



State of the City 2023

**What the city has
been doing since
the last State of
the City
Presentation.....**

GET COMFORTABLE

...

HERE WE GO!





Our new CITY HALL/Visitor Center/Council & Court Meeting Room



2 bids for rennovations submitted

- **\$174,000 &**
- **\$89,000**
- 2022 Budget allocated **\$60,000**
- **\$25,000** SPLOST funds for Buildings
- **\$5000** Repair and Maintenance Line Item





NEW CITY HALL RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY

TWO OF
OUR WONDERFUL
CITIZEN
AMBASSADORS AT
OUR OPEN HOUSE!





Tennessee Rock



Rock Mountain hike features beautiful native wildflowers and
views of Georgia's highest State Park. Great for nature walks
and bird watching. Best hiked from March through November.

- 2.2 mile loop with one reasonably steep ascent
- Numbered markers correspond with a guide that can be purchased (\$1.00) at the visitor's center, park entrance fee is also required
- Dogs on leashes are allowed

← BACK

📍 GET DIRECTIONS



Welcome Center
To-go!

Things To Do

Wine & Dine

Events

Our History

Weather Forecast



INSTALLING OUR NEW ROOF – \$23,000 paid by insurance due to storm damage to the roof.



MEET OUR NEW EMPLOYEES

- **Jim Pyburn** – Building Inspector and Code Enforcement Officer
- **Sherron Van Camp** – Communications Specialist
- **Todd Maloney** – Police Officer
- **Kevin Branca** – Public Works Employee

- **Yuliia Poplavska** – Intern from Ukraine thru Georgia Tech



CITY & PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

- **INFRASTRUCTURE
PROJECTS**

- **EQUIPMENT**

REPLACING OLD, USED, NON-
WORKING AND UNSAFE
EQUIPMENT

Replace collapsed culvert on Sky Valley Way

Increased culvert pipe from 36" to 42" with GDOT recommended double barrel pipes and replaced water overflow pipes on opposite side of the road due to being crushed and nonfunctional.

\$34,000 – LMIG - Local Maintenance Improvement Grant

\$ 8,100 - EEE GDOT Grant

\$21,220 - TSPLOST

\$63,320

Replaced collapsed 65 feet of drainage pipes from Chapel Runoff + new Junction Box

