

Annual Report to the Citizens of Hinesville for the Fiscal Year 2008

Hinesville

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Governmental Structure • Performance Highlights • Financial Reviews

On the cover:

Top Left – Local school children enjoying lunchtime “Concert in the Park”

Top Right – Main Street Business District

Bottom Left – Bradwell Park

Bottom Right – Katya, a professional belly dancer from the Awalim Dance Company in Atlanta, wows the crowd during a street performance at last year’s Liberty Fest in downtown Hinesville.

Report to the Citizens of Hinesville

The City of Hinesville continuously strives to provide citizens information about their city. As part of that effort, we are proud to publish this third annual Citizens' Report. Throughout this report, you will find information about the elected officials, services and financial condition of your city.

The financial information contained within this report is extracted for the City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). In order to provide a comprehensive condensed overview, financial statements are presented in conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). Further, city funds, which are presented within the Financial Condition and Reporting section, disclose the appropriate fund in which the detail was derived. Component units are not presented in this report.

For the past three years the City's CAFR was awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA). The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition for excellence in state and local government financial reporting. In order to be awarded a Certificate of Achievement, a government must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized comprehensive annual financial report. This report must satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles and applicable legal requirements.

A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of only one year. We believe that our current CAFR continues to meet the Certificate of Achievement Program's requirements and we have submitted it to the GFOA to determine its eligibility for another certificate.

You may obtain a copy of the CAFR on our website at www.cityofhinesville.org or by contacting the Finance Department at (912) 876-3564.



Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting

PRESENTED TO

City of Hinesville
Georgia

for the Fiscal Year Ended

October 31, 2007



Michael R. Post
President

Jeffrey L. Esser
Executive Director

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has given an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting to the City of Hinesville for its Citizens Report for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2007. The award is a prestigious national honor recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state and local government popular reports. The published reports must reflect the program standards of creativity, presentation, understandability and reader appeal.

Message from the Mayor



Dear Fellow Citizens,

On behalf of the Hinesville City Council, I am pleased to present the third Annual Citizens Report for the City of Hinesville. This report provides you with an overview of the current financial condition of the city; and a report of significant ongoing and future activities affecting our city.

Our city is financially and fiscally in excellent condition as opposed to other cities locally as well as nationally. Due to the "Grow the Army" initiative our city will absorb approximately four thousand soldiers and their family members by October 2010. The City of Hinesville has been working with the installation since the announcement of the stationing of an additional Brigade at Fort Stewart during November of 2008 to prepare for this growth. Construction is ongoing on the Memorial Drive Realignment Project and will be completed in June 2009.

Because of the issues at the Department of Transportation, our public transportation system has been delayed in its startup. However, we will receive federal stimulus funds that will allow us to purchase more buses and provide more services. These funds will be distributed to the city by May 20, 2009. We also have some opportunities to improve our streets and roads through funds provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act ("Stimulus Package"). We will diligently pursue those funds to improve and widen our critical streets and thoroughfares in the city. We are in the midst of a very explosive growth cycle that includes significant increases in retail, commercial and industrial activities. In other words our city is in an enviable position vis-à-vis most cities in the country.

Our city's financial condition is very sound. We have operational reserves sufficient to cover approximately 3 months of operational expenses on-hand. The City's target is a 90 day reserve on hand and through sound fiscal management, we are pleased to announce that we have achieved that goal this year. The City's General Fund revenue (our income) has increased by 33% from five years ago while the property tax millage rate has been decreased by 15.9%. The property tax millage has been constant at 11.30 mills until 2006, when the rate was reduced by .40 of a mill to 10.90 mills; the millage rate was reduced again in 2007 to 9.50 mills and stayed steady at 9.50 for the current fiscal year. General Fund operational expenses have also increased by 48% during the same period. Obviously, both the growth in the property tax digest from new construction and increases in the sales tax receipts from increased retail sales have allowed the City to maintain its economic balance between revenue and expenses without increasing the property tax millage rates.

My fellow City Councilmen and I believe that Hinesville is one of Georgia's most vibrant and progressive cities. Hinesville's importance to our region, state and nation is vital and will continue to be for the foreseeable future. Our city is very fortunate to have a superb management team with dedicated, skilled employees and committed elected officials. This leadership, management and dedication contributes to our shared belief that our community is in the midst of a time of exciting change, sustainable development and smart growth. We will absorb that growth while retaining the quality of life that attracts so many people to our city.

We continue to face a number of challenges that must be addressed to insure the future health of our community. As we grow, it is increasingly important for us to obtain your insights and suggestions regarding ways to improve our City government.

Please provide us with your constructive suggestions and comments so that we can more effectively evaluate both our current programs and future opportunities.

Thank you for the privilege of serving Hinesville.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Thomas Jr." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

James Thomas Jr.
Mayor

Message from the City Manager



It is with great pleasure that I, along with the Mayor, City Council and my fellow city employees present to you, our fellow citizens, the annual citizens' report otherwise known in accounting circles as the Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR). Through this report we take the opportunity to give you information on the financial condition of your city. Additionally we provide to you important information about new initiatives or projects that the City is undertaking.

In short your City is in sound financial condition. We must feel very blessed about this fact because so many communities across this state and country are struggling in these difficult economic times to keep essential services funded and operating. You should also feel secure that the City has a fully funded operating reserve account that assures you that, in the event of a major catastrophe or unforeseen economic event the City has the capability to fund operations for at least a three month period. This means that police, fire, sanitation, water, sewer and other essential services can continue even if the normal flow of funds is interrupted.

