



CITY OF WALHALLA

Main Street to the Mountains

AGENDA

WALHALLA CITY COUNCIL MEETING

April 15, 2025

5:30 PM

LOCATION CHANGE

Walhalla Depot | 211 South College St, Walhalla, SC

Tim Hall
Mayor

Josh Holliday
Mayor Pro-Tem

Kenny Johns
Councilmember

Grant Keehn
Councilmember

Sarai Melendez
Councilmember

Vacant
Councilmember

Vacant
Councilmember

Michael Kozlarek
City Attorney

Celia Boyd Myers
City Administrator

I. **Call to Order and Welcome**

Mayor Hall

II. **Moment of Silence**

III. **Pledge of Allegiance**

IV. **Approval of Agenda**

V. **Approval of Minutes**

A. Regular Council Meeting, March 25, 2025

VI. **Public Comment** (*Public Comment is limited to 5 minutes and must be directed to Council, per City Ordinance 2022-8*)

A. Presentation: Naomi Reed, Municipal Association of SC (MASC)

VII. **Mayoral Proclamations**

A. Proclamation 2025-05: A Proclamation to recognize Small Business Week

VIII. **First and Final Reading of Resolutions - None**

IX. **Administrator's Report**

A. Monthly Reports

X. **Second, Final Reading and Public Review of Ordinances - None**

XI. **First Reading of Ordinances – None**

XII. **Discussion and/or Action Items** *(to include Vote and/or Action on matters brought up for discussion, if required)*

A. Hiring Freeze

B. 2025 Goals

XIII. **Executive Session** *(to include Vote and/or Action on matters discussed, if required)*

XIV. **Mayor Comments**

Mayor Hall

XV. **Adjournment**

City of Walhalla
City Council
Tuesday, March 25, 2025 • 5:30 PM
Walhalla Depot | 211 South College Street
Walhalla, South Carolina
Minutes

In accordance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, Section 30-4-10 et seq., South Carolina Code, 1976, the media was duly notified of the date, time, and place of the meeting.

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Tim Hall, Mayor Pro Tem Josh Holliday, Kenny Johns, Grant Keehn and Sarai Melendez

Councilmembers Absent: None

Staff Present: Celia Myers, Tim Rice and Terry Sanford

Call to Order: Mayor Hall called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM, with a quorum present to conduct the meeting and welcomed all present to the meeting.

Moment of Silence: Mayor Hall called for a moment of silence.

Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Hall asked for Councilman Johns to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda: Mayor Hall made a motion to delay second reading of Ordinance 2025-03 until after the special election for a full council to consider. Ms. Melendez seconded. Mr. Keehn stated his opposition and said it was due to the public attendance in opposition. The amendment to the agenda was passed 4-1, with Mr. Keehn opposing. The amended agenda was passed 4-1, with Mr. Keehn opposing.

Approval of Minutes: Mayor Hall called for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2025 Council meeting. Mr. Keehn moved to approve the minutes, as presented; Ms. Melendez seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments: Mr. Jeff Hopkins, representing Net Doctors introduced Net Doctors wireless and fiber service and announced the locations of new service areas in Walhalla.

The following individuals spoke in opposition of Ordinance 2025-03: Mr. Dennis Hedden (Mt. Rest), Mr. Barry Nichols (Coffee Rd), Mr. Mike Owens (Knox Rd), Mr. Tom Moss, Mr. David Nix (Brookside), Ms. Cindy Reitano (N Pine), Mr. Jason Burrell, Ms. Mercy Keehn (N Poplar), Mr. John Hanson (Grant Dr), Ms. Mary Mauro (Grant Dr), Ms. Lauren Bryson (Hwy 28), Mr. Howard King (Fairfield Rd), Mr. Sam Beaman, Mr. Eddie Duncan (Pickett Post), Ms. Sandra McCurry (Burnt Tanyard Rd), Ms. Angie Porter, Mr. Mickey Caruana (Mt. Mocha), Ms. Nicole Hancock (Zion Rd), Mr. Alan Moore, Mr. Ray Hall (Hunnicutt Rd), Mr. Jeremy Garrett, Mr. Scott Arnold, Ms. Becky Henson, Mr. Hayden Laye (Torrington Rd), Mr. Harold King, Ms. Donna Renally, Mr. Kevin Kelley (Whitecut Rd), Mr. Wesley Hambia (Fairfield Rd), Mr. Justin Ellis, Ms. Lisa Siegler (Catherine and Fowler Rd), Mr. Skylar Carver, Ms. Abby Keehn (N Poplar), plus an additional four unknown persons. Reasons cited included: owned land

nearby and didn't want to be inside City limits; didn't want extra tax; wanted ability to discharge firearms, hunt, farm land; didn't know if could get a well; concerns for children/grandchildren/etc who would inherit; non-City residents couldn't vote; increased cost; quality of life; zoning concerns; desire for Walhalla to stay like it is; County Council representatives weren't present; required covenant removed freedom/coercive; concerns Walhalla will become Seneca or Greenville.

