of an historic marker honoring Postmaster Isaiah H. Lofton. The Society's Marker Review approved the application on October 12, 2018 and requires a commitment of \$2,500 from Hogansville, which is being paid for with Hotel-Motel Tax Dollars through the LaGrange-Troup County Chamber of Commerce. A former educator in Meriwether County and former Postmaster in Hogansville, Lofton survived what might have been an assassination attempt on his life. Lofton would later become a leader in the civil rights movement.

Southeastern Power Administration Hydropower Contract: The Hogansville City Council on August 6, 2018 agreed to opt out of its hydropower contract with the Southeastern Power Administration (SEPA), which has a 25-month opt-out period. Although SEPA is less expensive than other power sources, the city is committed to long-term agreements and is already long on power, which means it is paying for more energy than it needs to service its customers. The excess power is then sold on the open market, often at a loss due to varying market conditions. The move to opt out was ahead of additional and more expensive nuclear power commitments from Plant Vogtle Units 3 & 4, which have been plagued by rising cost. The units are expected to cost more than \$27 Billion and Hogansville is a fractional owner through the Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia (MEAG). When Hogansville opted out of SEPA, it was estimated it could save about \$171,500 from October 2020 through November 2022 by off-loading 1.5 megawatts of electricity. However, Hogansville has been able to negotiate unloading 100 percent of its SEPA power effective January 1, 2019 at additional savings, which is being purchase by Dothan City Utilities in Alabama. Total cost to the city is an estimated \$11,000 monthly or about \$517,000 that will have a significant impact to Hogansville's annual energy cost losses.

Waste Water Treatment Plant Expansion: The Meriwether County Water & Sewerage Authority on Friday paid Hogansville its contracted \$1.6 Million for a 25 percent stake in the expanded waste water treatment plant. The funds were placed in a restricted account to cover invoices for the \$8.706 Million project. Site work is underway, and the belt filter press has arrived and soon construction will commence on the building to house the equipment, which is used to efficiently and reliably dewater sludge from the waste water treatment plant. Hogansville is also currently transferring \$20,000 monthly into the same restricted account, funds that were designated when the City Council acted to increase water and waste water rates required by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Hogansville's bond insurer to cover its increased debt obligations. The USDA is financing the project in conjunction with a \$2.5 Million grant for rural economic development.

Phase V Tower Trail Project: Engineers are working on the structural design and will be performing geotechnical testing over the next two weeks for the portion of the trail that traverses the gulch behind the post office and will eventually connect the platform to East Main Street. Some preliminary exhibit drawings are expected this week from the engineer, which suggests the necessity for an easement from the postal service because of grade issues that would increase the cost of the project. This and other options are being explored for consideration.

Elm Street Bridge Project: Crawford Grading provided a delivery date for the culverts on Friday of November 9, 2018. Project Superintendent Stuart Stokes is coordinating with Hogansville Public Works regarding the logistics of delivery. Plan A is that all materials fit in the designated laydown area and traffic is only diverted around the bridge during unloading. The expectation is that once the material is on site, Crawford crews are fully engaged. Staff is awaiting an updated construction schedule now that material delays have been resolved and will provide the community details as soon as received.

Lake Jimmy Jackson/Hogansville Amphitheatre Projects: The pre-fabricated restrooms are expected in Hogansville Tuesday evening and will be stored overnight in the Piggly Wiggly Shopping Center, thanks to permission obtained from Stephen Giles of KRJ Centers. The restrooms are expected to be located to their project areas on Wednesday, weather-permitting, and offloaded by crane. Crews with the Public Restroom Company will then be onsite to make the utility interconnects and final installations.

Upcoming City Manager Training/Travel/Meetings/Events

- November 6, 2018: Election Day; Retirement reception for Troup County Manager Tod Tentler
- November 7, 2018: Sealed Bid Opening for four FEMA Stormwater Projects @ 10:30 am; Probation Meeting
- November 8, 2018: Post Hummingbird Festival Planning Meeting; Troup County Center for Strategic Planning, Inc.
- November 9, 2018: Certified Public Manager Graduation, Macon
- November 14, 2018: Hogansville Employee Thanksgiving Luncheon @ Noon; Training Webinar @ Noon – Gaining Project Support from Your Team, Elected Officials, and the Public
- November 15-16, 2018: Community Planning Institute, Athens
- November 19, 2018: Weekly Public Works Superintendent & Administration Weekly Staff Meetings; City Council Meeting @ 7 pm

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