Please take the time to read this report and become more familiar with the financial condition of your city and as always if I or any city employee can be of service to you please do not hesitate to give us a call.

As you travel around our city you will see new projects taking shape. The private sector is gearing up for the next wave of growth that we are about to experience and your local governments are doing the same. In that vein I want to make you aware of the City Hall construction project that will begin this summer. One of the articles in this PAFR will give you some details about that but I want to give you a "heads up" about some changes we will have to make on a temporary basis. The new City Hall project will be a combination of new construction and re-construction on the existing City Hall site. This will require us to move all the operations currently housed in the City Hall and Inspections Department to a temporary location in the Hinesville Law Enforcement Center, aka Police Department, which is located adjacent to City Hall. Accommodations will be made on the first floor of the Law Enforcement Center building for the payment of water bills but all other activities will be conducted from the second floor.

As with all reconstruction or remodeling projects inconveniences are bound to occur. The greatest inconvenience we anticipate is in the payment of water bills and more specifically for those who typically pay them by coming in to City Hall. To avoid waiting in lines to pay your water bill we suggest that you consider mailing in your payment or paying online. Paying on-line is easy and details about how to do this can be found in this report or on the City's website at www.cityofhinesville.org. If this temporary move creates any inconvenience for you I apologize but I think you will agree that the improvements will be permanent and for the benefit of all our citizens.

Always remember, I am paraphrasing a quote from a friend of mine, YOU are the City.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Billy Edwards". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Billy Edwards
City Manager

Downtown Development Authority

The City of Hinesville established the Downtown Development Authority (HDDA) in 2004 to facilitate revitalization of the downtown district. The HDDA takes a comprehensive approach to downtown development through activities and projects encompassing the essential components of a successful downtown district: property and business development, heritage preservation, promotion of the downtown district, and beautification. This on-going comprehensive approach extends to "New Town" development concepts for the adjacent corridors within in the downtown district.

Events, specialty shops, eateries, quality housing opportunities, and small town charm help to establish downtown Hinesville as a cultural arts and entertainment district. HDDA is currently developing a master plan for the development of properties and businesses for the Memorial Drive and Main Street Business District that will further establish a "sense of place" where community comes together to live, shop, work and be entertained. Assistance is available to businesses and property owners for new business starts, property improvements, business expansion, and new construction projects.

Cultural Arts & Entertainment District



The Hinesville Downtown Development Authority's mission is to create a sustainable, revitalized, and vibrant downtown that is an economic hub while enhancing the quality of life for the community.

HDDA staff will be happy to assist you in:

*Business Assistance • New Job Tax Credit Program • Retail Events
Grant Research • Design Assistance • Available Properties Listings
Historic Preservation • Property Development • Downtown Tours
Promotion of Downtown Events • Co-op Marketing Program*

HDDA Business Hours: M-F 10 am to 4 pm

Old Liberty County Jail Museum: M-F 10 am to noon & 1 pm to 4 pm
(Museum hours subject to change with out notice)

Downtown Hinesville Schedule of Events 2009

JUNE

19 Lunchtime Concert in the Park

JULY

17-18 Liberty Fest

AUGUST

21 Lunchtime Concert in the Park

SEPTEMBER

18 Lunchtime Concert in the Park

19 Blues & BBQ

OCTOBER

16 Lunchtime Concert in the Park

NOVEMBER

1 Fall Sinfonietta Concert

6-7 Holiday Open House

30 Christmas in the Park

30 Holiday Open House

DECEMBER

4 Illuminated Christmas Parade

4 Holiday Lunchtime Concert

11 Holiday Lunchtime Concert

18 Holiday Lunchtime Concert

Downtown events are sponsored by various organizations and businesses. Dates listed may change without notice. Contact HDDA office for more event information and sponsor, volunteer, vendor, and entertainment opportunities.

Hinesville Downtown Development Authority • 302 South Main Street
Located in Historic "Old Liberty County Jail"

Phone: 877-HDDA(4332) or Email: discoverdowntown@coastalnow.net / HDDA@coastalnow.net

Community Development Department

The mission of the Community Development Department is to seek and secure funding from public and private grant sources to help facilitate the strategic goals of the City of Hinesville. Over \$4.5 million has been secured in the past four years for planning, housing assistance, parks and grounds, downtown revitalization, stormwater management, and Brownfields cleanup activities as well as purchasing equipment for the fire and police departments.

The Azalea Street Neighborhood was identified as the most blighted community in Hinesville. The existing neighborhood is characterized by long-standing residents with low to moderate income. Over time, many homes have been abandoned and become havens for vagrancy, prostitution, and illegal drug activity. Many of the aging residents have lived a large portion of their lives in this neighborhood and wish to remain despite the challenges.

In an effort to revitalize the area, the south side will be re-developed in three phases. The Azalea Street Redevelopment Project is underway and making great progress. Phase I is near completion and will have seven detached homes as well as twelve attached townhomes. Phase II is slated to begin in March 2009



Previous Home



Future Home



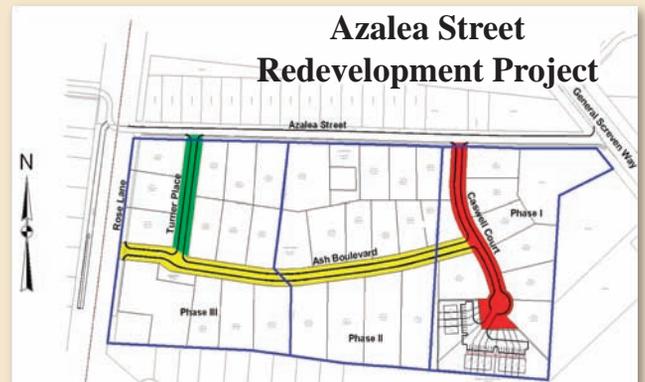
and Phase III in March 2011.

