



City of Hogansville
City Council
Regular Meeting Agenda
Monday July 20, 2026 – 7:00 pm

Meeting will be held at Hogansville City Hall
111 High Street, Hogansville, GA 30230

Mayor: <i>Jake Ayers</i>	2029	City Manager: <i>Lisa E. Kelly</i>
Council Post 1: <i>Michael Taylor, Jr</i>	2029	Assistant City Manager: <i>Oasis Nichols</i>
Council Post 2: <i>Jason Baswell</i>	2029	City Attorney: <i>Alex Dixon</i>
Council Post 3: <i>Mandy Neese *</i>	2027	Chief of Police: <i>Jeffrey Sheppard</i>
Council Post 4: <i>Mark Ayers</i>	2027	City Clerk: <i>LeAnn Lehigh</i>
Council Post 5: <i>Kandis Strickland</i>	2027	* Mayor Pro-Tem

REGULAR MEETING – 7:00 pm

1. Call to Order – Mayor Jake Ayers
2. Invocation & Pledge

CONSENT AGENDA

All items listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine in nature and will be approved by one blanket motion.

1. Approval of Agenda: Regular Meeting July 20, 2026
2. Approval of Minutes: Called Work Session Meeting June 8, 2026
3. Approval of Minutes: Public Hearing June 15, 2026 - 10 am
4. Approval of Minutes: Work Session Meeting June 15, 2026
5. Approval of Minutes: Public Hearing & Regular Meeting June 15, 2026
6. Approval of Minutes: Called Work Session Meeting June 22, 2026
7. Approval of Minutes: Public Hearing & Called Meeting June 22, 2026
8. Approval of Minutes: Work Session & Public Hearing July 6, 2026

NEW BUSINESS

1. Resolution – Data Center Moratorium Extension
2. Bid Award – Sanitation Services
3. Board Appointment – Downtown Development Authority
4. Board Appointment - Downtown Development Authority Introduction

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

1. Council Member Taylor
2. Council Member Baswell
3. Council Member Neese
4. Council Member Ayers
5. Council Member Strickland

MAYOR'S REPORT

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Real Estate Exemption

ADJOURN

Upcoming Dates & Events

- July 28, 2026 – 6:00 pm | Meeting of the Downtown Development Authority at Hogansville City Hall
- August 1, 2026 – 11:00 am – 2:00 pm | A Day in the Garden Community Event at 407 Church Street, Hogansville, GA
- August 3, 2026 – 7:00 pm | Public Hearing to Hear Citizen Comments on the Proposed UDO Amendments Regarding Data Centers at The Royal Theater
- August 3, 2026 – 7:00 pm | Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council at The Royal Theater

The Royal Theater Happenings

- Friday July 24, 2026 – 7:00 pm | MOVIE: 101 Dalmations
- Saturday, July 25, 2026 – 7:00 pm | MOVIE: Gone with the Wind
- Friday, July 31, 2026 – 7:00 pm | MOVIE: An Officer and a Gentleman
- Saturday, August 1, 2026 - 4:00 pm | MOVIE: The Muppet Movie
- **Saturday, August 8, 2026 – 7:30 pm | LIVE EVENT: Departure & After School Special**

Purchase tickets online 1937royaltheater.org or call the box office 706-955-4870



Meeting held at Hogansville City Hall, 111 High Street, Hogansville GA 30230

CALLED WORK SESSION

June 8, 2026

Call to Order: Mayor Jake Ayers called the Called Work Session to order at 5:37 pm. Present were Mayor Ayers, Council Member Michael Taylor, Council Member Jason Baswell, Council Member Mandy Neese, Council Member Mark Ayers and Council Member Kandis Strickland. Also present were City Manager Lisa Kelly, Assistant City Manager Oasis Nichols, City Clerk LeAnn Lehigh, and Police Chief Jeff Sheppard. City Attorney Alex Dixon was not present at the Called Work Session meeting.

BUSINESS

1. Discussion of the 2026/2027 Proposed Budget

Council reviewed the proposed FY 2026-2027 budget, including projected revenue growth driven by development, employee compensation adjustments, new staffing requests, and infrastructure needs. Discussion focused on the proposed separation of City Clerk and Human Resources functions, administrative staffing, office renovations, and future organizational planning.

Public safety discussions included additional dispatch positions and future police staffing needs. Council also reviewed capital equipment replacements, Public Works facility improvements, utility infrastructure projects, park security enhancements, Royal Theater operations, sanitation service costs, and implementation of the City's new software system.

Staff was directed to provide additional information on several items, including organizational structure options for City Clerk and HR functions, job descriptions for administrative positions, Royal Theater marketing expenditures, sanitation service options, splash pad operations, and software implementation planning.

2. Discussion of the UDO Amendments – Heavy Industrial (HI) Zoning District, Standards and Requirements Related to Data Center Developments, and Establishment of Procedures and Requirements Related to Developments of Impact

Council and staff reviewed proposed UDO amendments related to data centers in the proposed heavy industrial zoning district. Discussion focused on setbacks, buffers, environmental protections, noise standards, infrastructure requirements, construction plans, expansion controls, reporting requirements, decommissioning procedures, inspection standards, and fee structures. Staff presented Draft 5 revisions and identified areas requiring additional clarification before public review. The group generally supported aligning regulations with existing UDO provisions and state requirements while utilizing development agreements to address project-specific obligations and enforcement measures.

Discussion included potential setback and buffer requirements adjacent to residential, institutional, and environmentally sensitive areas; noise monitoring and reporting standards; infrastructure funding and financial guarantees; haul route coordination; environmental reporting; and long-term decommissioning requirements. Council also discussed updates to the Comprehensive Plan to better define heavy industrial development criteria and strengthen future land-use decisions.

