By DONALD FRASER

A fellow, unmaintained park in the city of Baldwin is getting a new lease on life.

The once Wilbanks Park, located at the end of City Park Drive, is reborn this week as a result of the Baldwin Park District’s decision to make a $40,000 investment in the park. The park, which was designated for the Baldwin Partnership, is part of UGA’s Archway Partnership initiative.

Summers presented the idea design for the project at the regular council meeting Thursday, Aug. 6.

According to Summers, the park will consist of a trail and seating areas. The trail, which will be open to the public, will be 1.5 miles long and will include a 10-foot-wide section dedicated to wheel chair use. Summers said the park would be open to the public during daylight hours in closed session with the council.

The council approved the new park along with a number of other items, including the approval of a new entry sign for the park.

Mayor Richard Austin, tasked with signing new projects into effect, signed the item into effect.

“The more parks we have in the city, the more quality of life we have in the city,” Austin said.

The city of Baldwin has 13 parks with a total of 3 acres. The city’s largest park, Wilbanks Park, is 15 acres.

The council also heard a presentation by Susan Summers, a University of Georgia graduate school design student working with Habersham Archway Partnership, on a design plan for the city’s fallow Wilbanks Park.

Georgia College grad partners on park

Partnership, on a design plan for the city’s fallow Wilbanks Park.

According to Summers, the Wilbanks Park plan, which is composed of four different parts, includes a pavilion with seating, having a historic feel to it, as well as a trail that connects to the park and construct a new entry sign for the park.

The council, which Austin said was its fourth meeting, was given an update on the park by the city’s project manager, Malcolm Hazell. Hazell said the council would be held accountable.

The council approved a rezoning of a segment of the park, which will allow for more parking and easier access to the park.

City Clerk Marlena Sosebee and councilmen Donnie Bennett and Jerry Harkness announced an effort to combat theft in the city.

Rick Austin said the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) was invited to participate in the effort. GBI investigators are important for effective water meter theft, Austin said, so they signal other equipment which could spell trouble. One matter is a large water intake on the Chatta- covered,درية باي محمد حكيم همزة، and a security system.

There will also be a chicken bar-

Mayor: Investigation theft remains ‘open,’ active in Demorest

Still no charges filed, arrest(s) made after 4 years of missing funds

By CHRISTINA SANTREE

It seems the person or persons responsible for stealing more than half a million dollars from the city of Demorest of course over a four-year span may never be held accountable.

After another called meeting of the Demorest City Council, council members announced that nothing more has been done to find the person or persons responsible for stealing from the city.

Pam Shook, the city’s comptroller, told the council Monday night that she had discussed the case with several attorneys, but no action could be taken due to the statute of limitations.

Mayor Rick Austin, who attended the meeting and was a previous mayor, had access to the file of the investigation, which extend from the day the case was investigated until the day it was dropped by the police department.

Austin would not discuss the case further, as it is still an active and open case.

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