A project of this magnitude requires many partners. Financial contributions were made by the following organizations and programs:

- City of Hinesville General Fund
- City of Hinesville Low Interest Loans
- City of Hinesville Deferred Loan Program
- Housing and Urban Development CDBG Grant
- Department of Community Affairs CDBG Grant
- Department of Community Affairs CHIP Grant
- Department of Community Affairs Georgia Dream Homeownership Program

Azalea Place Townhomes

The redevelopment is transforming small irregular parcels with dilapidated structures into spacious lots with newly constructed, energy efficient homes. The project aims to provide residents with affordable, decent, safe, and sanitary housing. Additionally, the initiative will remove the abandoned structures and curb illegal activity. With these improvements, a withering neighborhood will be re-energized with the hope and pride of residing on Azalea Street.



Fire Department

The City of Hinesville Fire Department excels in providing fire prevention and public safety education programs to the customers in the community it serves. The Hinesville Fire Department has proactively implemented more than 27 safety and educational programs that are free to the public. Typical safety programs associated with the fire service are fire extinguisher classes and home safety inspections. However, the Hinesville Fire Department's programs cover a vast array of areas. Some of the safety and educational opportunities available to the public are: free smoke detectors and installation, CPR classes, blood pressure checks, safety talks in the schools including a clown program, gun safety locks, daycare provider classes, and the latest program to be implemented is the scald awareness prevention program. The program's intent is to help prevent scalding and to inform the public about the dangers of scalding burns. This latest program consists of firefighters conducting a door-to-door campaign to test the water temperature of water heaters in the home to determine if it has been set to a safe level. Recommendations are then made to the homeowner in regards to adjusting the water heater to a safe temperature.

Another program that has had great success is the Child Safety Seat Program. Implemented in 2003, with a grant from the Governor's Office of Highway safety, and with training received through



the University of Georgia, the Hinesville Fire Department became one of the few departments in the nation to become a Child Safety Seat Fitting Station. The tremendous success of this program was recognized in 2007, as the Hinesville Fire Department was awarded the "Outstanding Organization Award" by the Safe Kids of Savannah at their annual awards banquet. The department has 28 certified technicians that inspect child safety seats to insure that they are installed properly and that they are correctly fitted to the child. The technicians also instruct the guardian of the child on the proper installation of the

child safety seat. National statistics show that only about 20% of all child safety seats installed by guardians without proper instruction are done so correctly and safely. Since 2003, when this valuable community service was first introduced, the Hinesville Fire Department has installed over 912 seats free of charge. Additionally, child safety seats are provided free of charge to anyone who cannot otherwise afford one.

The Hinesville Fire Department will continue to proactively approach public safety education and fire prevention and has made these areas of public service among our highest priorities.



Department of Inspections

Did You Know?

Building safety and ensuring the safety of our citizens is our primary focus. Our goal is to provide our customers with accurate, up-to-date building code information at the initial stage of project planning to reduce the chances of delays, in-field modifications, or in worst cases, work stoppages.

We enforce the minimum standards of the 2006 International Code Congress (ICC) Building Codes, Plumbing Codes, Mechanical Codes, Residential Codes, Fire Codes, Energy Conservation Code and the National Electrical Code (NEC) with the 2009 amendments.

We are very much a transient community, wherein our residents have come here from many different cities, states and countries and aren't familiar with our codes and ordinances. Many of us have undertaken small and large projects to improve our homes without really putting too much thought in all of the details that will be necessary from start to finish.

A building permit gives you legal permission to start construction of a building project in accordance with approved drawings and specifications.

Your home or business is an investment. If your construction project does not comply with the codes adopted by your community, the value of your investment could be reduced. Property insurers may



not cover work done without permits and inspections. If you decide to sell a home or building that has had modifications without a permit, you may be required to tear down the addition, leave it unoccupied, or make costly repairs.

Your permit also allows the code official to protect the public by reducing the potential hazards of unsafe construction and ensuring public health, safety, and welfare. By following code guidelines, the completed project will meet minimum standards of safety and will be less likely to cause injury to you, your family, your friends, or future owners.

We would like to give you a few examples, but not limited to, projects that require a permit.



- New Buildings
- Fences
- Decks
- Re-Roofs
- Room Additions
- Storage Sheds (portable & site built)
- Screened Rooms
- Signs
- Swimming Pools (above & in ground)
- Patios
- Sunrooms
- Garage Enclosures
- Slab Leaks
- Shallow Wells
- Covered Porches
- Driveway Extensions

Due to the State of Georgia's new State Licensing requirement for building contractors, some contractor services may require that he or she hold a "State License". If the activity of construction work exceeds \$2,500, a State License may be required. If you choose to hire a professional, it is recommended that your contractor obtain all the necessary permits, as well as ensure that the sub-contractors obtain the same if

Department of Inspections

required. Additional information on contractor State Licensing can be obtained on the web through the Georgia Secretary of State's Office at www.sos.state.ga.us.

The simple permit process . . . You will be asked some basic questions, advised of any requirements, and if necessary, referred to other departments for their approval. The code official and their staff will provide you with the resources and information needed for compliance with the applicable building codes. You will then receive an application for a building permit.