Staff was directed to refine ordinance language regarding setback measurements, environmental buffers, noise standards, infrastructure guarantees, reporting requirements, decommissioning assurances, inspection and fee structures, and heavy industrial zoning policies. Staff will prepare Draft 5 for public review and coordinate the public hearing, ordinance readings, and moratorium extension process.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Ayers adjourned the Work Session Meeting at 9:25 pm.

Respectfully,

LeAnn Lehigh
City Clerk



Meeting held at Hogansville City Hall, 111 High Street, Hogansville GA 30230

PUBLIC HEARING

June 15, 2026 - 10:00 am

Mayor Pro-Tem Neese called the Public Hearing to order at 10:10 am to hear citizen comments on the proposed 2026/2027 Budget. Present were Mayor Pro-Tem Neese, Council Member Mark Ayers, and Council Member Kandis Strickland. Also present were City Manager Lisa Kelly, Assistant City Manager Oasis Nichols, and City Clerk LeAnn Lehigh. Mayor Jake Ayers, Council Members Taylor and Baswell were not present at the Public Hearing.

There were no citizen comments, and Mayor Pro-Tem Neese closed the Public Hearing at 10:11 am.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "LeAnn Lehigh".

LeAnn Lehigh

City Clerk



Meeting held at Hogansville City Hall, 111 High Street, Hogansville GA 30230

**Work Session Meeting
June 15, 2026**

Call to Order: Mayor Jake Ayers called the Work Session to order at 5:36 pm. Present were Mayor Ayers, Council Member Michael Taylor, Council Member Jason Baswell, Council Member Mandy Neese, Council Member Mark Ayers, and Council Member Kandis Strickland. Also present were City Manager Lisa Kelly, Assistant City Manager Oasis Nichols, City Clerk LeAnn Lehigh, City Attorney Alex Dixon, and Police Chief Jeff Sheppard.

1) Discussion of the 2026/2027 Proposed Budget

A significant portion of the discussion focused on sanitation services. Council reviewed vendor proposals, the department's ongoing operating losses, potential rate increases, and options for implementing a city recycling program. Staff will continue evaluating service providers, customer rate impacts, and recycling alternatives before making recommendations.

Council also discussed the proposed Deputy City Clerk position, future separation of City Clerk and Human Resources functions, and employee compensation adjustments, including Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) options. Additional information was requested regarding staffing costs, organizational structure, and long-term workforce planning.

Council paused the Work Session meeting at 6:15 for the scheduled Public Hearing to hear citizen comments on the proposed 2026/2027 budget. The Work Session meeting was reconvened at 6:16 pm.

Other topics of discussion included nonprofit funding requests, event support, playground shade improvements, and the use of discretionary project funds. Staff was directed to provide additional financial projections, sanitation rate scenarios, recycling cost estimates, nonprofit funding information, compensation models, and project cost estimates for future Council consideration.

Mayor Ayers adjourned the Work Session at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully,

LeAnn Lehigh
City Clerk



Meeting held at Hogansville City Hall, 111 High Street, Hogansville GA 30230

June 15, 2026

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Ayers called the Public Hearing to order at 6:15 pm to Hear Citizen comments on the proposed 2026/2027 Budget

There were no Citizen comments, and the Public Hearing was adjourned at 6:16pm.

REGULAR MEETING

June 15, 2026 – 7:00 pm

Call to Order: Mayor Jake Ayers called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:06 pm. Present were Mayor Ayers, Council Member Michael Taylor, Council Member Jason Baswell, Council Member Mandy Neese, Council Member Mark Ayers and Council Member Kandis Strickland. Also present were City Manager Lisa Kelly, Assistant City Manager Oasis Nichols, City Attorney Alex Dixon, City Clerk LeAnn Lehigh, and Police Chief Jeff Sheppard.

Mayor Ayers gave an invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: Council Member Strickland moved to amend and approve the Consent Agenda, adding Item Number 4 under New Business – Resolution – LHOST, and adding Real Estate Exemption under Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Council Member Neese.

Motion Carries 5-0

NEW BUSINESS

1. *RedSpeed Agreement*

Motion: A motion was made by Council Member Neese to approve the RedSpeed Agreement amendment aligned to legislative changes while maintaining the original contract end date. The motion was seconded by Council Member Taylor.

Discussion: None

Motion Carries 5-0

2. *Surplus Equipment*

Motion: A motion was made by Council Member Neese to approve declaring the old sidearm as surplus. The motion was seconded by Council Member Ayers.

Discussion: None

Motion Carries 5-0

3. *Hipp Park Gazebo Repairs*

Motion: A motion was made by Council Member Taylor to table this item until a later meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Neese.

Discussion: None

Motion Tabled 5-0

4. *Resolution - LHOST*

Motion: A motion was made by Council Member Neese to approve both resolutions for the Local Homestead Option Sales Tax (LHOST) and directed staff and the City Attorney to proceed with the required filings and election preparations in accordance with state deadlines. The motion was seconded by Council Member Baswell.

Discussion: None

Motion Carries 5-0

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 1. *Litigation Exemption***
- 2. *Real Estate Exemption***

Council Member Strickland made a motion to move into Executive Session at 8:03 pm under the Litigation & Real Estate Exemptions. The motion was seconded by Council Member Neese.

Motion Carries 5-0

The Regular Meeting was reconvened at 8:59 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Council Member Strickland and duly seconded, Mayor Ayers adjourned the meeting at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully,



LeAnn Lehigh
City Clerk



Meeting held at Hogansville City Hall, 111 High Street, Hogansville GA 30230

CALLED WORK SESSION

June 22, 2026

Call to Order: Mayor Jake Ayers called the Called Work Session to order at 5:35 pm. Present were Mayor Ayers, Council Member Michael Taylor, Council Member Jason Baswell, Council Member Mandy Neese, and Council Member Kandis Strickland. Also present were City Manager Lisa Kelly, Assistant City Manager Oasis Nichols, City Attorney Alex Dixon, City Clerk LeAnn Lehigh, and Police Chief Jeff Sheppard. Council Member Mark Ayers was not present at the Called Work Session meeting.