\$9,000 TSPLOST

Stone façade on head wall

\$4,226-TSPLOST

\$76,526 – TOTAL COST OF PROJECT

ZERO TAX DOLLARS SPENT ON PROJECT

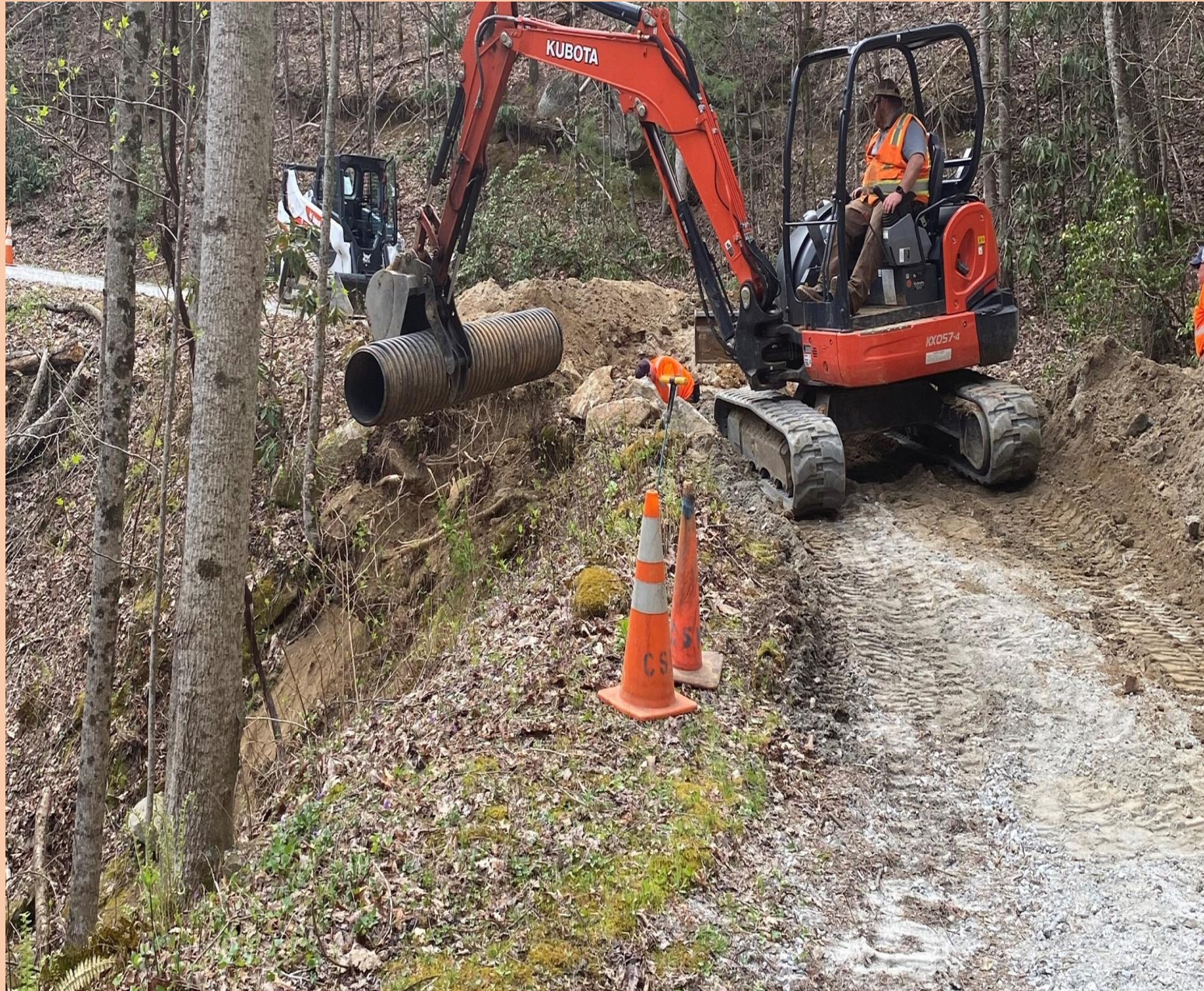


Repaired major culvert on Ridgepole Drive creating a sinking roadway

**\$25,000 included
culvert repair and
repaving roadway.**

Funded by T-SPLOST





**PUBLIC WORKS
REPLACING
CULVERTS**

COBBLEWOOD

SNOWSHOE

LaBELLE CIRCLE

**MORE TO
COME!**



Heavy Duty F350 – Diesel with Gooseneck Connection - \$75,000 (was a planned Capital Fund Expenditure for 2024 but needed it NOW) funded by TSPLOST
Heavy Duty Trailer with Gooseneck connector - \$20,000 funded by TSPLOST



**NEW BOBCAT
SKIDSTEER**
\$62,877 – paid by
TSPLOST funds
replaced 1997
Backhoe – not
working and used
Gator

NEW PUBLIC WORKS WATER TRUCK

**CARRIES WORKERS
TO THE SITE AND
INCLUDES STORAGE
OF EQUIPMENT AND
SUPPLIES FOR
REPAIRS**

**Budgeted Capital
Expenditure
(Enterprise Funding)
\$56,000**



SKY VALLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT



Purchased a new police car – \$50,000 (all equipment installed) funded by TSPLOST

Purchased New Body Cams, Uniforms funded by Safety Grant and Police Budget

Surplused 2 Subaru cars



TOTAL ROAD EXPENDITURES
\$137,692

ALL PAID BY T-SPOST FUNDS

OUR ROADS

- Repaved Wildbird - **\$11,891**
- Repaved Chestatee - **\$8,340**
- Repaved Squaw Valley Rd - **\$16,985**
- Repaved Snowshoe Lane - **\$16,752**
- Repaved Walking Bear - **\$26,756**
- Repaved and Graded Evergreen Rd and Rescue Lane - **\$56,968**

**TOTAL AMOUNT OF GRANT FUNDING
MONIES spent for Sky Valley
infrastructure projects and equipment
during this year....**



\$890,190

Real Estate Data in Sky Valley

(last six months)

- **99% sell at list price or above**
- **Average days on market – 100**
- **Median price \$490,000**

- **Home Starts**

- **2 on Bayberry**
- **2 Ridgepole**
- **1 Button Lane**

- **Certificates of Occupancy**

- **443 Bald Mt Road**
- **208 Wild Bird Way**
- **487 Overlook**
- **38 McClure Lane**
- **2056 Ridgepole Drive**
- **651 Bayberry Lane**
- **1186 La Belle Circle**
- **14 McClure Lane**



BUDGET AND AUDIT

City Manager and Council Representatives are refining proposed 2024 Budget - to be presented in public hearings. The **current Milage Rate will remain in place. The milage rate was reduced from 15.068 to 12.991 in the 2023 budget.**



2022 AUDIT – Auditor asked the state of Georgia for an extension to complete her report. She has been to City Hall and has all the data to complete her report. She will present our audit (hopefully) next month.