Additionally, Mr. Charles Burrell approached and provided concerns of an intersection, recommending a turning lane. Mr. TJ Bagwell (Main St) spoke in favor of Ordinance 2025-04 providing for the conditional use of drive-throughs. Mr. Mickey Caruana (Mt. Mocha) spoke in opposition to Ordinance 2025-04, citing concerns that it would cause Walhalla to become a drive-through town versus encouraging people to get out, walk and visit stores.

Mayoral Proclamations:

Mayor Hall read Proclamation 2025-04 to recognize Arbor Day. Mr. Johns moved to approve this proclamation. Ms. Melendez seconded. The vote to approve Proclamation 2025-04 was 4-0 with Mr. Keehn abstaining.

Resolution 2025-02: Mayor Hall introduced Resolution 2025-02 to designate April as Fair Housing Month. Mr. Holliday moved to adopt the resolution; Ms. Melendez seconded. Mr. Keehn stated that housing was now more expensive based on Council's past actions. Ms. Melendez asked Mr. Keehn to partner with her for solutions. The motion to adopt Resolution 2025-02 was passed 4-1, with Mr. Keehn opposing.

(Note: Resolutions 2025-03 and 2025-04 were read, approved and awarded in the middle of public comments at Council's approval, as some team members needed to get to a game.)

Resolution 2025-03: Mayor Hall introduced Resolution 2025-03 to honor the Walhalla Rec 10U Girls Basketball team. Mayor Hall moved to adopt the resolution; Ms. Melendez seconded. The motion to adopt Resolution 2025-03 was passed 5-0. The audience gave the team a round of applause.

Resolution 2025-04: Mayor Hall introduced Resolution 2025-03 to honor the Walhalla High Girls Basketball team for winning the State Championship. Mr. Johns moved to adopt the resolution; Ms. Melendez seconded. The motion to adopt Resolution 2025-04 was passed 5-0. The audience gave the team a round of applause.

Administrator's Comments: Mrs. Myers presented a brief overview of the monthly reports as presented in the packet. She also read an email praising the fast and professional work of the Walhalla Police Department.

Second, Final Reading and Public Review of Ordinances:

Ordinance 2025-04: An Ordinance to amend the City of Walhalla Code of Ordinances, Chapter 330, Article III, Section 1.19 and 1.21, the Establishment of Zoning Districts: Rules for Interpretation of Boundaries, Application of District Regulations to provide for the conditional use of drive-throughs, as amended by Ordinance #2021-17, and matters related thereto.

Mayor Hall opened the public comment section for the second reading of Ordinance 2025-04. Mr. Charlie Crissey (Mt. Mocha) provided a petition in opposition to the Ordinance. Mr. Mickey Caruana (Mt. Mocha) noted other locations such as Highlands and Cashiers, NC and Toccoa, GA in explaining his opposition to the Ordinance. He added that he felt it cheapened the experience in Walhalla. Hearing no further comments, Mayor Hall closed the public comment section. Mr. Keehn moved to approve Ordinance 2025-04; Ms. Melendez seconded. Mr. Keehn stated that this eased zoning restrictions and did not play favoritism. Mr. Holliday agreed with Mr. Keehn and shared his appreciation for the process. Ms. Melendez noted that quality of life looked differently for some. Mayor Hall shared that he looked into the matter more and was now in favor of waiting until the zoning ordinance rewrite versus piecemealing and noted concern for traffic. The motion to approve Ordinance 2025-04 at second reading was passed 4-1 with Mayor Hall opposing.

First Reading of Ordinances: None

Discussion/Action Items:

Recommendation of Award for the Police Station Design-Build

Mrs. Myers presented staff's recommendation for JM Cope's Design-Build team based on similar projects, timeline, work with textile mill tax credits and pricing. Mr. Holliday moved to accept staff's recommendation and award JM Cope the Design-Build project; Mr. Keehn seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

2025 Goals

Mayor Hall moved to delay this item until the April Committee meeting; Mr. Johns seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Comments

Mayor Hall recognized candidates for the special election in attendance. He stated that growth was coming and can only go forward.