The following list serves only as a guideline and is not inclusive of the information that may be required in obtaining a building permit depending on the scope of work involved with your project:

- Site Plan, Plot Plan or Survey
- Footer/Foundation Plan w/ Footer Details
- Floor Framing Plan • Roof Framing Plan
- Front, Rear, Right, Left Elevations
- Mechanical Duct Layout Plan
- Plumbing Layout Plan • Floor Plan
- Wall Framing Section • Roof Plan
- Manufacturer's Installation Instructions/Specs

The code official will review your plans and determine if your project is in compliance with local requirements. If your plans meet these requirements, a permit is issued. If not, the code official may suggest solutions to help correct the problem.

Now that you have been approved for a permit, the permit fee is collected to cover the cost of the application, the review, and the inspection process.



Separate permits are typically required for electrical, plumbing, and heating or air-conditioning work.

Permits become null and void if work or construction authorized is not commenced within 6 months, or if construction or work is suspended or abandoned for a period of 6 months at any time after work is commenced.

On-site inspections will be required to make certain that work conforms to the permit, local codes, and plans. The code official will let you know approximately how many inspections may be needed for your project. Usually, a one or two day notice is needed when requesting an inspection/visit.

The code official will provide documentation when construction is complete and code compliance is determined. You will then have the personal satisfaction of a job done right.



Hinesville City Hall Additions



View from Bradwell Park

The new City Hall expansion project is occurring in its existing location on Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. in the beautiful Downtown area of Hinesville. James W. Buckley and Associates, Inc., an architectural firm with a long history of working in Liberty County, was selected for the project.

The scope includes razing the one-story sections of the existing City Hall, gutting the remaining building, and wrapping a three-story addition around the original two-story building structure. Further work includes

the demolition of the existing block structure on the lot located across from the Hinesville Police Department to create much needed additional parking. A second-floor portion of the existing Police Department, which was designed as unfinished future space, will be built out to serve as the temporary headquarters for City Hall during the construction process. As a result, this space will be available after the completion of the new building for additional offices and multi-use training facilities for the Police Department.



North View



West View

Hinesville City Hall Additions



The New City Hall will house the following functions:

1st Floor: Public Functions such as: Water Department, Department of Inspections, and a higher capacity Council Chamber with state-of-the-art audio visual equipment.

2nd Floor: Human Resources, Community Development, Multi-purpose Training Room (where current Council Chamber exists), and unfinished space for future growth.

3rd Floor: City Administrative Offices, Finance Department, large unfinished space for growth, and Reception Area (Hinesville Room). The Hinesville Room will be a specially outfitted area with nice views and interiors, along with a support kitchen that can be used for special events and may house historic City photos and artifacts.

The design of the new Hinesville City Hall features an exterior façade that is classical in conception constructed of a steel frame with metal stud infill and brick/cast stone veneers. A standing seam metal mansard roof over the 3rd floor conceals the mechanical units located on the low slope area of the roof. The arcaded loggia facing MLK, Jr. is covered by an outdoor roof terrace accessible at the second level. The impressive main entrance, situated on the corner of the site and open to both MLK and Commerce Streets, is achieved through large glass curtain wall openings. The overall aesthetic of the new Hinesville City Hall seamlessly integrates the traditional design features archetypal to a Southern Community, along with modern finishes, materials, and building systems that together create a warm, welcoming, and progressive feel representative of the South at its core.



South View



East View

Financial Review of Fiscal Year 2008

The Financial Review section is designed to provide information on the financial health and stability of the City of Hinesville. This information should provide the reader with an increased level of understanding of how available resources are utilized to provide services. The following charts summarize the City's largest sources of revenues ("Where the Money Came From") and expenditures ("Where the Money Went") for the government as a whole.

The total net assets of the City are categorized. The largest portion of net assets (\$48,671,255 or 78%) is invested in capital assets (e.g. land, buildings, infrastructure, machinery and equipment) less any related outstanding debt used to acquire these assets. An additional portion of the City's net assets (\$983,605 or 2%) represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. All of the City's restricted net assets are restricted for the repayment of the water and sewer fund revenue bond debt. The remaining portion of the City's net assets (\$12,895,657 or 20%) is unrestricted net assets and may be used to meet the City's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.

WHERE THE MONEY CAME FROM . . .

	<u>Fiscal Year 2007</u>	<u>Fiscal Year 2008</u>
Property Taxes	\$ 5,423,568	\$ 5,460,398
Sales Taxes	3,860,877	4,026,816
Franchise Taxes	1,567,418	1,367,164
Insurance Premium Tax	1,661,193	1,700,986
Alcoholic Beverage Taxes	309,439	324,060
Hotel/Motel Tax	195,679	206,694
Other General Revenue	57,494	67,646
Total General Revenue	\$ 13,075,668	\$ 13,153,764
Charges for Services	12,386,409	13,519,791
Operating Grants	1,324,376	1,963,488
Capital Grants and Contributions	2,935,746	2,876,760
Total Program Revenues	\$ 16,646,531	\$ 18,360,039
Other Income	68,964	258,789
Investment Earnings	645,569	130,921
Transfers	-	-
Total Other Income and Transfers	\$ 714,533	\$ 389,710
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 30,436,732	\$ 31,903,513

Financial Review of Fiscal Year 2008

Definitions of Key Terms

Governmental Activities: Activities generally financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange revenues.

Business-Type Activities: One of two classes of activities reported in the government-wide financial statements. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties for goods or services. These activities are normally reported in enterprise funds. The City currently has three business-type funds.