MID YEAR FINANCIAL CHECK – currently within the expected budgeted expenditure and revenue percentages



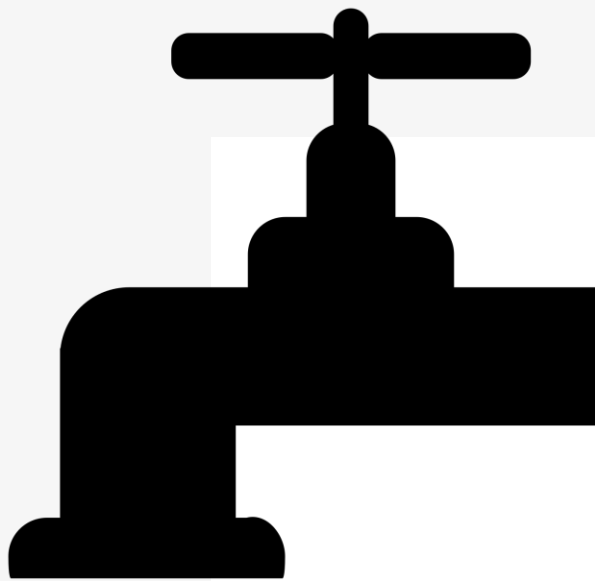
SV PICKLE BALL

- **RESURFACED COURTS** –
COST - \$8,700 GENERAL
FUND/BUILDINGS AND
GROUNDS OBJECT CODE
- **WIND SCREEN** -
COST - \$2,135 GENERAL
FUND/BUILDING AND
GROUNDS OBJECT CODE
- CAN USE
HOTEL/MOTEL TAX
REVENUE TO **CONSTRUCT
A THIRD COURT.**

UPDATING SKY VALLEY ORDINANCES AND POLICIES

1. UPDATED CITY'S **FINANCIAL POLICY** – WAS APPROVED 20 YEARS AGO AND MADE IT DIFFICULT FOR THE CITY TO “DO BUSINESS”.
2. UPDATED **HOTEL/MOTEL TAX** –WAS PASSED BY GA LEGISLATURE/SIGNED BY GOVERNOR/APPROVED BY COUNCIL. RAISED EXCISE TAX RATE FROM 5% TO 8%.
3. DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION– **SHORT-TERM RENTAL ORDINANCE**
4. **PROHIBITION FOR DISORDERLY HOUSE AND ENFORCEMENT ORDINANCE**
5. WILL DISCUSS PROPOSED **ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH REGULATIONS FOR DAMAGES DONE BY OUTSIDE CONTRACTORS FOR WORK ON THE CITY'S RIGHT OF WAY AND TO PROVIDE A MAINTENANCE BOND FOR REPLACEMENT OF ANY UTILITIES DAMAGED DURING CONSTRUCTION**





SKY VALLEY WATER SYSTEM

**The City is developing a 5 Year Water Plan for Sky Valley
With recommendations from a consulting Water Engineer,**

THE CITY WILL:

- Purchase 2 water pump motors for emergency situations
- Engage a geologist to determine possible property site for future well/tank
- Evaluate our 15 Pressure Reducing Valves for plan to repair/replace units
- Evaluate the possibility of enlarging our current water tanks
- Reduce water loss percentage
- Add telemetry to all water tanks
- Meeting with GMRC Grant Coordinator to seek grant funds for future projects

Mapping Water System – The City purchased a ground penetrating radar system for accurate mapping of water and power lines in conjunction with GMRC Digital Mapping Project.

**This is our
Public Works
employees at
work (in the
middle of the
night)
repairing a
water leak.**



MAYORAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE



- **SEWER SYSTEM UPDATE**
- **CURRENT AND/OR SHORT TERM NEEDS**
 - **VALLEY VIEW**
 - **TIME SHARES**
 - **CHAPEL**
 - **OLD LODGE**
 - **CLUB**
 - **ETC**

ACTION AND NEXT STEPS

- **ENGAGE ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT, INC.**
 - **UPDATE COSTS ON PREVIOUS STUDIES**
 - **RECOMMEND LESS COSTLY OPTIONS**
 - **ASSIST WITH PERMITTING**
 - **SCALABLE FOR FUTURE NEEDS**

- **UPDATE & CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS WITH HARRISON MERRILL**
 - **FUTURE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT**
 - **SCALABLE SEWER SYTEM AS NEEDED**



EV CHARGING STATION

- **UNDERSTAND
OPTIONS AND
MULTIPLE
TECHNOLOGIES**
- **COSTS! (CITY TO
INCUR NO
EXPENDITURES)**
- **EXPLORE
POTENTIAL
LOCATION(S)**

Still in progress for the next month or so.....

- **Waiting for SV Planning and Zoning Commission to present their recommendation for a Short Term Rental Ordinance and Internet STR Management Company assistance. Will have a public hearing on Friday, July 21st.**
- **Waiting to hear from Rabun County Post Master General for the purchase of additional mail boxes for Sky Valley**
- **Waiting for GA Power to install light poles on Evergreen (including security cameras)**
- **Waiting for pricing for WIFI service for**
 - **Sky Valley's Post Office Building and Pavilion Area and Compactor**
 - **Camera Security on Evergreen Road**

Thank you for coming to this presentation! I didn't get to cover everything but hit the highlights.

THANK YOU

THESE ARE EXCITING TIMES IN SKY VALLEY!