

SALEM

Salem hoping for funding to extend pipeline

BY JASON EVANS
THE JOURNAL

SALEM — Applications for an infrastructure project on the north end of Salem are in the process of being submitted to a possible funding source.

Director of operations Ryan Hardin

gave an update on the applications during town council's November meeting.

"That is moving right along," he said.

The town is partnering with Oconee County on the project and is pursuing grant fund-

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ing from the Economic Development Administration for its proposed water line extension.

"Our applications are in the process of being sent in," Hardin said. "We've gone through the screening process and made it through that really well. They're excited about the project. They feel there's a lot of merit to it, that's being conveyed to me.

"The final drying of the ink is not done yet on our application," he added. "Based on a conversation I had this afternoon, that should take place no later than next week, early. We hope to have it sooner than later."

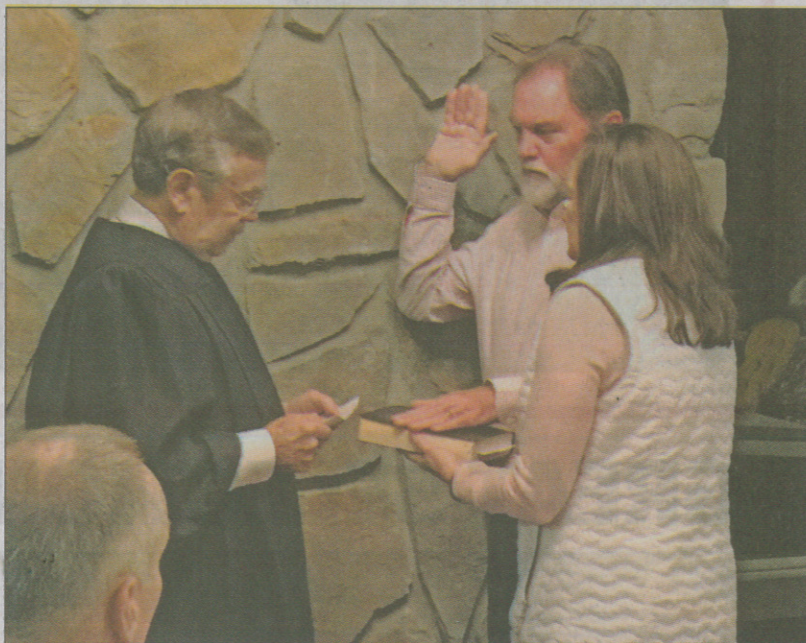
Council earlier ap-

proved \$140,000 in funding toward the project, in addition to a \$30,000 in-kind amount.

That funding, paired with a \$210,000 grant from the county's economic development fund, will comprise the 20 percent match required by the EDA grant.

The pipeline extension will run roughly 2.3 miles and is estimated to cost around \$1.5 million.

Goals of the project include opening up the north end of town for increased economic development, allowing Salem municipal water and sustained storage, as well as increasing fire flow and pressure.



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Salem municipal judge James L. Williams administers the oath of office to new Mayor Lynn Towe as Towe's wife, Vickie, holds the Bible. Towe was sworn in at the start of town council's November meeting Tuesday.

jevans@upstatetoday.com | (864) 973-6681

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