Net Assets: Refers to the difference between assets and liabilities of the City as a whole. Net assets may be shown in the following three major categories:

1. Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt: The component of net assets that consists of capital assets less both the accumulated depreciation and the outstanding balance of debt attributable to the acquisition of those assets.
2. Net Assets-Restricted: The component of net assets that consists of assets with constraints placed on their use by either external parties or through enabling legislation.
3. Net Assets-Unrestricted: The remaining balance of net assets not reported under the other two categories of net assets.

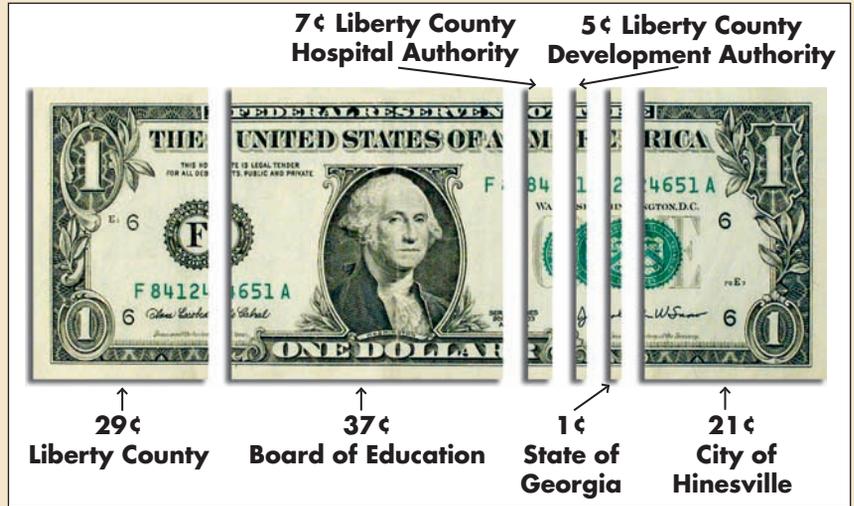
WHERE THE MONEY WENT . . .

	Fiscal Year 2007	Fiscal Year 2008
General Government	\$ 2,194,891	\$ 2,071,081
Judicial	307,241	352,712
Public Safety	8,552,233	9,027,601
Public Works	2,867,482	2,476,765
Housing and Development	2,590,029	3,198,315
Health and Welfare	481,410	526,306
Culture and Recreation	1,006,902	880,562
Interest and Fiscal Charges	78,094	67,529
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 18,078,282	\$ 18,600,871
Water and Sewer	6,925,859	8,128,043
Sanitation	2,103,192	2,220,636
Stormwater Utility	178,089	1,027,258
Total Business-type Activities	\$ 9,207,140	\$ 11,375,937
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 27,285,422	\$ 29,976,808
Change in Net Assets	3,151,308	1,705,065
Net Assets - November 1, 2006 (restated)	\$ 58,962,592	\$ 62,113,904
Net Assets - October 31, 2007	\$ 62,113,900	\$ 63,818,969

Financial Review of Fiscal Year 2008

Property Tax Breakdown

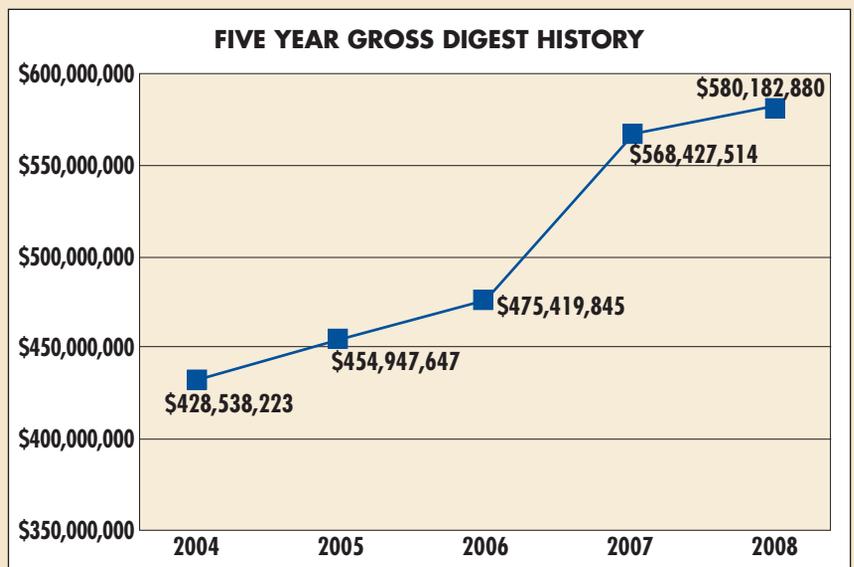
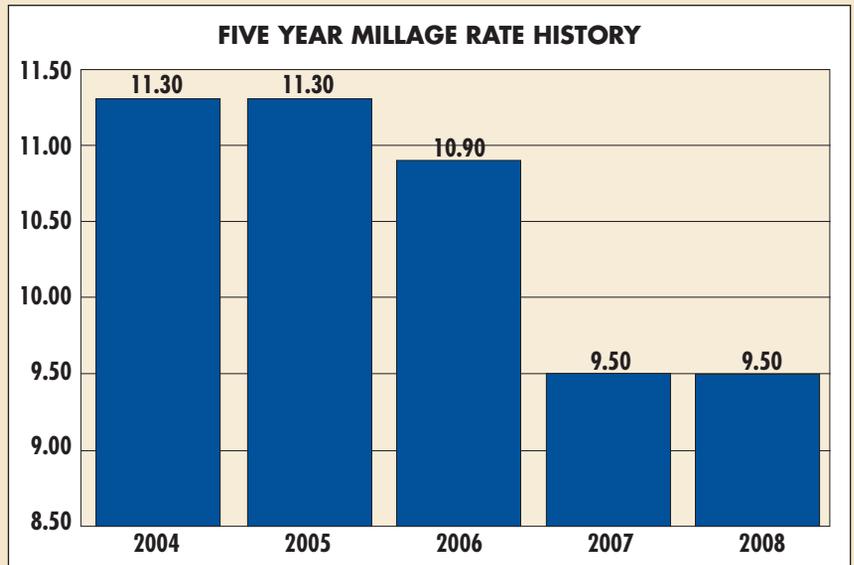
The illustration to the right depicts how each one dollar of property tax revenue collected is distributed to the various taxing entities. The City of Hinesville receives 21¢ of each \$1.00 collected from taxpayers in the City.



