



Town council meeting Jan. 5, 2026

Present: Mayor Chris Lelle; Councilmen, Eric Dailey, Sally Brown, Sharon Johnson and Doug Koestel; Kathy Bridges, clerk; Attorney, Jack Samuels

Visitors: Robin Mortinellia, citizen, Scott Morgan, Jerry Johnson, Tommy Buchanan and Rebecca Keefer and Amanda Russell, both of CPL

The meeting opened at 7:00 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Mayor asked the council to review the Dec. 1st and 29th minutes. Sharon Johnson made the motion to accept the Dec. 1 minutes with a clarification in the final paragraph concerning Doug's yes vote on the employee benefits. Sally Brown seconded the motion, and it passed by unanimous vote. Doug Koestel made the motion to accept the Dec. 29 minutes, Eric Dailey seconded the motion and Sally Brown voted yes. Sharon Johnson abstained from the vote since she was absent from the meeting.

Sally Brown made a motion to include the financials on the agenda, Eric Dailey seconded and it passed unanimously.

First on the agenda was the swearing in of Mike Camp the new councilman for Post 5. He was unable to attend so the swearing-in was postponed.

The Mayor acknowledged the long service of outgoing councilman Tommy Buchanan who had served for 15 years.

Next Rebecca Keefer with CPL presented information on a LIA (Local Issuing Authority) proposal. If the town was certified it would be: authorized to locally review and approve Erosion, Sedimentation and Pollution plans in accordance with state minimum standards; administer erosion and sedimentation permits at the local level; and the state Environmental Protection Division and Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission would conduct an initial oversight and review period to ensure compliance with state requirements. An estimated fee for CPL to perform the work would be \$2,700.

Next CPL's Amanda Russell spoke about MS4 compliance. The Town had been identified by the GA EPD as meeting the criteria for designation as a Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4). As a result, the town must develop a storm water management plan or apply for a waiver. The deadline for both options is April 8. The first option is estimated to cost \$23,000 and the waiver process is estimated to cost \$35,000. The costs would be spread over a 5-year period.

The Mayor asked for a motion to add three items to the agenda-CPL planning fees; a special use permit; and an executive session. Sally Brown made a motion to include the 3 items, Sharon Johnson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The 2026 meetings calendar was next discussed, and the clerk was directed to add it to the website.

A Mayor ProTem was appointed next with a motion by Sally Brown who nominated Eric Daley, a second by Doug Koestel and a yes vote by Sharon Johnson.

CPL's Keefer spoke about the special use permit for 898 Harrison Mill Road and said a public hearing was set for Jan. 26.

Keefer also went over the planning and development fee schedule review.

At 7:50 Sally Brown made the motion to enter executive session, Sharon Johnson seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

At 8:50 Sally Brown made the motion to adjourn the executive session and with a second by Eric Dailey the motion passed unanimously. The regular meeting was then adjourned.