BUSINESS

1. Discussion of the 2026/2027 Proposed Budget

City Council approved a \$3 per month sanitation rate increase, which was already included in the proposed budget. The Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) was increased from 2.8% to 3.5%, and one patrol position was removed from the Police Department budget to offset the additional expense. Council also approved moving forward with four new dispatch positions and a Deputy City Clerk position. A proposed part-time theater position will continue to be evaluated as a potential replacement for contracted marketing services without increasing overall costs. Council also requested the distribution of monthly unaudited financial reports via email and expressed support for beginning the budget process earlier.

Council reviewed proposals for a city recycling program. An estimated \$18,000 was included in the budget for the program, while details regarding the drop-off location and operating hours will be finalized at a later date.

Discussion continued regarding the City assuming operation of the splash pad, but no final decision was made. Council also discussed managing park pavilion use through posted time limits rather than a reservation system.

Approximately \$15,000 was budgeted for audiovisual upgrades to the Council Chamber, and the relocation of Council meetings to the Annex Building pending completion of the technology improvements. Security cameras for the lake and Strozier Park were discussed as a potential future SPLOST project.

Council agreed that the nonprofit funding policy requires clarification and revision. Recommended funding amounts included \$25,000 for Elevations, contingent upon reopening and meeting compliance requirements; \$25,000 for Pioneer Youth; \$4,250 for Celebrate Recovery; and \$3,000 for TCAC. One additional funding request was reduced from \$8,000 to \$4,250 to comply with policy guidelines.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Ayers adjourned the Work Session Meeting at 6:51 pm.

Respectfully,

LeAnn Lehigh
City Clerk



Meeting held at Hogansville City Hall, 111 High Street, Hogansville GA 30230

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Jake Ayers called the Public Hearing to Order at 7:00 pm to hear citizen comments on the proposed 2026/2027 budget. There were no citizen comments, and the Public Hearing was adjourned at 7:01 pm.

CALLED MEETING

June 22, 2026

Call to Order: Mayor Jake Ayers called the Called Meeting to order at 7:01 pm. Present were Mayor Ayers, Council Member Michael Taylor, Council Member Jason Baswell, Council Member Mandy Neese, and Council Member Kandis Strickland. Also present were City Manager Lisa Kelly, Assistant City Manager Oasis Nichols, City Attorney Alex Dixon, City Clerk LeAnn Lehigh, and Police Chief Jeff Sheppard. Council Member Mark Ayers was not present for tonight's Called Meeting.

Mayor Ayers gave an invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Adoption of the 2026/2027 Budget

Motion: A motion was made by Council Member Baswell to adopt the 2026/2027 Budget. The motion was seconded by Council Member Neese.

Discussion: None

Motion Carries 4-0

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Council Member Strickland and duly seconded, Mayor Ayers adjourned the meeting at 7:03 pm.

Respectfully,

LeAnn Lehigh
City Clerk



Meeting held at Hogansville City Hall, 111 High Street, Hogansville GA 30230

Work Session Meeting – 5:30pm

July 6, 2026

Call to Order: Mayor Jake Ayers called the Work Session to order at 5:36 pm. Present were Mayor Ayers, Council Member Michael Taylor, Council Member Jason Baswell, Council Member Mark Ayers, and Council Member Kandis Strickland. Also present were City Manager Lisa Kelly, Assistant City Manager Oasis Nichols, City Clerk LeAnn Lehigh, and City Attorney Alex Dixon. Council Member Mandy Neese was not present at tonight's Work Session meeting.

1. Discussion of UDO Amendments – Heavy Industrial (HI) Zoning District, Standards and Regulations for Data Center Developments, and Establishment of Procedures and Requirements Related to Developments of Impact

Council held a work session to review the latest draft of the proposed Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) amendments related to data centers. Due to the significant revisions made since the Planning & Zoning Commission's previous review, Council agreed the ordinance should be returned to the Commission for an updated recommendation before moving forward with the public hearing and readings.

Staff reviewed key revisions included in Draft #5, including increased setbacks from residential and public institutional properties, additional construction management requirements, financial guarantees, construction hour limitations, and restored annual water and sewer reporting requirements. Council discussed road repair responsibilities, generator fuel language, additional authority to impose site-specific conditions, buffers adjacent to county residential property, water monitoring, and construction noise requirements. Staff confirmed that construction noise is already addressed within the proposed ordinance and will review whether a citywide construction noise ordinance should also be considered.

Council directed staff to incorporate the discussed revisions into the next draft, return the ordinance to the Planning & Zoning Commission for review on July 16, and continue the ordinance consideration process with future work sessions, public hearings, and readings. Council also noted the need to consider extending the current data center moratorium to avoid its expiration before the ordinance is finalized.

Mayor Ayers adjourned the Work Session at 6:09 pm.

PUBLIC HEARING – 6:30 pm

July 6, 2026

Mayor Ayers called the Public Hearing to Order at 6:31 to receive comments on Draft 5 of the proposed Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) amendments regulating data centers. Staff explained that, due to significant revisions made since the Planning & Zoning Commission's previous recommendation, the draft ordinance would be returned to the Commission for further review before Council consideration.

The majority of public comments expressed opposition to data centers and raised concerns regarding the proposed ordinance. Speakers requested stronger regulations related to setbacks, decommissioning requirements, electrical infrastructure, construction standards, community benefits, and environmental protections. Additional concerns included potential impacts on well water, traffic, roads, noise, lighting, wildlife, property values, and the rural character of the High Tower Road area. Several residents urged Council to ensure the ordinance aligns with the City's Comprehensive Plan, while others requested that data centers not be permitted within the city.

Staff confirmed that any future data center proposal would require a separate rezoning application and that the revised ordinance would be reviewed by the Planning & Zoning Commission on July 16, 2026, before returning to Council for a public hearing and first reading on August 3, 2026, with a potential second reading on August 17, 2026. No action was taken during the public hearing.