Property Taxes

Property Tax is the City's single largest source of revenue. The graph at the top right, shows the City's Millage Rate history for the past five years. The City's millage rate remained level at 11.30 mills from 1997 to 2005. In 2006, the City decreased the millage rate to 10.90. In 2007 the City again decreased the rate to 9.5 mills. In 2008 the millage rate remained at 9.5 mills.

The graph at the bottom right tracks the change in the tax digest over the past five years



Public Utilities

Water Conservation and Re-Use

The City of Hinesville is committed to the protection of our most valuable natural resource, water.

Over the years many programs have been implemented to control waste of treated drinking water within the City. In 1996, the City adopted its water conservation and drought contingency plan. This plan adopts many practices that are aimed at reducing water usage through methods such as building construction codes and outdoor water schedules. Examples of conservation conscious building construction codes would be the requirement of low flow toilets, low flow showers, sinks, etc. You may not realize this but replacing an old toilet with a low flow version can save as much as 4 gallons of water per flush. Changes to outdoor watering schedules are designed to accommodate properly prescribed agronomic watering rates for lawns. This helps prevent over watering and is actually healthier for your landscape.

To further promote water conservation, the City of Hinesville has constructed a water reclamation facility that is designed to treat wastewater to re-use standards. The purpose this serves is to alleviate the use of potable (drinking) water for irrigation purposes. This will allow for growth within the City to be served by our limited availability of drinking water.

This water reclamation facility uses a series of high quality treatment processes that produce water suitable for irrigation use. The main treatment process is known as the Sequential Batch Reactor (SBR) process. This system combines several stages of a biological treatment process into a single tank which reduces the space required to build the facility. The finished water from the SBR process is then filtered through a cloth media disk filtration system to refine the already treated water before it is disinfected by ultraviolet light and is ultimately available for use in irrigation. The treated water is stored in a 2 million gallon concrete tank and is pumped into a



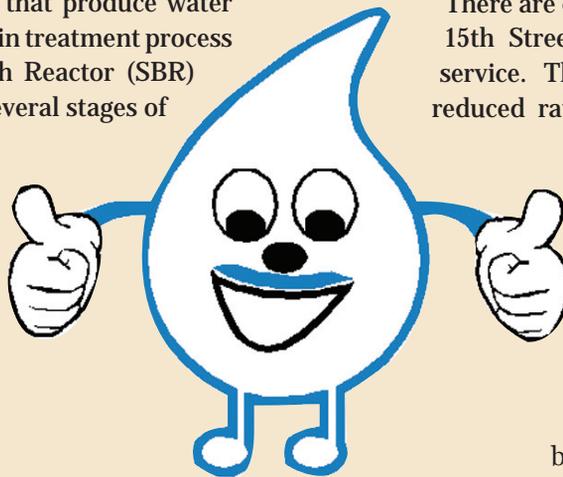
Reclaimed Water Storage Tank

Non-Potable Re-Use or “purple pipe” piping system for irrigation consumer use. This system is pressurized by a booster pump system allowing customers to easily run their irrigation system for landscape maintenance. Our current design and permitting for this facility allows us to treat and distribute up to 2 million gallons of re-use quality water per day.

The N.P.R.L., or purple pipe system, currently consists of approximately 45,000 feet of pipe that runs the entire length of 15th Street to the Fort Stewart boundary. This system also extends along Airport Road to Barry McCaffrey Boulevard, eventually ending at Cherokee Rose Golf Course.

There are currently several users along 15th Street taking advantage of this service. This water is sold at a greatly reduced rate from the drinking water as an incentive for its use.

Future planning for this system includes serving several customers on Fort Stewart as well as being extended to other areas of the City. All new development within the City of Hinesville is required by ordinance to be fitted with a purple pipe system to help promote responsible utilization of our water resources.



got water?

Do your part, be water smart!

Police Department K9 Program

In 2006, Police Department and City leadership identified a need for a working police dog team. After approval to establish a working dog program was granted and funds were allocated for the startup, the Department conducted a formal selection board in May of 2008 to select potential handlers. As a result of the selection process, Corporal Marc Matthews was selected as the canine handler.

After selecting the handler, the first step in establishing the program was identifying the necessary resources required to make the program successful. The types of resources included individual equipment for the dog team, vehicle modifications, kennel facilities, veterinarian support, training resources, narcotic training aid procurement/storage and training resources.

