

City Council

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use. To be appealing for potential developers however, Toto stated that the zoning would need to be changed to R3, for residential. He added that the R3 designation would allow for smaller lot sizes providing the geography proves suitable. Later in the meeting, the Council voted to approve the request.

Additionally, City Administrator Jerry deBin presented a resolution of adoption and agreement to continue with the city's 401 (a) Defined Contribution plan as detailed by the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA). deBin explained that the GMA has updated the language of its resolution regarding 401 (a) employee retirement plans. As a result, the resolution must be reaffirmed to continue using the plan. deBin stated that other than the updating of the resolution's language, there are no changes. After extensive discussion, the council approved the resolution unanimously.

Cullars and Wagner also proposed a policy to resolve the billing issue with city sewer services. Wagner explained that residents who are not presently connected to the city sewer system would have until March 1 of 2023 to connect. If residents connect before the deadline, the connection fee will be \$500. After the deadline, the fee will return to the normal connection price of \$1,000, according to Wagner. He added that so far, the city knows of only two residents that paid the original \$50 fee from 1976 and did not get connected to the system. For those that paid the fee from 1976, Wagner stated that the city will cover the connection cost. For other residents who did not pay the original connection fee and are not connected to city

sewer, the new sewer connection policy will apply. The policy was approved unanimously.

In other business:
 • Mayor deGolian recommended his appointments to the URA. His recommendations were: J.B. Barnett, Roxanne Cobb, Steve Albertson, and Bruce Bailey. Councilmen Cullars and Mahoney contested Bailey's appointment to the URA, stating that Bailey had not attended any of the URA's meetings when he had served on the authority previously. deGolian stated that he had discussed the matter with Bailey, who is confident of his ability to serve effectively. After further debate, the council voted on the recommendations. The vote tied three to three and was broken by the mayor in favor of the recommendations.

• Stefanie Macchia updated the council on the progress of developing the Washington Historical Museum's collection of black history artifacts. Macchia stated that at the black history committee's January meeting, the committee brainstormed ways to encourage donations, raise awareness, and document the black history of Washington. Public forums educating the public about ways to contribute to the collection, hosting antique roadshows, and recording oral testimonies were some of those ideas. She also stated that the committee's next meeting was February 17. Macchia noted that the original pulpit from the Cherry Grove Church has been donated to the museum, as well as a number of artifacts pertaining to the war exhibits. Councilman Anderson added that cash donations to the museum are tax deductible, and if the black history project comes to fruition,

the installation of historical signs could be funded by donations and the project could move around any red tape.

• Councilman Cullars also proposed hiring an assistant city administrator. The idea met staunch resistance but did come down to a vote, which again tied three to three with no tie breaker from the mayor. Councilman Andy Anderson then stated that clarifying the "chain of command" would be worthwhile. Cullars insisted however that the council has their blinders on and that the time is coming where something will happen, and no one will know what to do.

• The council voted to investigate televising their meetings on comcast channel 59 and its associated costs.

• Councilman Cullars proposed to pay incentives based on acquired training hours to city councilmen. The vote tied three to three and the motion did not proceed.

• After extensive debate, the council agreed to discuss rolling back electrical rates at their March meeting to give deBin ample time to prepare and calculate the necessary numbers.

• The 242 anniversary of the founding of Washington has been tentatively scheduled for July.

• During the public comments, Angela Booker urged the council to be mindful of how they use their American Rescue Plan funds. She suggested that the funds could be put towards utility relief, emergency housing, and aiding nonprofit organizations.

• The council adjourned to executive session to discuss a matter of personnel, according to Councilman Cullars. According to City Administrator deBin, upon emerging from executive session, no action was taken on the issue discussed.

The next regular meeting of the Washington City Council will be March 14 at 6 p.m. at the Edward B. Pope Conference Center.



The Don't Forget column deadline is 5 p.m. Mondays. Please check with your organization for any scheduling changes.

The V.F.W. Post 5899 now has a community can recycling cage. Please take all aluminum cans behind the V.F.W. (240 Andrew Drive in Washington) and drop them into the cage for recycling purposes.

If you are new to Wash-

ington-Wilkes and have not been visited by the Welcome to Washington Committee, contact them at welcomewashingtonga@gmail.com or 706-678-1019

The Washington City Council will hold its next regular meeting on Monday, March 14, 2022 at The Pope Center.

Ash Wednesday services at the Episcopal Church of the Mediator will be held at noon March 2.

Yard Sale at Roy C. Burns Senior Center, 108 Marshall Rd Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-3 p.m.



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Position Opening
for
Assistant Pastor of Youth/Choir/Worship

Lincolnton United Methodist Church seeks an assistant pastor to serve as Youth Minister, Choir Director, and Worship Leader for a growing congregation.

An ideal candidate would be accomplished on a musical instrument that would complement praise music during worship and youth ministry, and would serve as choir director for both contemporary and traditional music. Worship leader duties include technology skills to manage sound and visual aids for services; promotion of online presence including social media; and people skills to enlist and coordinate volunteers to serve in those areas on a weekly basis. This is a full-time paid position. Salary and benefits are negotiable, and could include housing if desired by a candidate.

Resumes should be mailed to Lincolnton United Methodist Church, Assistant Pastor Search, 202 North Peachtree Street, Lincolnton, GA. 30817. For more information contact Rev. Dr. Randy Kanipe, (706) 359-4339, Kaniperw@gmail.com.

2-10-22-2c

Kindergarten registration opens in March

The Washington-Wilkes Primary School will hold Kindergarten (5 year olds) registration for the 2022-2023 school year on Monday through Friday, March 7th through the 11th, 2022 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily. Registration will be held at the Washington-Wilkes Primary School. Any Wilkes County child who will be five years old on or before September 1, 2022 is eligible to attend. Please call the school at 706 678-2633 if you have any questions.

The following items are required for each student, either during registration or before school begins in August:

- (1) Georgia Immunization Certificate from family doctor or Health Dept.
- (2) Georgia Certificate of Vision, Hearing, Dental

and Nutritional Screening (New Form #3300) can be obtained from Health Dept. (3) Birth Certificate (4) Social Security Number. The above documents must be on file in the school office before your child begins school.

All Kindergarten students are required to obtain a Vision, Hearing, Dental and Nutritional Screening Form # 3300 and Immunization record for the upcoming school year. The Wilkes County Health Department will be administering these screenings this year. Everyone will need to call the Wilkes County Health Department at 706-678-2622 for appointments or see your private physician for up-to-date Ga. Immunization Certificate and Certificate of Vision, Hearing, Dental and Nutritional Screening Certificate form #3300. In order for your child to begin school on August 5th, 2022, these certificates must be in his or her school records at the Primary School.

If you have any questions, please call (706) 678-2633. In accordance with Georgia State Law, students will not be allowed to begin school without an Immunization Certificate which shows the student's shots are complete for school attendance.

The Wilkes County Board of Education is making every effort to inform parents with children in this age group of these educational opportunities. Your early registration is greatly appreciated as we make plans for a wonderful 2022-2023 school year.

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LION'S CLUB
 Pick-Up Spaghetti Supper
February 26
 4-6 p.m.
\$10 per plate



Plates will be spaghetti, breadstick, side salad and a cookie and can be picked up at the Lion's Club. Tickets can be purchased from any Lion's Club member or can be purchased at Wilkes Eye Center during regular business hours. The proceeds from this fundraiser are for those that are in need of glasses and/or eye exams for our community.



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