Mayor Ayers adjourned the Public Hearing at 7:47 pm.

Respectfully,



LeAnn Lehigh

City Clerk

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF HOGANSVILLE, GEORGIA
EXTENDING THE PRIOR MORATORIUMS WITH
RESPECT TO THE ESTABLISHMENT AND/OR EXPANSION
OF DATA CENTERS AND/OR CRYPTO MINING OR CYBER
CURRENCY MINING FACILITIES WITHIN THE CITY**

WHEREAS, the City of Hogansville, Georgia, a municipal corporation in Troup County, Georgia, is lawfully empowered to regulate commercial and industrial development within its corporate limits, including the establishment of zoning districts and regulations, in order to protect and preserve the public health, safety, welfare and property values of the citizens of the City; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council, as the governing authority of the City of Hogansville, Georgia, consider its ability and duty to so regulate commercial development and zoning as a valid, substantial and important governmental purpose which justifies said regulation; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the City of Hogansville desire to review that portion of its ordinances relating to data centers and crypto mining or cyber currency mining facilities, in order to consider zoning classifications, districts, and/or regulations and standards for location, distance, buffers, noise and other potential ancillary impacts of data centers, crypto mining facilities and/or cyber currency mining facilities, including the potential effects of any such facilities on surrounding properties as well as the City and properties surrounding the City, and

WHEREAS, on February 3, 2026, the Mayor and Council adopted a Moratorium on establishing and/or expanding data centers and/or crypto mining or cyber currency mining facilities for ninety (90) days, which moratorium expired on May 3, 2026; on May 4, 2026, the Mayor and Council extended such Moratorium on establishing and/or expanding data centers and/or crypto mining or cyber currency mining facilities for an additional ninety (90) days, which moratorium is scheduled to expire on August 2, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor, Council, staff and citizens have been diligently working on the consideration, drafting and review of ordinances to address such issues, but such review and process are not yet complete; and

WHEREAS, during the review and proposal of any proposed modifications to said existing ordinances and/or other provisions, the Mayor and Council desire to maintain the status quo within the City and provide consistent regulation of any such facilities moving forward;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOGANSVILLE, GEORGIA, AND IT IS SO RESOLVED BY THE AUTHORITY THEREOF, that the moratorium for any application or the acceptance of any application relating to the establishment of a new data center, crypto mining facility or cyber currency mining facility, including but not limited to any applications for the expansion of any such existing facilities, special land use permits, rezonings, land disturbance permits, building permits, business licenses, or certificates of occupancy within the City of Hogansville, Georgia, is hereby extended and/or imposed, and no such licenses, permits or permissions with respect to the establishment, expansion or development of a data center, crypto mining facility and/or cyber currency mining facility shall be acted upon by the City of Hogansville for _____ () days from the date of the adoption of this Resolution extending such previous moratoriums.

For the purposes of this Resolution, the term “data center” means a physical room, building, structure, and/or facility that principally houses infrastructure for building, running, processing, hosting, delivering and/or transmitting data, applications and/or services, and/or for storing and managing the data associated with those applications and/or services.

For the purposes of this Resolution, “crypto mining facility” and/or “cyber currency mining facility” means a physical room, building, structure, and/or facility that principally houses infrastructure for the mining, hosting, storing and/or transfer of crypto currency, cyber currency, and/or any other similar digital currency.

This moratorium extension shall immediately expire _____ (____) days from the date of adoption of this Resolution unless shortened, extended or otherwise modified by further official action of the Mayor and Council of the City of Hogansville.

No applications for the designated permissions, licenses, or permits referenced above shall be received or accepted until such time, absent subsequent action by the Mayor and Council of the City of Hogansville.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the City of Hogansville, Georgia, take this action in their discretion after determining that such is reasonably necessary, in the interests of the public generally, and that said moratorium extension is designed to accomplish the purposes as outlined herein and will not be unduly oppressive upon any individuals or entities which may be affected by such Resolution.

SO RESOLVED, this _____ day July, 2026.

BY: _____
Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

CITY COUNCIL
Mayor Jake Ayers
Michael Taylor, Jr., Post 1
Jason Baswell, Post 2
Mandy Neese, Post 3
Mark Ayers, Post 4
Kandis Strickland, Post 5



City Manager -- Lisa Kelly
Assistant City Manager -- Oasis Nichols
City Clerk -- LeAnn Lehigh
City Attorney -- Alex Dixon
111 High St
Hogansville GA 30230-1196
706-637-8629 | cityofhogansville.org

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

MEETING DATE: June 1, 2026

SUBMITTED BY: Dhayna Portillo

AGENDA TITLE: Citizen Appointments – Hogansville Downtown Development Authority

CLASSIFICATION (City Attorney must approve all ordinances, resolutions and contracts as to form)

- | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| ☐ Ordinance (No. ____) | ☐ Contract | ☐ Information Only | ☐ Public Hearing |
| ☐ Resolution (No. ____) | ☐ Ceremonial | ☒ Discussion/Action | ☐ Other |

BACKGROUND (Includes description, background, and justification)

The Hogansville Downtown Development Authority (DDA) currently has two vacancies. In accordance with Georgia law, potential candidates were solicited by a committee of two, consisting of one downtown business owner and one downtown property owner, neither of whom currently serves on the DDA.

One vacant seat must be filled by a City Council member, and the other by a downtown business owner, operator, or resident within the downtown development area. At this time, the committee received one application and recommends the appointment of Kandis Stickland. Ms. Stickland currently serves as the Council Member appointee to the DDA and is seeking reappointment, with her application attached.

BUDGETING & FINANCIAL IMPACT (Includes project costs and funding sources)

No budget impact.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION (Include possible options for consideration)

Staff recommends reappointing Kandis Strickland based off the two-person committee recommendation.