Next, required patrol vehicle modifications were addressed. After receiving recommendations from various sources, a decision was made to use American Kennel as the vendor for this project. The basic vehicle kennel consists of a metal powder coated insert fitted into the rear compartment of a Ford Crown Victoria or other patrol vehicle after the rear seat is removed. The model selected came with a port gate which when opened allows physical contact between the handler and the animal. Other standard features include metal grates designed to prevent the animal from striking the door glass or rear window and causing damage or injury, and an interior light and fan system. An additional feature purchased and installed is the automatic door system. This system is designed to allow the handler to activate an electronic door opener on the kennel giving the animal the ability to respond



K9 Brad

if the handler needs assistance. The door system can be activated from inside the vehicle or remotely by the handler. West Chatham Warning Devices of Garden City completed the required vehicle modifications in August of 2008.

Based on Corporal Matthews' experience and recommendations from other established K9 programs in the area, Ray Allen was selected as the primary equipment vendor for team equipment. This included items such as leather and nylon leads (leashes) varying in length from 18' to 15", various types of collars, tracking harness, food bowls, water buckets, chains, and several variations of sleeves used in patrol training.

After the vehicle and equipment issues, the Department began procedures to procure a dog. After much research and several on site visits by Major Hodges, Highland Canine of Statesville, North Carolina was selected as the vendor for the procurement of the dog and the initial handler training. Prior to purchase of the animal, initial training was completed by the vendor with the animal to expose him to all aspects of duty desired by the department in their first working dog.

Before the animal could be purchased a decision had to be made regarding the housing of the animal. Three options were available at the time: house the animal in the handler's house, house him in a kennel on the handler's property or build a kennel facility



Police Department K9 Program

somewhere in the city. The last option was least desirable due to the prohibitive cost and lack of a secure location. The first option was also unacceptable in that it would not allow the animal or handler any "off" time away from each other and promoted the animal being treated as a pet. Selecting the second option, Major Hodges conceived the initial design, developed a resource list and obtained the required permits for construction of the kennel. Over a four day period, Major Hodges, Staff Sergeant Morris and Corporal Matthews constructed the kennel. The kennel consists of an 8 x 10 concrete slab, six 4 x 4 uprights and an aluminum roof. A contractor constructed the 8 x 10 x 6 fence enclosure at their shop and assembled it onsite. With that the kennel was almost complete. All that remained was to purchase a house for the animal. Two houses were needed: one for the kennel and one for the police department. Both were purchased at PetSmart in Savannah. A Dogloo (plastic igloo type house) was selected for the home kennel and a folding wire cage was selected for the police department.

In September of 2008 Corporal Matthews attended a four week training course at Highland Canine at which time he was teamed up with his canine Brad. Their initial training program consisted primarily of basic obedience, trailing and narcotic detection. Brad is a Slovakian bred male German Shepard with a whelp date of February 21, 2007. He is registered with the Slovenska Kynologicka Jednota, the Federation Cynologique Internationale and the Welunion der Vereine fur Deutsche Schaferhunde



Canine associations in Europe.

Upon completion of the training with Highland Canine, the team began a 40 hour Narcotic Certification Program with Sergeant Tony Phillips of the Vidalia Police Department. At the end of the certification program, the team certified with a proficiency rating of 96% on the odors of marijuana, cocaine, heroin, methamphetamines and all associated derivatives.

Future plans are for the team to certify in all patrol dog techniques with the Savannah/Chatham Metro K9 Section in the first quarter of 2009. Upon achievement of this certification, the team will be fully certified in the tasks of trailing/tracking, article/evidence recovery, building searches for individuals as well as suspect control techniques.

The team is currently assigned to the Patrol Division of the Police Department under the supervision of CPT Reid.



Black Tar heroin alert in dresser drawer



Marijuana alert in upper cabinet

Water Department

PAY ONLINE

The City of Hinesville Water Department, located inside City Hall at 115 E. M.L. King Jr. Drive Hinesville, Georgia, is dedicated to adding value and exceeding the expectations of our customers. The mission of the Water Department is to keep Hinesville's water supply clear, safe, and to constantly increase quality of life.

You may now pay your water bill online at www.cityofhinesville.org. There are two ways to pay your water bill, using the invoice number located on your monthly statement or by using your Customer ID number and an assigned Personal Identification Number (PIN). You may call the Water Department at (912)876-3564 to get your Customer ID and PIN. As part of this online service, when you log onto your account with your Customer ID and PIN, you will be able to see archived water bills, meter consumption history, and elect to receive your monthly water bill by email.

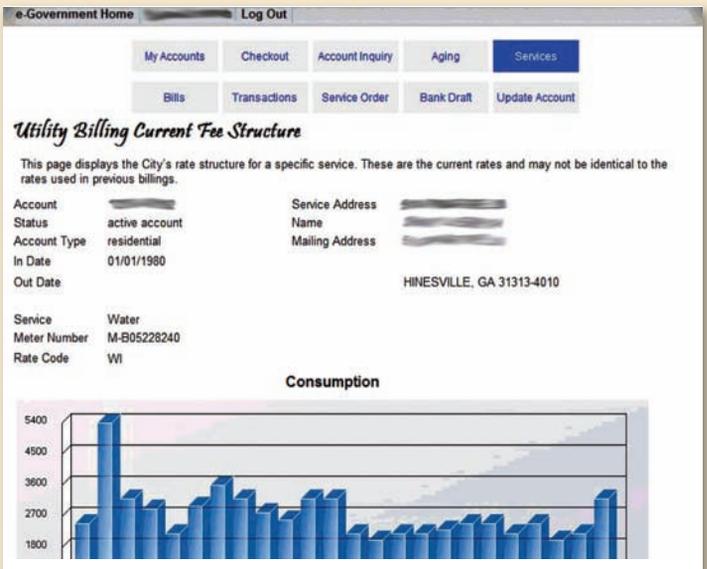
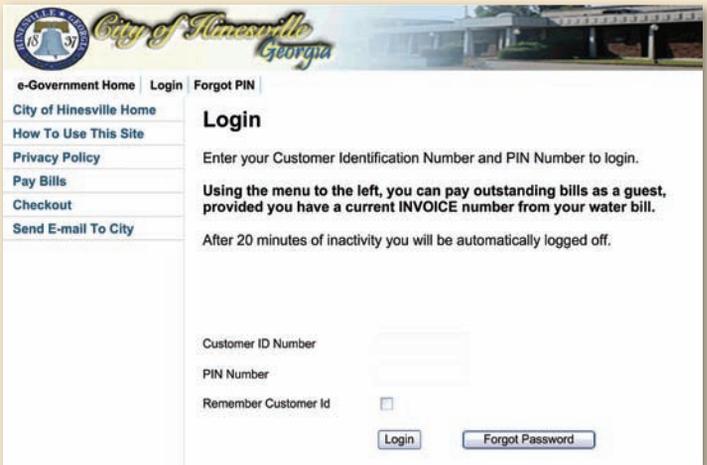
Paying by invoice number will only give you the option to pay your water bill, not view your account history. Select Utility Billing for your bill type and enter your invoice number in the space provided.