Hearing no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:38 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Celia Myers

A PROCLAMATION

TO RECOGNIZE MAY 4-10, 2025 AS SMALL BUSINESS WEEK IN WALHALLA

WHEREAS, the City of Walhalla recognizes and values the dedication and entrepreneurial spirit of small businesses that keep our economy growing strong; and

WHEREAS, we honor these entrepreneurs who take a risk on an idea, choose to invest in our local community and create jobs for others; and

WHEREAS, local small businesses are the backbone of our economy, leaders in our community and innovators, ensuring a vibrant tomorrow;

WHEREAS, the Walhalla business community is a vital contributor to the economic health and social wellbeing of the community; and

WHEREAS, National Small Business Week has been recognized every year since 1963, with the sponsorship of the U.S. Small Business Administration, to honor the critical contributions of America's entrepreneurs and small business owners;

NOW, THEREFORE, we the City Council of Walhalla, do hereby proclaim Sunday, May 4 to Saturday, May 10, 2025 as

“Small Business Week”

in the City of Walhalla, urging all citizens to acknowledge and celebrate the achievements made by small businesses both locally and nationally, and to support your local businesses by “Buying Local”.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Walhalla, South Carolina to be affixed this Fifteenth Day of April in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Five.

Mayor Tim Hall



CITY OF WALHALLA

Main Street to the Mountains

TO: Mayor Hall and City Council

RE: March Monthly Report

DATE: April 8, 2025

Tim Hall
Mayor

Josh Holliday
Mayor Pro Tem

Kenny Johns
Councilman

Grant Keehn
Councilman

Sarai Melendez
Councilwoman

Vacant
Council member

Vacant
Council member

Michael Kozlarek
City Attorney

Celia Boyd Myers
City Administrator

Please find enclosed an update on the City's recent activities for the month of March 2025, along with monthly department reports.

Administration

Economic Development/Planning

Worked with two prospective/existing businesses and industries.

Wrapped Wonders now open.

Reviewed and approved 8 permits (zoning or sign) and 5 plats.

Fielded questions from the public regarding setbacks, subdivisions, new business process.

Infrastructure Projects

SCIIP funded Sewer Rehab Project for the Cane Creek Line continues; over 70% of Phase I is complete.

SCIIP funded Rocky Knoll Project and West Main Water Line Project held preconstruction meetings and work begun.

Site work complete for the new guard shack at Stumphouse Mountain Park; awaiting the delivery of the shack.

Site work complete for the new combo concession stand and restroom at Sertoma Fields; building delivery and final build-out on-going.

Began meetings with JM Cope Design-Build Team regarding the new police station.

Continue work with Hogan Design-Build Team regarding design of new community center.

Sidewalk repairs (C-Fund appropriation) complete.

Awarded additional funding for paving projects from the C-Fund Committee. Working with the Cities of Seneca and Westminster on a joint paving bid.

Meetings

OJRSA Feasibility Committee met March 13th.

OJRSA Finance and Administration Committee met on March 25th.

OJRSA Board met on March 6th.

Oconee Economic Alliance (OEA) – March 21st.

FEMA, SCEMD met on March 13th, 18th and 27th.

Numerous other meetings with consultants, Partners for Progress, Ten at the Top, other civic organizations, residents, business owners, staff, etc.

Miscellaneous Highlights

Grand reopening for Burger King on March 21st.

Budget meetings with department heads.

Attended the MASC manager's spring forum.

Phase I of III of the conversion to Springbrook financial software complete; Phase II data gathering for conversion has begun.

Awarded the V-Safe grant (~ \$14,000) for the gear extractor (toxin removal washer and dryer) for the fire department.

Hydrant flushing and maintenance is scheduled for April 7th throughout the rest of the month.

Opening day for baseball, softball, t-ball is April 12th.