CITY OF HOGANSVILLE

111 High Street, Hogansville GA 30230

Application for Board or Commission Appointment

Citizens provide great insight and knowledge to City government. An avenue that the City of Hogansville uses to get this insight is through the City's various boards and commissions. The members of the boards and commissions make decisions and help recommend and review policies for the City of Hogansville and its Mayor and Council. This questionnaire will assist the Mayor and Council in the review process and in determining applicant eligibility requirements and qualifications for board or commission membership.

Questions to consider before applying for membership on a board or commission:

- Do I fully understand what this board or commission expects from me?
- Am I committed to the goals and mission of this board or commission?
- Can I afford the demands on my time, resources and energy?
- Will I attend meetings regularly, making them a priority for the duration of my appointment?
- Am I willing to perform a reasonable amount of work outside of regularly scheduled board or commission meetings and prepare for each meeting?
- Can I work effectively with the other members of the board or commission?
- Am I willing to participate in necessary board or commission training, education and development activities that will improve my effectiveness in my position?

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Applicant Name: Kandis Strickland

Occupation: Teacher Employer: Troup County School System

Home Address: 115 Shallow Creek Lane City: Hogansville Zip: 30230

Home Phone: (706) 637-6229 Home E-Mail: kstric95@hotmail.com

Work Phone: () Work E-Mail: _____

Cell Phone: (678) 876-9337 Preferred E-Mail: ☒ Home ☐ Work

Name and address of the business entity you own, located within the city limits of Hogansville (if applicable) _____

- a) Which board or commission do you wish to be appointed to? DDA
- b) How long have you been a resident of the City of Hogansville? 20+ Years Months
- c) Are you current with all of your financial obligations to the City? ☒ Yes ☐ No
- d) Are you willing and available to attend training sessions on-site and/or off-site if provided by the City? ☐ Yes ☒ No
- e) Available boards and commissions and their terms and meeting schedules are listed at the end of this application. Are you able to meet the attendance requirements of the position for which you are applying? ☒ Yes ☐ No
- f) Do you know of any circumstances that would result in you having to abstain from voting on any action before the board or commission? ☐ Yes ☒ No If yes, please explain:
- _____
- _____
- _____
- g) Do you or your employer, or your spouse, child, relative or their employers, do business with the City of Hogansville? ☐ Yes ☒ No If yes, please explain:
- _____
- _____
- _____
- h) Do you have any employment or contractual relationship with the City of Hogansville that would create a continuing or frequently recurring conflict regarding your participation on a board or commission? ☐ Yes ☒ No If yes, please explain:
- _____
- _____

1) Why do you feel qualified for the board or commission you selected? (Attach resume if you like):

see resume'

APPLICANT STATEMENT

I understand that I am applying for appointment to a board or commission office of the City of Hogansville that the appointing authority may require an interview prior to consideration for appointment; that I will be required to take an oath of office to uphold the City's charter and ordinances; that I may be removed from office for any reason permitted by law or City charter; and that my application will remain on file for consideration for a period of six (6) months, after which time, I will need to file a new application. I agree to comply at all times with all requirements of the office for which I am applying and to which I may be appointed. All statements and information provided in this application are true to the best of my knowledge.

Kandis Strickland

Signature

Kandis Strickland

Printed Name

04/27/26

Date

Please return signed application to:

City Clerk
City of Hogansville
111 High Street
Hogansville, GA 30230

BOARD AND COMMISSION INFORMATION

Cemetery Board – This City Council-appointed board monitors the conditions and needs of the City Cemetery and makes related recommendations to the City Council. Meets as needed.

Council on Aging (COA) – Troup County Council on Aging consists of one representative each from Hogansville, LaGrange, West Point and Troup County. This group meets regularly.

Downtown Development Authority (DDA) – The DDA's mission is to revitalize and redevelop the City's downtown. The DDA is composed of seven members who are residents of the city or who own and operate a business within the city. Four of the members must have a specific economic interest in the downtown area. Potential new or renewed members are recommended by the DDA, and then appointed by Mayor and Council. The DDA meets once a month.

Historic Preservation Commission – This group's mission is to identify, recognize, protect enhance and promote the city's historic properties, sites and districts. The Historic Preservation Commission also reviews major changes proposed for building exteriors in the City's locally designated historic district. The group meets quarterly and as needed.

Hogansville Development Authority – This authority encourages and promotes the expansion and development of industrial, agricultural, recreational and trade facilities, acquires land toward these ends, and meets as needed.

LaGrange-Callaway Airport Advisory Committee – This committee provides input to the Troup County Board of Commissioners regarding airport facilities, operations and maintenance. The City Council appoints one city resident to this committee, which meets quarterly.

Meriwether County-Hogansville Joint Development Authority – This authority was created to issue bonds and hold title for industrial projects in Hogansville's small corner of the Meriwether County Industrial Park. The City Council appoints members to one-year terms, and the authority meets quarterly.

Planning Commission – This group recommends proposed zoning variances and changes to the City zoning ordinance and map, and reviews and reviews special use applications, proposed subdivisions, and development permits for new commercial uses. The Commission also updates the City Comprehensive Plan. Members meet monthly as needed.

Troup County Recreation Board – This board advises the Troup County Parks and Recreation Department regarding county-wide recreation facilities and programs. The Hogansville City Council appoints two city residents to this county-wide board. One of the two residents must have a child who participates in the Parks & Recreation program.

