

**DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETING**  
**200 Burnt Mountain Road**  
**Jasper, Georgia 30143**  
**MINUTES**  
**Monday, November 17, 2025 @ 5:30 PM**

**Members Present:**

Parish Lowrie - Chair  
Pam Watkins – Vice Chair  
Marty Callahan  
Brandon Hannah – Councilman  
Brian Rittenberry  
Jack Dunn

**Members Absent:**

**Guests in Attendance:**

David Yates  
Kim Goldener  
Ron Coulter  
Dave Petty

**Press:**

Amy Brannon-Know Pickens  
Angela Reinhardt -Pickens Progress

**Agenda item:** Call meeting to order – read mission and vision statement and Approval of Agenda and Minutes      **Presenter:** Chairman Lowrie

Chairman Lowrie seeing a quorum called the meeting to order at 5:30pm. Marty Callahan verified there is a quorum. Mission and Vision Statement were read. Brandon Hannah led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Lowrie called for a motion to amend the agenda. Marty made a motion to approve the agenda. Jack provided a second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Chairman Lowrie calls for a motion to adopt the minutes from the Monday October 27th Board meeting. Pam made a motion to adopt the minutes; Brian provided the second. Motion carried unanimously.

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**Old Business:**

**#1 Downtown Live Dates**

Proposed dates: March 28, April 25, June 13, September 19, October 17

Community Feedback is that the summer ones can be too hot and the dates should not conflict with the school calendar.

25<sup>th</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> of July weeklong celebration

March St. Patrick’s Day

Small Events: Music on Stegall Alley, Soup Bean, Wrestling on Main,

The Derby, two Christmas nights in 2026

Pam, Parish, and CEM will meet with City Management about planning, budget, and dates for 2026 events

**#2 Downtown Live – who is going to reach out to the Terrace Group and other organizations about Talent**

Bluegrass talent suggested

Will get dates before recruiting talent

Presenter:  
Marty Callahan  
& Brian  
Rittenberry

Presenter:  
Chairman  
Lowrie

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Also, finalize website and budget

**#3 Adoption of Strategic Planning Work Session Report including Mission & Vision Statements and Guiding Principles**

Chairman Lowrie wishes to table this item

Pam provided the motion

Jack Second

Motion carried unanimously

Presenter:  
Chairman  
Lowrie

**New Business:**

**#1 Sidewalk Information**

Sidewalk Walkability & Community information discussed.

TAP Grant 2023 discussed.

Presenter:  
Deputy City  
Manager Kim  
Goldener

- Four priority areas of sidewalk improvement:
  - (Library Lane was cut)
  - 1. Stegall Drive was added
  - 2. Across Lee Newton, Maple & Mary expand width up to where it meets Mark Whitfield
  - 3. Mark Whitfield up W. Church to N. Main
  - 4. Burton St to N. Main to Mary St.
- TAP 2024:
  - \$1.6M increased to \$2.2M Engineering and Utility use
  - \$450,000 given for 20% City match
  - Good support received
  - Sidewalk from Revolution to three way at Peace Park - Water plan to follow.
- 2026 SPLOST passed
  - 60% to Water and Sewer Projects
  - Police and Fire
  - Equipment needed
  - Sidewalks
    - DOT 53 expansion will include sidewalks but not really making it into our Downtown Boundary but new lights and drainage work will be coming which is positive.

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**#2 Soup Bean Recap & Check announcement**

Will be an annual event from now on. David Petty won the inaugural event. Check from the DDA to the VFW for \$600.00 Post 12239; look forward to working with them on future events and raising awareness of their organization as one of our community partners.

Presenter: Pam  
Watkins

**#3 DDA Board and Committee Updates**

We will begin at the December 15<sup>th</sup> meeting having a standing item on the agenda for Committee Updates.

Presenter:  
Chairman  
Lowrie

Brandon Hannah took Dr. Proctor's place on the Economic Development Committee.

Vondan Blandin resigned from board.

Opening on the board as of now.

Add financial report as standing agenda item for 2026.

Brian Rittenberry took Vonda's place on Promotions Committee.

**#4 Christmas Lights Presentation/Discussion:**

\$2,570.58 for Christmas Trees

Presenter: Brian  
Rittenberry

Pam motions to approve as presented

Marty Second

Motion passed unanimously

**#5 Downtown Lighting Easement Update**

Presenter: Jack  
Dunn

Jack Dunn provided Lighting Easement Update

**#6 Community Engagement Manager Report**

Amicalola EMC Christmas Light Funding discussion

Website discussion

Agenda for November 18<sup>th</sup> meeting discussion

Presenter:  
Community  
Engagement  
Manager Carly  
Glaze

Council Calendar discussion

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Next DDA meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 15th, at 5:30pm.

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**Agenda**  
**item:**  
Adjourn

**Presenter:**Chairman  
Lowrie

Motion was made by Jack Dunn to adjourn. Brandon Hannah provided the second. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

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Parish Lowrie, Chairman

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Pam Watkins, Vice Chair

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Secretary/Treasurer, Marty Callahan