



City of Hogansville

City Council

Work Session Meeting Agenda

Monday, May 19, 2025 – 5:30 pm

Meeting will be held at Hogansville City Hall

Mayor: <i>Jake Ayers</i>	2025	City Manager: <i>Lisa E. Kelly</i>
Council Post 1: <i>Michael Taylor, Jr</i>	2025	Assistant City Manager: <i>Oasis Nichols</i>
Council Post 2: <i>Jason Baswell</i>	2025	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

WORK SESSION – 5:30 pm

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- Clock Park Construction
- Frederick Manley – Georgia Youth Impact Project
- Stone Street Discussion
- LMIG – LRA Funding – Project Discussion

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

**Work Session Meeting
May 19, 2025**

Call to Order: Mayor Jake Ayers called the Work Session to order at 5:31pm. Present were 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, Police Chief Jeff Sheppard, and City Clerk LeAnn Lehigh. Council Member Michael Taylor was not present at tonight's work session meeting.

Order of Business

1. Clock Park Construction

- A concept drawing in the packet illustrates the intended design: a modest park with benches, an enhanced gateway, and a parking lot with five spaces plus one handicap spot.
- The estimated construction cost is approximately \$139,545.
- Plans include a community garden area, a donated clock installation, and low-maintenance greenery with brick pavers and annual plantings at the front corner.
- Additional elements under consideration: a mural to cover the exposed brick on the otherwise stone wall and repainting or replacing gateway signs.
- Funding: \$100,000 is approved from the previous SPLOST; an estimated additional \$39,000 may be allocated from the new SPLOST if needed.
- Future considerations: potential development access via stairs and the need for DOT permitting.

2. Frederick Manley – Georgia Youth Impact Project

- A pilot summer program is proposed to address youth needs, focusing on violence prevention (anger management and conflict resolution) and literacy enrichment.
- The program aims to partner with local organizations—law enforcement, housing authority, and community leaders—to create a comprehensive support system.
- Initial proposal details:
 - Scale down from an eight-week program to a two-week pilot to assess feasibility.
 - Target enrollment: approximately 25 children for quality engagement.
 - Proposed schedule: Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.
 - Staffing: two certified teachers and one coach; Council Member Neese has concerns about ensuring competitive hourly wages (\$22–\$25 per hour) for certified staff and feels the proposed estimated funding costs aren't accurate. Council stated that other non-profits who receive City budgeted funds bring audited financial statements that show their expenditures and the need for funding from the City. They have asked Mr. Manley to provide these types of financial statements with more detailed estimated costs.
- Logistics:
 - Consider local, low or no-cost field trips (e.g., movie day at the Royal or zoo visit at Georgia Untamed Zoo), possible borrowed transportation from local churches, and use of existing school resources.
 - Potential to expand in future years based on pilot feedback and additional funding.
- Budget and funding:
 - Council discussed that the 2025/2026 budget is already in process, and that the funding proposal from Mr. Manley can't continue to be done two weeks before the start of the program. The City's budgeting process takes months to prepare.
 - Council said that detailed planning and a preset with breakdowns for staffing, activities, and transportation should be required before final funding decisions.
 - Mayor Ayers has committed to sitting down with Mr. Manley sometime this week to talk over the details of what may be possible for a scaled-down summer program this summer.

3. Stone Street Discussion

- The Stone Street plat indicates a gravel drive maintained by the City of Hogansville, but the exact right-of-way is unclear.
- A survey is needed to establish the city's right-of-way and clarify property lines.
- Two repair options for the problematic ditch:
 - Open the ditch completely (estimated cost: \$19,000–\$19,700).
 - Repair the existing structure (estimated cost: \$37,900).
- The preferred approach is to open the ditch and install a driveway culvert, ensuring the property is not landlocked if the adjacent owner develops or sells.
- Immediate coordination with the property owner is needed, along with initiating the survey and title work.

4. LMIG – LRA Funding – Project Discussion

- A decision is pending on the use of the \$65,000 LRA funding, with a deadline of June 15 (submission likely by June 13 as the 15th is a Sunday).
- Options: apply funds to pavement patching or asphalt repairs, potentially bundled with other maintenance projects.
- The council discussed consolidating proposals and securing more contractor bids, as initial responses have been limited.
- An email thread will be started to gather further input on project costs and options.

ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA:

Budget and Software Updates

- The new budget software is causing delays and issues; the finance module is not yet fully operational.
- There is an ongoing commitment to complete the budget schedule, aiming to finalize it soon despite current hurdles.
- Discussions included adjusting the timetable for utility systems going online; initial plans for July 1 have been deferred until financial processes are stable.

Mayor Ayers adjourned the Work Session at 6:49pm.

Respectfully,



LeAnn Lehigh
City Clerk