PROCEDURES FOR BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENT

1. Approximately sixty days before the end of a Board or Commission term, the City Manager will notify the City Council and the members of the Board or Committee affected of the positions and citizens whose terms will be expiring.
2. The City Manager will cause this information to be posted via the City's bulletin boards, website, social media sites, utility billing statements or other means approximately sixty days before the end of a Board or Commission term to inform the residents in the city. This notice will also include qualifications (if any) to serve. The City Council will set the timeframe for the acceptance of applicants.
3. Applications may be sent to the City Clerk who will provide copies to the City Council for its review. The City Council may interview candidates at its discretion. The City Council retains all responsibilities and rights to select candidates, nominate and confirm appointments as required by City Ordinance.
4. If no applications are received for the opening, City Clerk notifies Mayor and Council, who may decide to continue running the opening.
5. Incumbents wishing for a new term must also reapply and be interviewed. Said Incumbents may not participate in interviewing other applicants or in the decision-making process.
6. It is up to the board or commission to coordinate any required public interviews of the applicants and incumbents.
7. The Chair of the board or commission sends the board opening recommendation to the City Clerk who will then place it on the agenda of the next meeting of the Mayor and Council.
8. After any appointment, the new Board or Commission member, as well as the other members of that Board or Commission is sent a letter notifying them of their appointment.
9. The City Clerk will notify all applicants of the Mayor and Council's decision via email and mail.

Kandis Strickland

115 Shallow Creek Lane
Hogansville, GA 30230
(678) 876-9337
kstric95@hotmail.com

Areas of Expertise

Builds and sustains positive relationships with internal and external stakeholders; Develops policies and procedures to ensure daily operations are operating efficiently and effectively; Collaborates within the community to show support, identify strengths, challenges, and strategies on improvement plans; Provides professional development and forums to steer committees, departments, and individuals to gain knowledge the current trends, short and long terms goals of implementation for potential growth; Provides direct and indirect supervision to establish collaborative partnerships, meet deadlines, be inclusive when making decisions (actively listen to others' perspectives and differences), and be in compliance in local, state, or national laws; Collects and use data-driven results to produce positive outcomes for the community as a whole; Coordinates multiple simultaneous tasks of varying complexity, with demonstrated accountability and excellent attention to detail while implementing flexible problem-solving skills.

Education

Master of Public Administration, Troy University, Columbus, GA
Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education, LaGrange College, LaGrange, GA

Professional Experience

Early Childhood Education Teacher

Troup County School System, LaGrange, GA

2020-present

- Communicates effectively with students, parents or guardians, district and school personnel, and other stakeholders in ways that enhance student learning.
- Uses technology, including Microsoft Office Suite applications and use of video, live streaming, and multimedia presentation tools
- Fosters a sense of respect, appreciation of diversity, and team atmosphere
- Demonstrates an understanding of the curriculum, subject content, pedagogical knowledge, and the needs of students by providing relevant learning experiences
- Gathers, analyzes, and uses relevant data to measure student progress, to inform instructional content and delivery methods, and to provide timely and constructive feedback to both students and parents
- Plans lessons using state and local school district curriculum and standards, effective strategies, and data to address the differentiated needs of all students

Teacher

Meriwether County School System, Greenville, GA

2019-2020

- Created a classroom environment that is safe and conducive to individualized and small group instruction, and student learning
- Developed lesson plans and instructional materials into learning experiences to best utilize the available time for instruction
- Conducted ongoing assessment of student learning, and modified instructional methods to fit individual students' needs, including students with special needs; conducted individual and small group instruction as needed
- Encouraged parental involvement in students' education and ensures effective communication with parents and students

Early Childhood Care & Education Instructor

Columbus Technical College, Columbus, GA

2017-2018

- Evaluated students' progress in attaining goals and objectives, ensure safety and security requirements are met in the training area, and meet with students, staff members and other educators to discuss students' instructional programs and other issues
- Executed program standards of an accredited program to include classroom instruction, identifying appropriate resources and teaching methods

- Participated in standing or ad hoc committee meetings relating to curriculum development, extra curricula activities, and other technical college sponsored activities or programs
- Developed and maintained positive working relationships with educators, school leaders, and internal working teams

Substitute Teacher

Troup County School System, LaGrange, GA

2015-2019

- Adhered to the scope and sequence of instruction documented in the teacher's lesson plans
- Modeled and reinforced the expectations of the teacher by utilizing effective strategies to provide instruction according to the needs of the students
- Provided a safe environment that is conducive to learning according to the policies and procedures

Early Childhood Education Consultant

ICF International, Inc., Fairfax, VA (Gov't Contractor)

2014-2015

- Offered educational training and technical support to Early Head Start/Head Start programs and local early childhood professionals, and education managers, in support of teachers and home visitors and share information about relevant resources available in the State of Alabama
- Worked with educational programs to correct deficiencies relating to Early Childhood Education in the areas of curriculum and assessment
- Engaged programs in dialogue and learning of best practices for children from birth to five and encourage a culture of learning that promotes school readiness using technological aids

Director of Social Services & Planning

Community Action for Improvement, Inc. LaGrange, GA

2009-2013

- Conducted trainings and other meetings/workshops as needed for staff
- Developed and interpreted program procedures and policy to staff, local governments, agencies, organizations, customers, and the public
- Prepared program applications including budget development and management as well as submission of contracts
- Analyzed data from agency tracking system to prepare reports for the Department of Human Services, Department of Community Affairs, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and donors
- Administered many activities in Human Resources including the hiring/termination processes for staff as well as explanation of benefits and policies of the agency
- Responsible for the planning and implementation of the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing Program (HPRP) including case management and counseling
- Monitored/evaluated staff to ensure compliance with agency programs, federal and state rules, and regulations

Regional Manager

(Overseeing 3 or more Counties)

Community Action for Improvement, Inc. LaGrange, GA

2007-2009

- Participated in the development and revision of written work plans, policies, procedures, and annual/bi-weekly reports as well as budget management.
- Monitored and reinforced the implementation of personnel policies and procedures as well as program policies and procedures.
- Facilitated effective communication and flow of information to all staff regarding policy and program updates, building needs, and operations
- Provided and ensures that adequate orientation, training, supervision, and follow-up is provided to all staff as well as substitutes, volunteers, work study interns, governing bodies etc.
- Facilitated effective communication between centers and central office, and support communication between families, staff, and the community

Education Specialist

Community Action for Improvement, Inc. LaGrange, GA

2002-2007

- Developed, in accordance with the Head Start Performance Standards, and in collaboration with parents, staff and early childhood professionals, the program's curriculum, child development approach, program goals and

objectives.