City of Walhalla Public Works

Sanitation & Solid Waste Monthly Report March 2025

Collection Data (February 1 – 28, 2025)

Residential Garbage – 211 Tons

Commercial Garbage – 117 Tons

Recyclable Brush/Storm Debris – 15 Loads

C&D Waste – 13 Tons

Mattresses – 1 Ton

Collection Data (March 1 – 31, 2025)

Residential Garbage – 231 Tons

Commercial Garbage – 122 Tons

Recyclable Brush/Storm Debris – 27 Loads

C&D Waste – 14 Tons

Mattresses – 1.7 Ton

Collection Data (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024)

Residential Garbage – 2,909 Tons

Commercial Garbage – 1,401 Tons

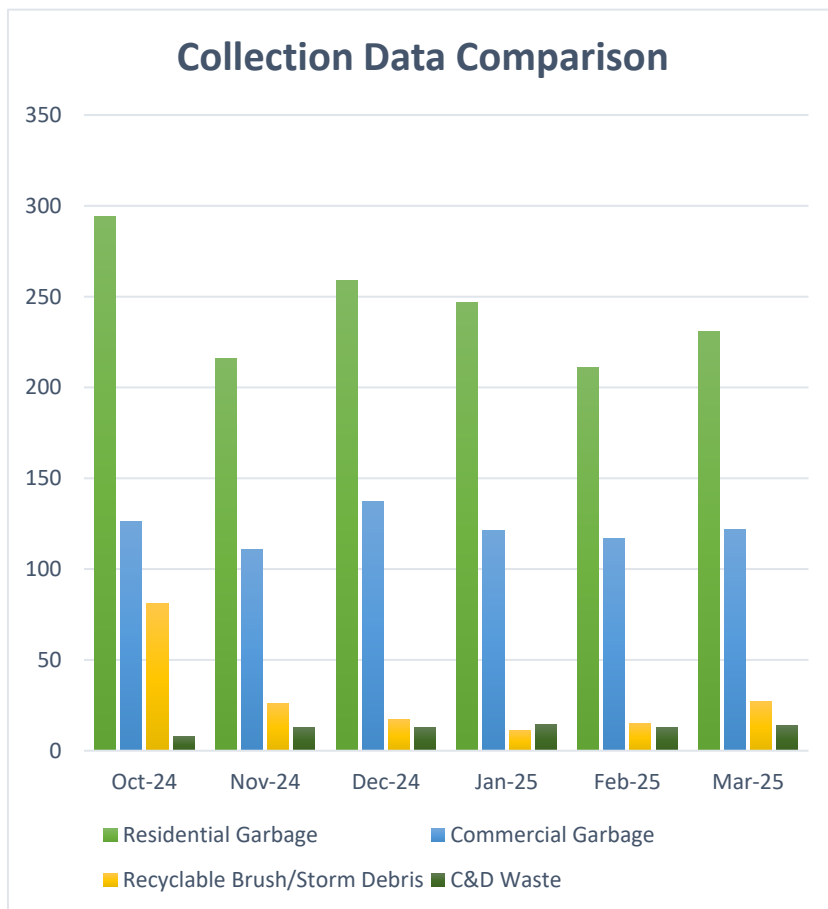
Recyclable Brush/Storm Debris – 945 Tons

C&D Waste – 179 Tons

Mattresses – 18 Tons

Tires – 2 Tons

Yard Waste – 186 Tons



Activities

Delivered 26 roll carts; picked up 12 and repaired/replaced six.

During the month of March staff continued picking up brush, leaves, trash, C&D waste, tires, and mattresses. Boom cylinder on the 2014 Peterbuilt knuckle boom was replaced.



City of Walhalla Public Works

Streets & Facilities Monthly Report March 2025

Activities

Bush hogging community center location.



Repaired fence at Chicopee field.





City of Walhalla Public Works

Fixed stump pump in bottom of pumps station at lake.



Removed dying trees from South Broadway right of way.





City of Walhalla Public Works

Sertoma field concession stand.



Working on Bridge quotes for Sertoma field walk bridge.



Trimming back road sides.

Grass cutting has started.



City of Walhalla Public Utilities Division

Water Crew, Water Billing, Water Plant, Sewer

Public Utilities Division Monthly Report

March 2025

Water Activities

Crews responded to customer reported issues and routine maintenance.

New Water Taps - 8

Leaks Repaired – 10 (2 caused by independent contractors/construction)

Line, Tap, Valve Maintenance – 4

Meter Replacement – 3

Sewer Activities

Crews responded to reported issues and performed routine maintenance.

New Sewer Taps – 1

Sewer Tap Maintenance/Replacement - 5

Clean Outs – 2

Worked on sewer consent orders.

