

# SKY VALLEY TIMES

MARCH, 2023

## REMINDERS

If you need the Sky Valley Police Department:

**Emergency: Call 911**



**Non-Emergency:** Call 706-782-7777

By calling these numbers, the Sky Valley Police Department is dispatched. The response time will be the same as it was before. For the safety of this department and to follow proper protocol, this procedure must be followed.

### COMMUNICATION METHODS

Sky Valley utilizes a city-wide call system, email system, an update page on our website, and a Facebook page. You may sign up for informative emails on the city site, or you may call City Hall at 706-746-2204 to get set up for calls and emails.

[www.skyvalleyga.com](http://www.skyvalleyga.com)

[www.facebook.com/skyvalleyga](https://www.facebook.com/skyvalleyga)



### ACCOUNT NUMBERS

Please double check your account numbers when paying your water bill.

We want to be sure and credit the correct accounts

### CITY HALL IS MOVING

The new City Hall/Visitor Center is located at 3608 Highway 246. The building will also house a Council Chamber and Municipal Court. A Grand Opening is being planned for later this spring. Move-in date Monday, 3/27/23.

### BIRDFEEDERS

Bird feeders are only permitted during certain times of the year. Bird feeders are not permitted between April 15 and November 15 of each year because natural food is abundant during this time of year.



## ADMINISTRATION

From the Desk of City Manager, Jason Streetman

Hello residents and visitors of Sky Valley.

As I write this, I am sitting in an office full of boxes- characteristic of a move.

I say this, as today, is the first day that City Hall is in its new location.

City of Sky Valley, GA

3608 Hwy 246

Sky Valley, GA 30537

This new location provides the city and its residents with several key options to include:

Administration, a visitor center, and a dedicated space for council meetings and municipal court.

This move is something that has been a long time coming and, with any major move, we are dealing with the "gremlins" of phones not working, printers not printing, and "where did I put my phone charger cord?"

Over the next few days and weeks, new City signs will be going up, landscaping should be taking root, and we plan to have a grand opening once all of the "T's" have been crossed and "I's" dotted.

Along with this move, the Police Department will be moving into the old City Hall, and Public Works will be expanding into the old police area.

Sky Valley is growing, and there are no signs of slowing down as the secret is out as to what a special place this is.

Speaking of the next few weeks, there are several public works projects to begin to include the repaving of: Walking Bear, Wild Bird, and Evergreen Lanes. The public works department is also gearing up to replace several culverts that are in dire need of attention. Be sure to visit the city website and subscribe to our other social media outlets like FaceBook, MailChimp, and Twitter.

Thank you,

Jason

**The latest Ad Valorem Tax Report will follow this newsletter.**



## **MAYORAL COMMENTS**

From the Desk of Mayor Hollie Steil



February and March:

### **EQUIPMENT/VEHICLES**

- Purchased a new truck with storage capabilities to be used by our Public Works Department for maintaining and repairing our water system.
- Purchased a Skid Steer for Public Works to replace old, nonfunctioning and unsafe equipment.

### **INFRASTRUCTURE**

- Repaved Squaw Valley Road - (\$16,985 paid by our T-SPLOST funds)
- Approved repaving of Walking Bear Road - (\$26,756 to be paid by our T-SPLOST funds)
- Repaved damaged portion of Snowshoe Lane and completed culvert repair - (\$16,752 paid by our T-SPLOST funds).
- Approved repaving of portions of Evergreen Road, Portion of Rescue Lane, and portion of LaBelle - (\$56,968 to be paid by our T-SPLOST funds)
- Replaced second large culvert on Sky Valley Way (culvert pipe had already collapsed and was non-functional) (\$63,200 -funded by a Local Maintenance Improvement Grant, EEE GDOT Grant and T-SPLOST funds).

### **NEW CITY HALL/VISITOR CENTER/COUNCIL MEETING ROOM**

The City continues to make progress towards moving into our new City Hall/Visitor Center and Council Meeting Room. Internet, phone coverage, and security systems have been installed.

Furniture and office materials will be moved on Saturday. We hope to hold our April Council Meetings in our new facility. An open house is being planned.

### **THESE ARE EXCITING TIMES IN SKY VALLEY!**

We are honored and proud to serve our city and are dedicated to continuing to work diligently to make our city even better in 2023!



## **CODE ENFORCER/BUILDING INSPECTOR**

From the Desk of Jim Pyburn, Building Inspector

As mentioned in the January 2023 edition of the Sky Valley Times, permitting activity in February also experienced an increase in activity with more and more tree cutting, remodeling and building permits issued. Additionally, two more certificates of occupancy for new homes were issued, with more to come.

One item of note, though not as crucial as obtaining a permit but very important never-the-less, is once a project is complete, we ask that you please contact this office or City Hall to advise that the work is finished. We have a list of "incomplete" jobs, particularly those on the interior of homes that we have no way of knowing are finished without a homeowner advising us or us reaching out to schedule a final inspection.

City Hall was contacted recently requesting we come remove a permit that had been posted for quite some time. I advised the homeowner that this normally is done automatically once we know the job is complete or if the permit has expired, we will contact the homeowner to ask about the project status and if they wish to extend or renew their permit. As Sky Valley continues to grow with more and more permits being issued, we thank you for your assistance in this matter.



**The latest Housing & Development Data Report will follow this newsletter.**

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

From the Desk of Jerry Shope, Public Works Superintendent

The Public works department has been working on culvert replacement throughout the city. We have replaced one culvert on Snowshoe Lane and Labelle Circle.

