



City of Hogansville

## City Council

### Work Session Meeting Agenda

Monday, November 17, 2025 – 5:30 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

### **WORK SESSION – 5:30 PM**

#### **BUSINESS**

1. Personnel Advisory Board Appointee
2. Atlas – Traffic Planning Services Agreement
3. Askew Park Tree Discussion
4. Appeal of HHPC Decision on Painting & Planters at 202 Commerce St.
5. Non-Profit Funding Policy

**Work Session Meeting  
November 17, 2025**

**Call to Order:** Mayor Jake Ayers called the Work Session to order at 5:31 pm. Present were 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, Police Chief Jeff Sheppard, and City Clerk LeAnn Lehigh. Council Member Mark Ayers was not present at the Work Session meeting.

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**1) Personnel Advisory Board Appointee**

The City's Personnel Advisory Board handles employee grievances, including appeals for termination. The board has been inactive for approximately three years due to a lack of cases. The board's structure consists of three members: one council appointee, one employee appointee, and a third member chosen jointly by the other two. The current members and their statuses are:

**Ricky Thrash:** The council appointee, whose term has expired.

**Andy Jones:** The employee-elected representative, whose term is active until December 31, 2026.

**Vicki Brown:** The member chosen by the other two, whose term has also expired.

To reactivate the board and address the personnel issue, the council is asked to reappoint Ricky Thrash, who has agreed to serve again. Following the council's reappointment, the newly confirmed council appointee and Andy Jones would then select the third member. Vicki Brown has also agreed to serve again if chosen.

The decision for the Personnel Advisory Board appointee is on the Regular Meeting agenda for Council action.

**2. Atlas Traffic Planning Agreement**

Atlas was recently selected by Council to assist in traffic planning for future growth. The initial budget placeholder was \$75,000. On-call services have already been used out of budgeted funds (although the total cost is unknown). Atlas provided a scope exceeding the initial budget, but Council agreed to prioritize the top 5 items to fit within the budgeted amount:

1. Existing Conditions Analysis
2. Assessment of Existing & Future Conditions
3. Intersection & Corridor Improvements
4. Multimodal Infrastructure & Connectivity
5. Downtown & Local Circulation Planning

This item is on the Regular Meeting tonight for Council action.

**3. Askew Park Tree Discussion**

Multiple aged pecan trees are dropping large limbs, with some trees located on slopes affecting growth. One tree near Hipp parking lot and adjacent house is dead and must be removed urgently. The estimated removal cost is around \$6,000. The Park Plan anticipates eventual removal and replanting, with the desire to be intentional and preserve aesthetics. Council agreed to allow City Manager to obtain quotes and remove the dead tree.

**4. Appeal of HHPC Decision on Painting & Planters at 202 Commerce St**

The Hogansville Historic Preservation Commission denied the request of the applicant of 202 Commerce Street to paint the brick exterior of the building but allow brick planters be added to the front. The applicant is appealing the HHPC's decision to the City Council stating that the brick used for the planters will not match the existing brick and therefore the exterior brick and planters would need to be painted to look aesthetic. The applicant noted that most other

buildings on Commerce Street have painted brick. Council members seemed to support allowing painting for modernization and consistency with neighboring buildings. This item is on the Regular Meeting agenda for Council action.

**5. *Non-Profit Funding Policy***

Assistant City Manager Oasis Nichols explained that she took the suggestions of Council and revised the proposed Non-Profit Funding policy, noting several changes. Eligibility was reduced from two consecutive years of operation to one year, added a one-time payment option for small/urgent requests, implemented a monthly disbursement cap of \$3,000 after consulting finance; applications/renewals due by April 1 to align with annual budget planning; council can adjust as necessary, changed reporting to a six-month progress report post-expenditure and reporting required before next year's application. Clarified language by adding "annual" before "budget" throughout the policy and request form. Council agreed with the changes and action for this item will be taken at tonight's Regular Meeting.

Mayor Ayers adjourned the Work Session at 6:21 pm.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'LeAnn Lehigh', is written over the printed name.

LeAnn Lehigh  
City Clerk