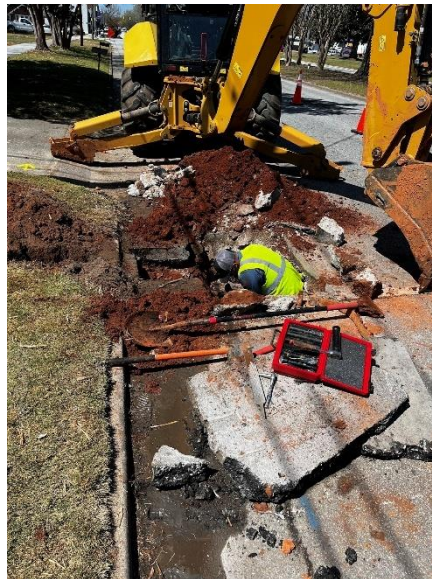
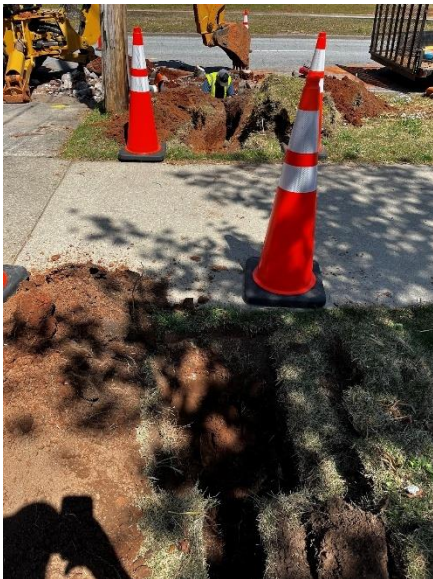
Worked with NCRS on funding for Cane Creek streambank restoration.

Additional work includes assisting in the flushing program, repaired and/or replaced sewer mains, FOG maintenance, meter replacement, etc.



City of Walhalla Public Utilities Division

Water Crew, Water Billing, Water Plant, Sewer



City of Walhalla PRT Department

Parks, Recreation and Tourism

PRT Monthly Report

March 2025

Highlights

Meeting with **Encore** regarding advertising at Fox Theatre and Blumenthal
Pool pre-season staff inspection
Briana with **Clemson University** horticulture
Trademark contract work
Billboard contract approval
Estes **HVAC** in Banquet Hall
Voc Rehab meeting regarding staffing options
Harassment training
Sponsorship visits
Small Business Administration discussion
Hispanic Heritage Festival kick off meeting

SCPRT call regarding grants
State of Oconee chamber meeting
Burger King Grand Re-opening
Developing online **volunteer** sign up
Meeting with Golden Corner **Jeep Jam**
Completed **quarterly PowerPoint** to council
Created new **Stumphouse** sticker for sale
Met with **FFA** teacher Christopher Lundsford
Executive Leadership branch meeting for **SCRPA**

Parks

High winds brought down a large limb on the Disc Golf Course March 5th, and it was promptly removed when weather permitted. The Bobcat was used to spread a large pile of rock dust and stone that was impeding a corner of our parking lot at Sertoma Field. This pile was left sitting for nearly 5 weeks after work on the sewer line. With Spring Baseball and Softball starting practices starting, this pile of material was dispersed in troublesome spots along the walking trail. As of March 10, all trash pickup and bathroom cleaning at Sertoma Field has been temporarily handed to the Rec staff while their spring sports are in season, and will be taken back over by Parks staff once the All Star Post Season has ended.

A project involving the benches at the City Pool was presented on a loose timeline to be done before the pool opens. This project is currently underway and will be completed within the first couple weeks of April. Aside from the typical trash pickup and basic site maintenance, spring has brought all the grass cutting and weed

City of Walhalla PRT Department

Parks, Recreation and Tourism

pulling our staff can handle. Andrew and Leigh have been staying busy with plant projects, mulch spreading, dead plants and downed branch removal, as well as their fair share of beautification within all our City green spaces. While Leigh and Andrew have been handling many projects both together and separately, Andrew is looking forward to more collaboration with local volunteer groups in the future.

Horticulture

Depot- To date, the Rotary Club has invested \$4,000 into the start of the landscape makeover/irrigation system. WP2 has also invested \$1,000 for the mulch. Parks, Sanitation and Streets department all had hands in this project happening.

Main Street- Clean-up is underway with old shrubs being removed, as well as regular weed maintenance. Looking into revamping the irrigation system- raising money to replace that as well across as many beds as I can afford. WP2 has donated \$2,000 for Main Street bed renovation. Trees that were planted under powerlines will be moved with assistance from Tree and Beautification committee.

Wanderweg- Received recommendation from Carolyn Dawson, the County Extension Forester that dogwoods were diseased. Streets department successfully extracted the dead trees. There will be 20 trees planted in their place with the help of Tree and Beautification Committee. Trees were donated by residents. All native trees.

