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projects to the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority, State Revolving Fund Program. The committee approved staff using this list as the city's updated "Official" project list for future capital construction and grant applications. The City Council adopted this list as the city's Updated Ten Year Capital Improvement Plan.

Stancil said there was no new report on wholesale water litigation. The city is waiting on its experts to conclude their work in order to file a lawsuit. Stancil said the Sewer Plant Expansion is on hold pending assistance from County or Authority on funding.

Stancil said the city has received a deed for dedication for the lift station and associated school lines from the Board of Education.

Stancil reviewed and approved a Toilet Rebate for a Hiawassee citizen. Additional information has been provided showing that the plumber that provided the verification was licensed in Georgia. There would be no need at this time to approve any variance or change to the Rebate Program.

Mayor Barbara Mathis said the OTM concerts will begin May 23 and run every Saturday through September 5 from 6-8 p.m.

Towns County Homeowner Association member Bob Crawford asked if the city was going to renovate any of the old buildings around the city square. Mathis said they are trying to form a committee for city renovations, and there is grant money out there to do the work, but the city would need to match the grants.

Kendall currently is working with the agency to get the fine resolved.

"We're close to getting the fine eliminated if we sow and stabilize the soil on the property," he said.

The TCA will now move forward in seeking financing for the property.

"The deeds are being prepared right now for the 14 acres in Towns and the seven in Clay County, N.C.," Kiker said. "Upon receipt of those deeds, then we will seek financial arrangements to satisfy the obligations associated with the property."

Kiker recommended the board form a committee to explore financing options.

TCA Chairman Morris Phillips agreed to form the committee to report back to the board with the best financing options for approval.

Danny Barrett, Bud Parker, David Shook and Hugh Hoodenpyle are the four who make up the financial exploration committee.

Phillips said he believes the process shouldn't take long.

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"We talked with one bank before," Phillips said. "They said they would give us the loan if we had a deed. At that time, we didn't have a deed - now we do. So I don't think it will be too long before we have an answer."

At that point, Phillips said the board will call a meeting to approve the financing options.

Both Chairman Phillips and Commissioner Kendall believe the land could bring industrial development and jobs to Towns County.

"I think the Towns County Authority should take the property and make something out of it," Kendall said. "The property could potentially bring industry and jobs to Towns County."

Phillips also has a good feeling about the deal and the land. He did say that any developer who wishes to develop the property must produce jobs in Towns County.

"We will have it in writing," Phillips said. "They are going to have to produce jobs for Towns County."

## Allison...from page 1

Please contact me at my Capitol office at (404) 656-0177, by email at [stephen.allison@house.ga.gov](mailto:stephen.allison@house.ga.gov),

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moratorium right now," Mathis said. "So until the necessary steps are taken, are hands are tied."

The moratorium is on county commercial connections.

Mathis did say Lowe's has been very understanding so far.

Lowe's representatives have requested a response from the city as to the sewer status by June 1.

## Cherokee...from page 1

house, and the boy and the crying tree.

Along with the legends, demonstrator Donna Redfeather talked about the infamous Cherokee Trail of Tears during the 1830s—when the indigenous people were driven off of their land after the discovery of gold near Dahlonega.

Redfeather also spoke of her own struggles with the government in an attempt to have this passage removed from the Declaration of Independence: *"the merciless Indian Savages, whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions"*

The traveling exhibit is an all volunteer staff mainly based out of White County.

They have given presentations to area elementary schools, Truett-McConnell College, and at the Santee Nacoochee Center.

Historical Society president Lynn Marshall called the presentation entertaining and informational. She said the demonstrators would return as part of the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Arts and Heritage Festival on Saturday, May 9.

The volunteers included Gracie Schwartzman, Mary Geidel, Jill Hazen with Santee Nacoochee Center, Tina Shelton of Women of Heart, Kerry Marsh of the Yonah Art Guild, Donna Redfeather of the Santee-Nacoochee American Indian Conservancy Trust, and Kelly Wells playing Native American flute, Kathie Brown, and Marion Burkett.



The Towns County Industrial Development Authority and Clay-Towns Joint Development Authority met at the Towns County Courthouse on March 10. Photo by David Seckinger



Cherokee songs were performed last Saturday at the Senior Center in Hiawassee. Photo by David Seckinger