Maxeys City Council

Serving with Heart. Living in Peace. Growing in Community.

# 2025 Mid-Year Report

Maxeys, Georgia — A friendly haven where peaceful living and timeless charm create a community rooted in tradition and tranquility.







Working for YOU

January - June, 2025

Progress Report







# A Message from Mayor Edward Toledano and the City Council

The newly elected Maxeys City Council began 2025 with a clear mission: to evaluate, reset, and strengthen the operations of our city government. Immediately following our January 14 Council meeting, we launched a comprehensive 120-day transition program focused on four key stages: Review, Revise, Create, and Execute.

We are proud to report that this program has been successfully completed. With a solid foundation now in place, Maxeys is positioned to move forward with well-defined procedures, streamlined operations, and a renewed commitment to effective governance.

### **Your Elected Officials**

Mayor: Edward Toledano Council Members:

Danny Gorman, Mayor Pro Tem

Shirley Callahan

Carrie Hayes Carrie Hyatt

Doug Miller

City Clerk

Jenny Yearwood-Parker



## Here are just a few highlights from our first six month:

- Reviewed, Revised, Created, and Executed Administrative Processes
- Improved Communications & Accessibility
- Promoted Community Engagement
- Encouraged Acts of Service
- Ensured Our Infrastructure Met Your Needs

## Reviewed, Revised, Created, and Executed Administrative Processes

#### **Full Governmental Review**

All aspects of city operations were thoroughly reviewed with a focus on efficiency, transparency, and service to the community. Many procedures were revised to ensure smoother and more accountable governance.

#### **ARPA Reporting Completed**

Maxeys received COVID-19 relief funds through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) but had not filed the necessary reports to justify those expenses. We've now submitted all the required documentation and brought our reporting up to date.

#### **Technology & System Upgrades**

Upgrades have been made to our software and computer systems, along with improvements to our filing, reporting, and checks-and-balances processes.

#### **Compliance Restored**

The city has transitioned to a new Certified Public Accounting (CPA) firm to resolve years of financial non-compliance. Since 2018, state audits required have not been filed, which disqualified Maxeys from receiving state and federal funds. With the CPA's support, we are on track to be fully compliant by mid-fall—making the city eligible once again for grants and other critical funding.

#### **Professional & Financial Reviews**

The Council conducted a full review of all professional, county, and state partnerships, as well as an in-depth evaluation of city expenses and income sources. These assessments have laid the groundwork for stronger fiscal oversight and improved relationships.

#### **Water System Assessment**

A review of the city's water system has begun, with a focused action plan now being implemented. This system will remain a top priority as we assess infrastructure needs and work to ensure sustainable, high-quality service for our residents.

As we continue to refine operations and address infrastructure challenges, the Council remains committed to building a government that reflects the values of friendliness, peacefulness, and timeless character that define Maxeys.

We look forward to continued progress and to keeping our residents informed every step of the way.

## Improved Communication & Accessibility



#### **New Facebook Page Launched**

In April, we launched a new official Facebook page:

<u>@MaxeysGAGovt</u>. This is where you'll find all the latest news, City Council updates, and important city information.

Heads up: Our old page, <u>@MaxeysGa</u>, will be retired in August 2025.

#### **Still Love to Chat?**

Our private Facebook group, <u>@friendsofmaxeys</u>, isn't going anywhere! It's a great place to share, connect, and talk freely with your fellow residents.

#### **Check Out Our Website**

If you haven't visited <u>www.cityofmaxeys.com</u> lately, now's the time! We've added new pages and more content—and we're still working hard behind the scenes to bring you even more helpful resources.



#### Want the Latest News in Your Inbox?

If you'd like to receive updates about local events, city happenings, and council news straight to your email, sign up for our Mailchimp list! It's the easiest way to stay in the loop.

Let's keep building a connected, informed, and vibrant Maxeys—together!



## **Promoted Community Engagement**

#### Coffee with the Council - Let's Talk!

On March 8, 2025, Mayor Edward Toledano hosted our very first Coffee with the Council—and it was a great success! The goal was simple: to listen, connect, and build stronger relationships within our community.

The City Council believes that good government starts with open conversation. That's why he's planning to host Coffee with the Council every quarter—giving all of us more chances to share ideas, ask questions, and just get to know one another better.

#### **Upcoming Coffee with the Council Dates:**

June 14th September 13th December 13th



## **Encouraged Acts of Service**

#### **Community Work Day - A Big Success!**

Right after our first *Coffee with the Council* on March 8th, we rolled up our sleeves for a Community Work Day—and what a day it was!

More than 10 amazing volunteers came out to help beautify Maxeys. Here's what we accomplished together:

- · Cleaned up along the Firefly Trail
- · Emptied doggie waste bins
- · Picked up limbs and debris
- Added safety stripes to the speedbump on Cherry Street
- · Gave our welcome sign on the north end a much-needed scrubbing

**Upcoming Community Work Day Dates:** 

July 12th October 18th

A huge thank-you to everyone who showed up and helped out—it was a jam-packed day, \(\exists but so satisfying to see the results!





#### A Flag Flies Once More at City Hall

With help from Marty, one of our dedicated local Boy Scouts, we're proud to say that the American flag is flying again at City Hall!

Mayor Edward Toledano made several trips to town and took care of installing new lighting and securing a durable, all-weather flag. It was a team effort, and a special moment for Maxeys.

## **Ensured Our Infrastructure Met Your Needs**

#### Fire Hydrant Installation - Thank You for Your Patience

If you were affected by the work on the southern end of town during the recent fire hydrant installation, we sincerely apologize for the inconvenience.

The project took a few extra hours to complete, but we're happy to report that the work is done and the new hydrant is now fully operational.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we continue to make improvements to Maxeys' infrastructure. Every project like this helps us build a safer, better-prepared community.

As we continue to refine operations and address infrastructure challenges, the Council remains committed to building a government that reflects the values of friendliness, peacefulness, and timeless character that define Maxeys.

We look forward to continued progress and to keeping our residents informed every step of the way.

Thank you for your trust, support, and engagement. Here's to the journey ahead—together.



We're excited to share that we're making plans to expand the playground at Brightwell Park! This will be a large project, and our focus is on adding playground equipment that's safe and fun for children of all ages and abilities.

### We want to Hear from YOU!

As we look ahead to the second half of the year and beyond, we'd love your input.

What do you want to see improved, built, or started in Maxeys?

Your ideas, feedback, and vision help shape the future of our town—so don't be shy! Reach out through <u>Facebook</u> or <u>our website</u>. Let's keep the momentum going—together.

Contact us... cityofmaxeys@gmail.com 706.759.2177