Volunteers- 19 volunteers since September. The Rotary Club, Tree and Beautification Committee, WP2, and independent volunteers have all had hands in making Walhalla a more beautiful place.

Upcoming Sports and Related Facility Condition:

Most green space facilities are dormant but trash pick up and leaf/ debris removal continue. March will be a time for pruning and cleaning beds in preparation for spring plantings.

Current and Concluding Sports:

Baseball, Softball and Flag Football are underway.

Equipment Status:

Trucks: Both trucks are in working order.

Trailer: in working order

Gators: in working order

Bobcat: The Bobcat is still in fine working order.

City of Walhalla PRT Department

Parks, Recreation and Tourism

Mowers: All mowers are still in working order. 60" mower is used daily for park and disc golf

Routine Maintenance Update:

City Gym/Old Middle School Gym: routine cleaning

City Park: Weekly trash pickup is still occurring.

Memorial Field: Preparation for the Flag Football season has begun.

Sertoma Field: Preparation for baseball and softball has begun.

Disc Golf: The Disc Golf Course has been maintained alongside Sertoma Field as the weather has been keeping things hard to keep up with.

Special Project Status:

There are currently no special projects running.

Recreation

The **3rd Annual Saint Patty's Day Sling Disc Golf Tournament** was held at Sertoma Field Disc Golf Course on March 8th, hosted by the Greater Oconee Disc Golf Club. This PDGA B-Tier Tournament was a huge success and brought in many touring professional players during the month of March. According to U-Disc, a popular phone app that tracks player rounds and provides course information on over 16,000 courses worldwide, Sertoma Field saw a total of over 320 logged rounds of disc golf in March, which is huge when considering that many casual players do not even use their phone during a round. It is believed that only a third of players in the world actually use this app during a round, and even fewer if the player has played the course before.

For the month of April, Sertoma Field will also be home to the **2nd annual Brawl at Walhalla C-Tier Disc Golf Tournament** hosted by Joe and Rob Disc Golf. This event will be held Sunday, April 6th. There is already a lot of interest in this event and currently (as of March 28th) 23 players have registered.

City of Walhalla PRT Department

Parks, Recreation and Tourism

Pool

The pre-season inspection occurred on March 4, 2025 and involved myself, John Galbreath, Andrew Martinez and Josh Chambers. The pool is scheduled to open on or around May 10, 2025 for staff training and will ultimately be open for the public prior to Memorial Day weekend as per the contract.

Stumphouse Mountain Park

An order of shirts has been received to sell to the public in order to support the Park and future improvements. Also for sale are stickers, shown below. The trademark application has been submitted by the attorney.



Tourism, Events and Facility Rentals

Received \$9250 in event sponsorships

Facility Rentals

Depot: 3 paid and 7 non-profit
\$750

Special event permits for the year \$300

City of Walhalla PRT Department

Parks, Recreation and Tourism

Social Media



City of Walhalla
Parks, Recreation, Tourism Department
105 West South Broad Street, Walhalla SC 29691

City of Walhalla PRT Department

Parks, Recreation and Tourism



Upcoming events:

April 26th: Race to Valhalla

May 17th: Walhalla Jeep Fest

City of Walhalla PRT Department

Parks, Recreation and Tourism





START • GROW • EXPAND • RECOVER
Join Us for SBA Day!

Small Business Administration Reps – Onsite @ Walhalla Depot!

The City of Walhalla and the Small Business Administration will be holding an SBA Day onsite to assist entrepreneurs with challenges or preparations for opportunities they may have. Join us and **BRING YOUR QUESTIONS!**

Appointments are available throughout the day of April 23rd. Please sign up for your time online at <https://valerdy.com/earl-greggich-sba/30-minute-meeting-close>

Walk-ins will also be available should there be open appointment times so be sure to look for the SBA table on-site that day.

South Carolina District Office

1835 Assembly St.
Suite 1425
Columbia, SC
(803) 765-5377

Spartanburg Work Site

1875 E. Main St.
Duncan, SC 29334
(803) 253-3123

The South Carolina District Office provides SBA programs and services to start, grow, expand, and recover your small business in South Carolina.

For further information and list of events near you, please visit our website at: www.sba.gov/sc

Welcomes
SBA Days!

