



CITY OF WALESKA
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

September 8, 2026

6:30 p.m.

Present:

Mary Helen Lamb – Mayor

Dennis Cochran – Pro Tem

Walt Cook – Councilmember

Eddie Blackwell – Councilmember

Peter Brown – Councilmember

Brandon Bowen– City Attorney

Chris Lumpkin – Water Maintenance Manager

Absent:

Kristi Bosch – Councilmember

Michael Greene – Councilmember

Lamar Rogers – Engineer

Lauren Garrett – City Clerk

Item 1: Call to Order

Mayor Mary Helen Lamb called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with a quorum present.

Item 2: Invocation / Pledge of Allegiance

The invocation was delivered, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 3: Five-Minute Public Input

Larry Peacock addressed Mayor and Council and expressed his appreciation for the continued improvements throughout the City, including the sidewalks and overall appearance of the community.

A representative of the Waleska Farmers Market addressed Council regarding extending the Farmers Market through the month of October. She stated that additional farmers, bakers, and craft vendors had expressed interest in participating during the fall season.

A motion was made by Councilmember Brown to extend the Waleska Farmers Market through October. It was seconded by Councilmember Cook. The motion passed.

The representative also discussed the possibility of having a Christmas market in conjunction with the City's annual Christmas Tree Lighting. Council discussed vendor participation, parking, safety, lighting, and the need for vendors to conclude and begin clearing the area before the evening Christmas Tree Lighting activities. The Christmas market will continue to be planned, with additional information regarding vendors and proposed times to be provided to the City.

Item 4: Consideration to Approve the Regular Council Meeting August 17, 2026

A motion was made by Councilmember Brown to approve the called meeting minutes of August 17, 2026. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cochran. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 5: Water System Report

Chris Lumpkin reported that a property owner on Dixon Road had again requested consideration of extending the City's water line to his property due to continuing issues with his well. The proposed extension was estimated at approximately 500 feet to the corner of the property owner's driveway and could potentially serve an additional property. Council directed Mr. Lumpkin to obtain pricing for the proposed extension.

Mr. Lumpkin also reported on an old, unused pump station located near the intersection of Geneva Road and Lower Burris Road. The property owner has asked whether the City would consider removing the deteriorated structure. Council discussed the City's easement and whether the location could have a future utility purpose. Mr. Lumpkin was directed to consult with City Engineer Lamar Rogers before any action is taken.

A drainage concern was also reported at 7452 Reinhardt College Parkway. The property owner reported that drainage was affecting the driveway. Council indicated that the matter appeared to involve the State right-of-way.

Council also requested that Mr. Lumpkin provide Mr. Rogers with contact information regarding a property/easement matter at Sardis.

Item 6: City Clerk Report

In the City Clerk's absence, the following items were reported:

Darby Road Streetlights: Three new streetlights were scheduled to be connected during the week.

Staffing: An update was provided regarding the new employee working at the drive-thru window. Staff reported that the transition was going well.

Comcast – Cable Road: The City received a request regarding proposed Comcast work on the portion of Cable Road located within the City limits. The proposed work consists of boring and installing conduit within the City right-of-way.

A motion was made by Councilmember Blackwell and seconded by Councilmember Cochran to allow the proposed Comcast work. The motion passed unanimously.

Department of Agriculture: Council was advised that the Georgia Department of Agriculture had investigated a complaint regarding herbicide application by the City. The investigation found no violations.

Grady Street/Abington Hall: Council discussed concerns regarding construction activity beginning before 7:00 a.m. The matter was added to the City Engineer's list for follow-up.

Item 7: City Attorney's Report

The City Attorney reported that he was continuing to work on several ordinances but did not have any ready for presentation at this meeting.

Council later discussed the annexation of several properties that are not currently within the City limits. The City Attorney reviewed potential annexation methods, including the 100% and 60% methods, and explained that annexation generally requires participation by the affected property owners.

The City Attorney also recommended that the City consider adopting a policy regarding the extension of City water service to properties that are eligible for annexation but are located outside the City limits.

Item 8: Mayor's Report

Mayor Lamb reminded Council of the upcoming dinner scheduled for Friday evening from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at the Fire Station Community Room.

Item 9: Council Remarks

Council discussed a property-related complaint involving reported sanitation and rodent concerns. The Cherokee Marshal's Office had visited the area, and additional steps were being considered to allow further inspection of the property and determine whether any City ordinance violations exist.

Council also continued discussion regarding properties that are currently outside the City limits but are surrounded or substantially bordered by the City. The City Attorney advised Council regarding the available annexation procedures and limitations.

Item 10: Adjournment of Regular Council Meeting

A motion was made by Councilmember Cochran and seconded by Councilmember Brown to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting.

The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVED THIS 21 DAY OF September, 2026.



Mary Helen Lamb, Mayor

Attest



Lauren Garrett, City Clerk