- Developed educational staff training activities, utilizing information from training needs assessment, and classroom monitoring visits.
- Provided guidance and training to classroom staff on the selection and implementation of all aspects of educational services, including lesson plan development, arrangement of the learning environment, and classroom management strategies
- Conducted monthly monitoring visits to include classroom observations, random sampling of files
- Dual role serving as the Interim Early Head Start Coordinator within a six-county service area as well as the Education Specialist.

Teacher (Early Head Start/Head Start)

Community Action for Improvement, Inc. LaGrange, GA

2001-2002

- Used Head Start Agency's developmentally appropriate instruments for ongoing assessment of the progress and accomplishments of children
- Planned daily activities to reflect curriculum areas, individualized instruction, and component integrations
- Provided a balance of open learning and structured activities that will ensure the school readiness of children participating in Head Start

Elementary Teacher

Unity Elementary School, Luthersville, GA

2000-2001

- Guided the learning process of fourth grade students toward the achievement of curriculum goals, and in harmony with the goals, selected and clearly communicated objectives and expected learner outcomes for all lessons, units, and projects
- Assisted the administration in implementing all policies and rules governing student life and conduct as prescribed by board policy, administrative procedures, the student handbook, and program guidelines
- Adjusted the instructional program based upon student evaluation outcomes and communicating the performance to parents and administration

Additional Training, Competencies, and Certifications

- Newly Elected Official Training 2024
- Gifted Endorsement
- Growing Readers Training 2019-2022
- Georgia Initiative for Community Housing Training 2017
- Downtown Development Authority Training 2016-present
- Substitute Teacher Training 2015
- CLASS Reliability 2015
- Head Start Association Conference Trainer 2015
- FACES Board Member and Treasurer 2014
- Mentor-Coach/Supervisory Training 2005
- Head Start Mentor-Coach Early Literacy Training 2006
- Certified Community Action Management Program 2010
- GCAA Board Meetings/Trainings 2009-2013
- GCAA Roma Board Training 2013
- GCAA Case Management Training
- NASCSP Training Conference 2013
- ROMA Next Generation Listening Sessions/Webinars 2013
- Easytrak Training 2012-2013

References

- Available upon request

CITY COUNCIL
Mayor Jake Ayers
Michael Taylor, Jr., Post 1
Jason Baswell, Post 2
Mandy Neese, Post 3
Mark Ayers, Post 4
Kandis Strickland, Post 5



City Manager – Lisa Kelly
Assistant City Manager – Oasis Nichols
City Clerk – LeAnn Lehigh
City Attorney – Alex Dixon
111 High St
Hogansville GA 30230-1196
706-637-8629 | cityofhogansville.org

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

MEETING DATE: July 20, 2026

SUBMITTED BY: Dhayna Portillo

AGENDA TITLE: Citizen Appointments – Hogansville Downtown Development Authority

CLASSIFICATION (City Attorney must approve all ordinances, resolutions and contracts as to form)

☐ Ordinance (No. ____)

☐ Contract

☐ Information Only

☐ Public Hearing

☐ Resolution (No. ____)

☐ Ceremonial

☒ Discussion/Action

☐ Other

BACKGROUND (Includes description, background, and justification)

The Hogansville Downtown Development Authority (DDA) has one vacancy within the authority. In accordance with Georgia law, potential candidates were solicited by a committee of two, consisting of one downtown business owner and one downtown property owner, neither of whom currently serves on the DDA.

There is currently one open seat that must be filled by an owner or operator of a business located within the downtown development area. The committee makes the following recommendation of appointing Liseby O'Kelley, whose application is attached.

BUDGETING & FINANCIAL IMPACT (Includes project costs and funding sources)

No budget impact.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION (Include possible options for consideration)

Staff recommends appointing Liseby O'Kelley to be appointed to serve on the Downtown Development Authority.

Entry #: 22 - Lismery Okelley **Status:** Submitted **Submitted:** 6/9/2026 6:22 PM

Citizens provide great insight and knowledge to City government. An avenue that the City of Hogansville uses to get this insight is through the City's various boards and commissions. The members of the boards and commissions make decisions and help recommend and review policies for the City of Hogansville and its Mayor and Council. This questionnaire will assist the Mayor and Council in the review process and in determining applicant eligibility requirements and qualifications for board or commission membership.

Questions to consider before applying for membership on a board or commission:

- Do I fully understand what this board or commission expects from me?
- Am I committed to the goals and mission of this board or commission?
- Can I afford the demands on my time, resources, and energy?
- Will I attend meetings regularly, making them a priority for the duration of my appointment?
- Am I willing to perform a reasonable amount of work outside of regularly scheduled board or commission meetings and prepare for each meeting?
- Can I work effectively with the other members of the board or commission?
- Am I willing to participate in necessary board or commission training, education, and development activities that will improve my effectiveness in my position?

Applicant Information

Which Board or Commission do you wish to be appointed?

Downtown Development Authority

If other, which board or commission are you interested in serving?

Name

Lismery Okelley

Occupation

Antique store owner

Employer

Self

Home Address

27 W Oak St

City

Luthersville

Zip

30251

Home Phone

7069773062

Home Email

lismerymenendez@gmail.com

Work Phone

Work Email

Cell Phone

7069773062

Preferred Email

Home

Name and address of the business entity you own, located within the city limits of Hogansville (if applicable)

The Antique Vault

How long have you been a resident of the City of Hogansville?

Not one yet!

Are you current with all of your financial obligations to the City?

Yes

Are you willing and available to attend training sessions on-site and/or off-site if provided by the City?

Yes

Are you able to meet the attendance requirements of the position for which you are applying?

Yes

Do you know of any circumstances that would result in you having to abstain from voting on any action before the board or commission?