April 23rd 9am – 3pm
Walhalla Depot: 211 S College St, Walhalla, SC 29691

9am – Marketing for Small Business – Join us for marketing tips and best practices!
11am – 3pm Sign up for **30 minute** one-on-one consultations with SBA consultants

Find the Help You Need | Ask About SBA Funding Programs | Learn About SBA Resources
Discover Impactful Training Programs | Connect With Entrepreneurial Service Organizations

For more information, please call or email:
EMAIL: earl.greggich@sba.gov PHONE: 803-253-3123

Find No-Cost Training and Counseling

The SBA offers no-cost workshops and seminars throughout the state. Free one-on-one counseling assistance is also offered through SBA funded resource partners in loan preparation, building a business plan, marketing, contracting, and much more. To find the resource partner in your area, please go to <http://www.sba.gov/local-assistance>.

About the U.S. Small Business Administration

The U.S. Small Business Administration helps power the American dream of business ownership. As the only go-to resource and voice for small businesses backed by the strength of the federal government, the SBA empowers entrepreneurs and small business owners with the resources and support they need to start, grow, or expand their businesses or recover from a declared disaster. It delivers services through an extensive network of SBA field offices and partnerships with public and private organizations. To learn more, visit www.sba.gov.





ID: Walhalla Tourism

Billboard Message:

Billboard Message:



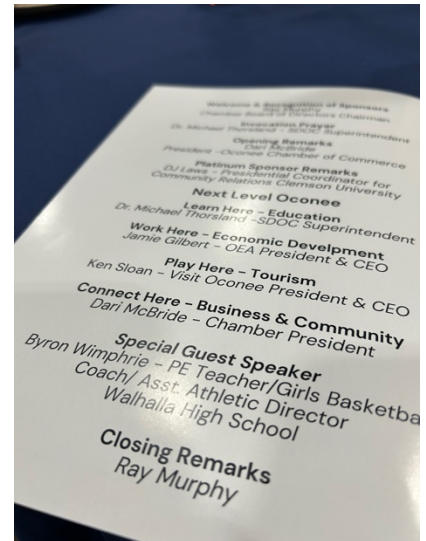
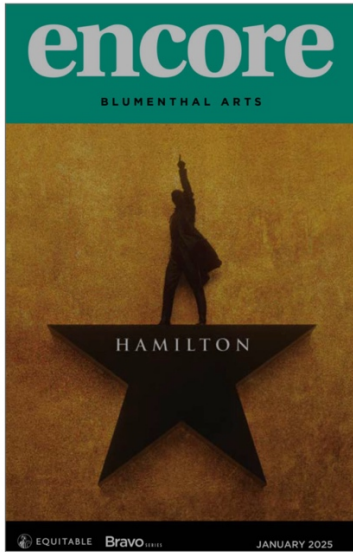
ID: Walhalla Tourism

Billboard Message:

Billboard Message:

City of Walhalla PRT Department

Parks, Recreation and Tourism



2025 Goals Draft

PLEASE SELECT YOUR TOP 3-5 PRIORITIES PER SECTION

Administration/General

1. Balanced and Realistic Budget; Reoccurring revenues equals reoccurring expenses
2. Infrastructure Improvements
3. Grant Funding
4. Complete move of City Hall to W South Broad
5. Promote Economic Growth throughout City; Attract and maintain businesses
6. Emphasis on taking care of the things we have and are getting
7. Build a Fund Balance
8. Assess the cost of Walhalla taxpayers of providing all services to those outside the City
9. Better explain to our citizens how promoting events supports our small business community, which in turn leads to increased City revenues that support basic services such as police, fire, sanitation, water and sewer.
10. Seek input from Clemson, Pendleton, Westminster, Seneca as to their experiences from implementation of their water service-related annexation ordinances along with MASC input on the number of cities in the Upstate utilizing such tools.
11. Launch the Walhalla Economic Advisory Committee, fostering strategic growth and business development.
12. Foster connections with higher education institutions to expand workforce development and civic engagement opportunities.
13. Reevaluate and modernize economic development policies, including funding structures for local economic nonprofits.

14. Competitive Pay, Assess and advocate for competitive pay structures for city employees while ensuring cost-of-living adjustments are part of budget discussions, true COLA that makes up for the loss of employee income due to inflation over the past 3 years.
15. Make sure employees are aware of the substantial salary increases over inflation from 2020-2024, while ensuring pay scales are competitive
16. Improve communication and technology access for city leadership to enhance efficiency and transparency in governance.
17. Strengthen relationships with the Oconee Municipal Association of South Carolina to collaborate on regional initiatives and policy improvements.
18. Establish a commission of Human affairs on community relations, ensuring all residents feel heard and represented in civic matters.
19. Champion workforce housing initiatives, with a focus on Southside Walhalla and partnerships to increase housing accessibility.
20. Strengthen collaborations on food security, continuing efforts with the Summer Break Café and other community food programs.
21. Elimination of all city-given grants and non-governmental spending
22. H-tax used only for permitted city expenses and PRT, specifically Stumphouse Park and the rec. department
23. Change in council meeting dates to the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month so we can participate in county council meetings when needed
24. Sell various unused city properties, including "Owens Park" and the old water plant
25. Change the focus of the city from caring about "appearances" to caring about its residents and employees
26. Use facts to correct any misconceptions that the City only cares about "appearances" to the detriment of its citizens and employees. This may require more robust public messaging.

