



**Regular Meeting of the Mayor and City Council
City of Ball Ground, Georgia
Ball Ground City Hall ~ 7:00 P.M.**

**AGENDA
March 13, 2025**

Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Mayor Roberts at 7:00 PM.

Council Members Present: Scott Barnes, Vicki Benefield, Annette Homiller, Dennis Nelson, and Kristine Rogers.

Staff Present: Ashley Byrd, Donna England, Darrell Caudill, Jamie Gianfala, Chris Luly, Eric Wilmarth, and Kaylyn Bush.

Item 2: Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Roberts.

Item 3: Approve Agenda

Council Member Benefield made a motion, Seconded by Council Member Homiller to approve the agenda with the exception to add item 8e.) Consider speed limit increase on Valley Street from 25 MPH to 35 MPH.

Motion unanimously approved.

Item 4: Appearances-

Dennis Holt, who resides in the Ball Ground City Limits signed up to speak to Mayor Roberts and City Council regarding the new crosswalk flashing lights along Gilmer Ferry Road. He expressed that he was appreciative of the efforts put into the new technology, however he feels like there needs to be more signage indicating there are crosswalks, and the flashing light should be red.

Item 5: Announcements – City Manager

**April 5- BBQ & Brews
April 23- Touch- A- Truck
May 1- Budget Hearing at 5:30 PM
May 10- Ball Ground Garden Club Annual Plant Sale
May 24- Concert in the Park featuring Guardians of the Juke Box**

Item 6: Approval of February 13, 2025, Council Meeting Minutes

Council Member Barnes made a motion, Seconded by Council Member Nelson to approve the February 13, 2025, Council Meeting Minutes.

Motion unanimously approved.

Item 7: Old Business

a) Consider 2nd Reading of changes to Zoning Code Division 107 – Traffic and Parking Standards.

Council Member Rogers made a motion, Seconded by Council Member Benefield to approve the seconded reading of the changes to Zoning Code Division 107-Traffic and Parking Standards.

Motion unanimously approved.

b) Consider 2nd Reading of the Nuisance/Blight Tax Ordinance

Council Member Rogers made a motion, Seconded by Council Member Homiller to approve the second reading for the Nuisance/Blight Tax Ordinance.

Motion unanimously approved.

Item 8: New Business

a) Consider Complaint for Abatement of Nuisance 237 Gilmer Ferry Road

Council Member Rogers made a motion, Seconded by Council Member Benefield to approve complaint for Abatement of Nuisance for Property Tax ID #94N04-034

Motion unanimously approved.

b) Consider Complaint for Abatement of Nuisance 370 Old Canton Road

Council Member Rogers made a motion, Seconded by Council Member Homiller to approve complaint for Abatement of Nuisance for 370 Old Canton Road,

Motion unanimously approved.

c) Consider Complaint for Abatement of Nuisance 290 Groover Street

Council Member Rogers made a motion, Seconded by Council Member Nelson to approve complaint for Abatement of Nuisance for 290 Groover Street.

Motion unanimously approved.

d) Consider Establishing Procedure to Receive Donations for Parks on Utility Bills

Council Member Benefield made a motion, Seconded by Council Member Rogers to approve establishing procedure to receive donations for parks on utility bills for park improvements.

Motion unanimously approved.

e) Consider speed limit increase on Valley Street from 25 MPH to 35 MPH

Council Member Homiller made a motion, Seconded by Council Member Barnes to approve speed limit increase on Valley Street from 25 MPH to 35 MPH.

Motion unanimously approved.

Item 9: Chief of Police Report

Chief Gianfala and his Department are preparing to undergo a mock assessment with the State for the Department to earn their State Certification this year. He gave an overview of citations issued and calls they received for the month of February.

Item 10: City Manager Comments

City Manager Wilmarth provided Mayor Roberts and City Council with an overview of Finances. An update regarding the roundabout project was given, stating that it was out for bid. Several of the projects in the city were mentioned such as the 372 Spur & Bypass, Mountain Brooke Sidewalk Extension, Groover Street & Civic Drive Realignment, and Northridge Road Extension. The Water Department received the PFAS results from the samples taken which indicated there were zero PFAS detected in our water.

Item 11: Mayor Roberts

Mayor Roberts announced that City Council would be attending the GMA (Georgia Municipal Association) Annual Convention this June for educational advancements.

Item 12: Council Comments- Each Council Member provided closing comments.

Item 13: Public Comments

A resident of Old Dawsonville Road expressed there was excessive speeding along Old Dawsonville Road and would like there to be more Police monitoring. Chief Gianfala responded by saying that he has already made changes to the Police monitoring hours, and he will make sure there is more Police presence along Old Dawsonville Road to help reduce excessive speeding.

Item 14: Executive Session (If needed)- None.

Item 15: Adjourn

Council Member Barnes made a motion, Seconded by Council Member Rogers to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 PM.

Motion unanimously approved.

The minutes of this meeting were approved at the April 10, 2025, Meeting of Mayor and Council.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kaylyn Bush
City Clerk