No

If the answer above is yes, please explain:

Do you or your employer, or your spouse, child, relative or their employers, do business with the City of Hogansville?

No

If the answer above is yes, please explain:

Do you have employment or contractual relationships with the City of Hogansville that would create conflict with regard to your participation on a board or commission?

No

If the answer above is yes, please explain:

Why do you feel qualified for the board or commission you selected?

I am well-qualified for an Event Planner position through my experience coordinating and managing both private and business events. I have successfully planned weddings and, as an Office Administrator, organized and hosted company events while overseeing logistics, scheduling, and event coordination. My strong organizational skills, attention to detail, and ability to manage multiple projects make me well-suited to plan and execute successful community events for the city.

Attach Resume if you would like.

BOARD AND COMMISSION INFORMATION

- **Cemetery Board** – This City Council-appointed board monitors the conditions and needs of the City Cemetery and makes related recommendations to the City Council. Meets as needed.
- **Council on Aging (COA)** – The Three Rivers Council on Aging includes volunteers from each of its member cities and counties. The Hogansville City Council appoints one city resident to this 10-county group, which meets quarterly.

- **Downtown Development Authority (DDA)** – The DDA’s mission is to revitalize and redevelop the City’s downtown. The DDA is composed of seven members who are residents of the city or who own and operate a business within the city. Four of the members must have a specific economic interest in the downtown area. Potential new or renewed members are recommended by the DDA, and then appointed by Mayor and Council. The DDA meets once a month.
- **Historic Preservation Commission** – This group’s mission is to identify, recognize, protect enhance and promote the city’s historic properties, sites and districts. The Historic Preservation Commission also reviews major changes proposed for building exteriors in the City’s locally designated historic district. The group meets quarterly and as needed.
- **Hogansville Development Authority** – This authority encourages and promotes the expansion and development of industrial, agricultural, recreational and trade facilities, acquires land toward these ends, and meets as needed.
- **Keep Troup Beautiful** – Keep Troup Beautiful encourages behavioral changes and individual responsibility through educational activities that result in a cleaner Troup County. An affiliate of Keep Georgia Beautiful and Keep America Beautiful, this county affiliate has five working committees: Beautification, Development, Education, Media/Public Relations, and Recycling. Keep Troup Beautiful recommends Hogansville representatives to this group, for the City Council to appoint.
- **LaGrange-Callaway Airport Advisory Committee** – This committee provides input to the Troup County Board of Commissioners regarding airport facilities, operations and maintenance. The City Council appoints one city resident to this committee, which meets quarterly.
- **Library Board** – This Board hires and supervises the directors for the 2-county (Troup and Harris) regional library. Troup County appoints one Hogansville citizen to this Board, which meets quarterly.
- **Meriwether County-Hogansville Joint Development Authority** – This authority was created to issue bonds and hold title for industrial projects in Hogansville’s small corner of the Meriwether County Industrial Park. The City Council appoints members to one-year terms, and the authority meets quarterly.
- **Personnel Advisory Board** – This 3-member board hears employee grievances. The City Council appoints one city resident to this board. The Hogansville City staff chooses an employee representative, and those two members appoint another city resident. This group meets as needed.
- **Planning & Zoning Commission** – This group recommends proposed zoning variances and changes to the City zoning ordinance and map, and reviews and approves special use applications, proposed subdivisions, and development permits for new commercial uses. The Commission also updates the City Comprehensive Plan. Members meet monthly as needed.
- **Troup County Board of Elections and Registration** – This board registers all eligible citizens in Troup County to vote and encourages citizens to vote. This board also conducts and supervises all special and regular elections. The Hogansville City Council appoints one Hogansville resident to this board.
- **Troup County Recreation Board** – This board advises the Troup County Parks and Recreation Department regarding county-wide recreation facilities and programs. The Hogansville City Council appoints two city residents to this countywide board. One of the two residents must have a child who participates in the Parks & Recreation program.
- **Troup Tourism Committee** – This county-wide group oversees spending of hotel-motel tax revenues collected in Troup County and its three cities. The Hogansville City Council appoints one resident to this committee, which meets monthly.

PROCEDURES FOR BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENT

1. Approximately sixty days before the end of a Board or Commission term, the City Manager will notify the City Council and the members of the Board or Committee affected of the positions and citizens whose terms will be expiring.
2. The City Manager will cause this information to be posted via the City’s bulletin boards, website, social media sites, utility billing statements or other means approximately sixty days before the end of a Board or Commission term to inform the residents in the city. This notice will also include qualifications (if any) to serve. The City Council will set the timeframe for the acceptance of applicants.
3. Applications may be sent to the City Clerk who will provide copies to the City Council for its review. The City Council may interview candidates at its discretion. The City Council retains all responsibilities and rights to select candidates, nominate and confirm appointments as required by City Ordinance.
4. If no applications are received for the opening, City Clerk notifies Mayor and Council, who may decide to continue running the opening.

5. Incumbents wishing for a new term must also reapply and be interviewed. Said incumbents may not participate in interviewing other applicants or in the decision-making process.
6. It is up to the board or commission to coordinate any required public interviews of the applicants and incumbents.
7. The Chair of the board or commission sends the board opening recommendation to the City Clerk who will then place it on the agenda of the next meeting of the Mayor and Council.
8. After any appointment, the new Board or Commission member, as well as the other members of that Board or Commission is sent a letter notifying them of their appointment.
9. The City Clerk will notify all applicants of the Mayor and Council's decision via email and mail

Applicant Statement

I understand that I am applying to a board or commission office of the City of Hogansville that the appointing authority may require an interview prior to consideration for appointment; that I will be required to take an oath of office to uphold the City's charter and ordinances; that I may be removed from office for any reason permitted by law or City charter; and that my application will remain on file for consideration for a period of six (6) months, after which time, I will need to file a new application. All statements and information provided in this application are true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature

Today's Date

6/9/2026

Lismery Okelley