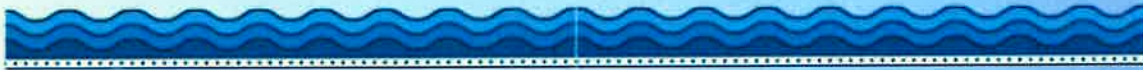
The crew has also been busy with right of way maintenance such as canopy clearing, leaf vacuuming, and redefining ditches. We will continue these task throughout the next several months.

Looking into the next month, contractors will be paving Walking Bear Lane, Snowshoe Lane, and Wild Bird Lane. Please be aware of workers and Road work signs throughout these areas.

On the water side; The City was hit hard with water loss due to contractors working on the culvert replacement on Sky Valley Way. We estimated losing 40,000 Gallons of treated water. The crew will be beginning a project of water line replacement from Well House number 4 near Tahoe lane out to Sky Valley Way. We will put updates on the City Facebook page along with the city website.

Boil Water Advisories- Please be advised that Boil water advisories will be posted on the City website, City Facebook page, emailed through MailChimp, and in the affected areas. If a main line loses pressure below 20psi, the city is required to Issue a boil water advisory and take samples for testing. Please be patient as this is protocol to stay in compliance with the EPD.

Thank you to our City staff, mayor and council, and residents of Sky Valley



## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

From the Desk of Vaughn Estes, Chief of Police

We are glad to see folks returning to our wonderful city.

Please make sure you use extra **caution while driving** in our city. Also, with the increase in rentals there is an increase in vehicles on our narrow roads. The speed limits are posted, please be observant of them. Keep in mind that from the timeshare office to past the post office is a 15 MPH zone. The Evergreen extension has been a great addition for accessing our city.

Please do NOT put **cardboard in the compactor**. This is our most common issue causing the compactor to stop working. Violators could be subject to a citation.

**Be Bear Aware...**The warm weather has brought an increase in Bear activity in our area. We have already started having "Bear issues" with garbage and birdfeeders. Keep in mind that by City Ordinance bird feeders are to be taken down from April - November. Compliance with this has drastically reduced our number of Bear incidents.

Reminder. Please be mindful of **parking on the streets**. Make sure Fire and Ambulances can drive past.

**Dog owners;** make sure your dogs are safe and controlled when in our City. We have lots of one-time renters coming in daily. Many of these bring dogs with them. This has led to an increase in dogs being let out and unsupervised and we have received complaints of unidentified dogs roaming and even attacking and critically injuring other dogs.

**School Bus stops.** Please be mindful that we have school bus stops in our city. The bus driver has complained about vehicles not stopping for the bus to load/unload. This has primarily been on Bald Mtn. Road near Rabun Branch and Eagle Circle areas.

Hopefully there will be another **Town Watch meeting** this month, pending on availability of the Chapel. (Watch for the signs posted around the Valley.)

We look forward to seeing everyone return safely.

Twitter: [eSkyValleyPolice](#)

[www.skyvalleyga.com](http://www.skyvalleyga.com)

Non-Emergency: (706)782-7777 **Emergency: 911**

The latest Police Department Report will follow this newsletter.



### City of Sky Valley Unpaid Property Tax 2014-Feb 2023

RECEIPT	TAXES	FEES	PENALTY	INTEREST	COSTS	TOTAL	
2014	97.86	0	9.79	67.07	22	196.72	
2015	178.83	0	17.88	104.79	324	625.5	
2016	283.06	0	9.98	97.94	507.89	898.87	
2017	352.81	0	52.95	99.36	1,265.00	1,770.12	
2018	365.43	0	18.27	96.2	3,238.15	3,718.05	
2019	362.98	0	17.71	63.51	63.35	507.55	
2020	354.31	0	0	23.92	60	438.23	
2021	3,262.51	0	281.44	50.72	650	11,750.95	
2022	52890.31			458.56		81642.92	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>58,148.10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>408.02</b>	<b>1,062.07</b>	<b>6,130.39</b>	<b>101,548.91</b>	

<b>Housing &amp; Development Departmental Data Report</b>	<b>For month ending February 28, 2023</b>		
	<b>February 2023</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>2022 YTD</b>
New Residential & Commercial permits issued	0	0	0
All other addition, remodel and repair permits	7	16	22
Certificates of Occupancy issued	2	2	0
Total New Construction not yet finalized	7		0
Total Other Construction not yet finalized	32		0
Notices to Comply issued	0	0	0
Stop Work Orders issued	0	0	0
Tree Cutting permits issued	2	6	19
Code & Ordinance Violations cited	0	0	0
<b>Fees Collected</b>			
	<b>Feb. 2023</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>2022 YTD</b>
New Residential or Commercial Permits	\$0.00	\$4,497.50	\$2,968.00
Other Addition, Remodel, Repair Permits	\$250.00	\$400.00	\$2,200.00
Tree Cutting Permits	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$1,065.00
Land Disturbing Permits	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fines Collected for Ordinance Violations	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00



**Police Department**

**Monthly Count Sheet For February 2023**

**YTD**

Fire	0	0
Med Call	0	2
Accident	1	4
Family Viol.	0	0
Fight/Assault	0	0
Death/Suicide	0	0
Missing Person	0	0
Burglary/Break in	0	0
Theft	0	0
Susp. Activity	0	0
Susp. Person	1	4
Susp. Vehicle	0	0
Alarm	0	0
Investigation	0	0
DUI/PUI	0	0
Drug Related	1	1
Juvenile	0	0
Traffic Control	0	1
Traffic Stop	50	112
Warning	24	52
Citation	26	60
Mutual Aid	2	4
Animal	1	2
Lost and Found	0	0
Complaint	0	0
City Ord.	0	0
Public Assist	5	9
Resident Check	1056	2091
Business Check	924	1871
Welfare Check	1	3
Visitor Escort	1	1
Arrest	1	2
911 Calls	15	29
Mileage	3,475	7,873