27. Restore freedoms to residents that don't interfere with the freedoms of their neighbors, specifically the raising of chickens
28. Encourage the building of apartment complexes in the appropriately-zoned areas
29. Merge with the Town of West Union

Public Safety (Police and Fire)

1. Continue to upgrade equipment
2. New police station/ commence construction of both the community center and police station
3. Three person shifts (prioritize night/weekend)
4. Continue preparedness for emergency and natural disasters
5. Emphasize community policing, foot patrols downtown
- ~~6. Fire Contract Renewal/Obtain additional funding to cover cost of providing out of City Fire/EMS/ renegotiation of the county fire contract in a council to council meeting~~
7. Pay off fire engine early
8. Support public safety improvements, ensuring departments have updated equipment, grant support, and county-level advocacy for funding.

Public Works (Streets, Facilities, Sanitation/Solid Waste)

1. Upgrade shop; Provide facilities at Cedar St
2. C-Funds Request

Parks, Recreation & Tourism

1. SMP Development/Marketing (Product Management)
2. Maintain/Upgrade/Develop Other Parks
3. Increase PRT Revenue
4. Community Center (Fields, Sidewalks)/ commence construction of both the community center and police station
5. Ensure the groundbreaking/event is coordinated for the new Walhalla Community Center, establishing it as a future hub for residents.
6. Open Stumphouse tunnel to the back for the public
7. Make interpretive trail to all tunnel sites and entrances along the old railway bed within Stumphouse park
8. Fill in and eliminate the Depot park pond
9. Add Rec programs for all ages
10. Grants for parks/Improve park by the pool; Seek grants and support development and improvement of our City parks for the enjoyment of our community.
11. Review Fee Structure, specifically Out of City
12. Continue to support small grants to the museums & WPAC while making sure the public understands their importance to our City and to the growth of our small business community.
13. Continue to upgrade Stumphouse Mountain Park and seek ways to publicize/monetize it.
14. Seek a sponsor to construct a pavilion at Owens Park

15. Encourage and promote volunteer participation in City efforts, including park renovations.
16. Reassess Parks, Recreation, and Tourism (PRT) operations, evaluating the feasibility of consolidating all city-owned parks under PT.
17. Develop a strategic plan for park funding and maintenance, prioritizing long-term sustainability and community needs.
18. Enhance event planning, tourism initiatives, and recreation programs to align with community growth and visitor engagement.
19. Maintain and expand cultural and heritage events that celebrate local traditions and bring the community together.
20. Sustain and enhance funding for nonprofits that drive community engagement, tourism, and public enrichment efforts.
21. Expand youth recreation opportunities, including summer programming, open basketball access, and partnerships with local initiatives.
22. Protect and expand green spaces and natural areas, ensuring responsible growth and long-term environmental stewardship.
23. Strengthen historical preservation efforts, supporting museums, public libraries, and local organizations dedicated to heritage initiatives.
24. Reinforce partnerships for community gardens and public art and artists initiatives, working with nonprofits to promote sustainability.

Public Utilities (Water & Sewer)

1. Move shop to Church Street (new storage building)
2. Improved Maintenance of system/facilities
3. Continue to use all possible means to fix the utility infrastructure
4. Utility income to stay with the utility department entirely

5. Determine the amount of money Walhalla taxpayers have invested in our water system over the years, including the current debt on the water plant and the return to our citizens of this investment.
6. Commission an independent study of Walhalla's water and sewer needs over the next 10 years.
7. Provide a comparison of Walhalla's percentage of utility funds use for other operations to that of other cities to help guide our actions. Best practices of other cities are a useful guide to planning our approach.
8. Grants, focusing on those with no match requirements; Advance city infrastructure projects, focusing on water system upgrades through grants and inter-agency collaboration.
9. Obtain an accurate cost of providing water and sewer services both inside and outside of the City.