The other option is to log into your account using your Customer ID and PIN. This will enable you to view your water usage history, pay your bill, and elect to receive your water bill by email.



Should you have any questions concerning online bill pay service or your water bill, please contact the Hinesville Water Department at (912)876-3564.



Public Works: Drainage Maintenance

The Drainage Department is responsible for the maintenance and inspection of the city's drainage infrastructure. Maintenance includes, but is not limited to, the following:

Outfall Ditch Maintenance

The city has approximately sixty miles of outfall ditches. These drainage channels are usually located behind houses and carry large volumes of water. Mowing of these ditches is scheduled annually during the growing season (April to September).

Roadside Ditch Maintenance

These ditches are maintained on an as needed basis.

Canal Maintenance

Mills Creek and Peacock Canals are the city's two main canals. Along with mowing, periodic checks to remove beaver dams are performed.

Post Construction BMP's

Drainage appurtenances such as retention ponds, spillways, weirs, etc are inspected and maintained twice annually.

Street Sweeping

Every curb and guttered street in the city is swept at least once weekly.

Street Walks

Every outfall ditch is checked annually to remove excess debris (limbs, bottles, cans, etc.). Along with debris removal, inspections are performed to identify illicit discharges.

Drainage Inspections

Monthly inspections are performed on the city's critical drainage appurtenances. Included in these are cross drains, detention ponds, etc.



Legislative Contacts for Hinesville

State Contacts



Senator Tommie Williams
Senate District 19
236 State Capitol SW
Atlanta, GA 30334

District Phone: (912) 526-7444
Capitol Phone: (404) 656-0089
Capitol Fax: (404) 463.5220



Senator Eric B. Johnson
Senate District 1
128 Baymeadow Point
Savannah, GA 31405

Capitol Address
321 State Capitol SW
Atlanta, GA 30334

District Phone: (912) 234-0370
Capitol Phone: (404) 656-5109
Capitol Fax: (404) 657-9727



Representative Al Williams
House District 165
9041 E. Oglethorpe Hwy
Midway, GA 31320-4117

Capitol Address
511-C CLOB
Atlanta, GA 30334

District Phone: (912) 368-4983
Capitol Phone: (404) 656-6372
Capitol Fax: (404) 463.7782

Federal Contacts



Senator Saxby Chambliss
416 Russell Senate
Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Capitol Phone: (202) 224-3521
Capitol Fax: (202) 224-0103



Senator Johnny Isakson
120 Russell Senate
Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Capitol Phone: (202) 224-3643
Capitol Fax: (202) 228-0724



Representative Jack Kingston
Congressional District 1
2368 Rayburn House
Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20515-1001

Capitol Phone: (202) 225-5831
Capitol Fax: (202) 226-2269

City of Hinesville Contact Information



CITY OF HINESVILLE

City Hall (Direct Line)	912-876-3564	Finance Department	912-876-3564
Hearing Impaired City Hall	912-876-4229	Fire Department	912-876-4143
Mayor's Office	912-876-3564	Police Department	912-368-8211
City Council	912-876-3564	Human Resources	912-876-3564
Administration	912-876-3564	Liberty Consolidated	
Business License & Delinquent Taxes	912-876-3564	Planning Commission	912-408-2030
City Clerk	912-876-3564	Municipal Court	912-368-8211
Department of		Planning & Zoning Office	912-408-2030
Community Development	912-876-3164	Public Works Department	912-876-8216
Department of Inspections	912-876-4147	Water Department	912-876-3564

OTHER FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS

Animal Control	912-876-9191	Passports	912-876-3625
Birth Certificates/ Marriage License/Gun Permits	912-876-3635	Public Health Department	912-876-2173
Board of Education	912-876-2161	Social Security Administration (Savannah)	800-772-1213
Driver's License	912-370-2604	Soil Testing (County Extension Service)	912-876-2133
Emergency Management Agency	912-368-2201	Vehicle Registration & Car Tags	912-876-3389
Georgia Department of Labor	912-370-2595	Voter's Registration	912-876-3310

Hinesville

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EST. 1837

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Hinesville, GA 31313

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a click away.*

Visit the City of Hinesville's website, a fast and convenient means of keeping in touch with your local government. Review issues, download forms, print agendas, and find special events and programs. You can be connected to the heart of your city, any time of the day.

www.cityofhinesville.org