



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

**MINUTES  
January 15, 2026**

**Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by City Clerk, Kaylyn Bush at 7:00 P.M.**

City Clerk, Kaylyn Bush administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Mayor, Dennis Nelson & Councilmembers Kristine Rogers, and Tony Stancil. Each will serve 4-year terms.

**Councilmembers Present:** Scott Barnes, Tony Stancil, Vicki Benefield, Kristine Rogers, and Annette Homiller.

**Staff Present:** Kaylyn Bush, Sidney Haynes, Ashley Byrd, Darlene Pendley, Donna England, Karla Weaver, David Dean, Palmer Rogers, Jamie Gianfala, Darrell Caudill, and Eric Wilmarth.

**Item 2: Invocation Led by Chaplain Mike Smith & Pledge of Allegiance Led by Veteran of the Month, Adam J. Chapman.**

**Item 3: Adoption of the Agenda**

Councilmember Benefield made a motion to approve the Adoption of the Agenda, Seconded by Councilmember Barnes.

Motion unanimously approved.

**Item 4: Presentations, Proclamations, and Appearances**

- Veteran of the Month, Adam J. Chapman
- James Bence, Mauldin and Jenkins Audit Presentation

**Item 5: Public Comments – None.**

**Item 6: Approval of December Regular Meeting Minutes**

Councilmember Homiller made a motion to approve the December Regular Meeting Minutes, Seconded by Councilmember Rogers.

Motion unanimously approved.

**Item 7: Old Business- None.**

**Item 8: New Business**

- a. Election of Mayor Pro Tem



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**Councilmember Rogers made a motion to elect Councilmember Benefield as Mayor Pro Tem, Seconded by Councilmember Benefield.**

**Motion failed with a vote of 2-3.**

**Councilmembers Rogers and Benefield voted in favor of.**

**Councilmembers Barnes, Stancil, and Homiller voted in opposition.**

**Councilmember Stancil made a motion to elect Councilmember Barnes as Mayor Pro Tem, Seconded by Councilmember Homiller.**

**Motion approved with a vote of 3-2.**

**Councilmembers Barnes, Stancil, and Homiller voted in favor of.**

**Councilmembers Rogers and Benefield voted in opposition.**

**b. Appointment of 2026 Committees**

**Economic Development**

**Vicki Benefield- Chair**

**Kristine Rogers- Co-Chair**

**Palmer Rogers- Community Development Director**

**Ethics Committee**

**Dennis Nelson- Chair**

**Vicki Benefield- Co-Chair**

**City Attorney- Advisor**

**Finance, Insurance, and Personnel**

**Tony Stancil- Chair**

**Scott Barnes- Co-Chair**

**Donna England- Finance Director**

**Parks and Recreation**

**Vicki Benefield- Chair**

**Kristine Rogers- Co-Chair**

**Ashley Byrd- Downtown Manager**

**Public Safety**

**Kristine Rogers- Chair**

**Vicki Benefield- Co-Chair**

**Jamie Gianfala- Police Chief**



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**Roads, Streets, and Sidewalks**

**Scott Barnes- Chair**

**Annette Homiller- Co-Chair**

**Water, Sewer, and Sanitation**

**Tony Stancil- Chair**

**Scott Barnes- Co-Chair**

**Eric Wilmarth- City Manager and/or David Dean- Public Works**

**c. Establish Check Signers for 2026- All Accounts**

**Councilmember Rogers made a motion to approve check signers for 2026- All Accounts, Seconded by Councilmember Homiller.**

**Motion unanimously approved.**

**d. Establishing and Fixing Qualifying Fees for Municipal Elections per O.C.G.A. §21-2-131(1)(a) (Mayor - \$108.00) (City Council - \$35.00)**

**Councilmember Barnes made a motion to approve the Establishing and Fixing Qualifying Fees for Municipal Elections per O.C.G.A. §21-2-131(1)(a) (Mayor - \$108.00) (City Council - \$35.00), Seconded by Councilmember Rogers.**

**Motion unanimously approved.**

**e. Establishing Qualifying Dates for the November 3, 2026, Municipal Election (August 17-18, 2026, 9:00AM-5:00PM & August 19, 2026, 9:00AM-4:30PM)**

**Councilmember Rogers made a motion to approve the Qualifying Dates for the November 3, 2026, Municipal Election (August 17-18, 2026, 9:00AM-5:00PM & August 19, 2026, 9:00AM-4:30PM), Seconded by Councilmember Homiller.**

**Motion unanimously approved.**

**f. Consider First Reading of Alcohol License Application- Jose Suarez, Pueblo Cantina- On Premise Consumption of Beer, Wine, and Distilled Spirits/Sunday Sales**

**Councilmember Stancil made a motion to approve the First Reading of Alcohol License Application- Jose Suarez, Pueblo Cantina- On Premise Consumption of Beer, Wine, and Distilled Spirits/Sunday Sales, Seconded by Councilmember Barnes.**

**Motion unanimously approved.**

**g. Consider Arbor Day Proclamation (February 20, 2026)**



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**Councilmember Homiller made a motion to approve the Arbor Day Proclamation (February 20, 2026), Seconded by Councilmember Barnes.**

**Motion unanimously approved.**

**h. Consider Appointment of Zoning Board of Appeals**

**Councilmember Rogers made a motion to approve the Appointment of the Zoning Board of Appeals, Seconded by Councilmember Barnes.**

**Motion unanimously approved.**

**Zoning Board of Appeals- 5 Citizens (Each councilmember nominates one)**

**Gloria Bartko-Thomas (3-year term)**

**John Hermann (3-year term)**

**Jimmy Gale (2-year term)**

**Jack Davis (2-year term)**

**Stefanie Joiner (1 year term)**

**Byron Wyndom- Alternate (1-year term)**

**i. Consider Impact Fee CIE (Capital Improvement Element) Transmittal Resolution**

**Councilmember Rogers made a motion to approve the Impact Fee CIE (Capital Improvement Element) Transmittal Resolution, Seconded by Councilmember Homiller.**

**Motion unanimously approved.**

**j. Consider Lease/Purchase with GMA for a New Patrol Vehicle**

**Councilmember Rogers made a motion to approve the Lease/Purchase with GMA for a New Patrol Vehicle, Seconded by Councilmember Barnes.**

**Motion unanimously approved.**

**k. Consider Bucket Truck IGA (Intergovernmental Agreement) with the City of Canton**

**Councilmember Barnes made a motion to approve the Bucket Truck IGA (Intergovernmental Agreement) with the City of Canton. Seconded by Councilmember Homiller.**

**Motion unanimously approved.**



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**I. Consider Change to City Charter to Add Qualifying Dates for Municipal Elections**

Councilmember Homiller made a motion to approve the Change to City Charter to Add Qualifying Dates for Municipal Elections, Seconded by Councilmember Stancil.

Motion unanimously approved.

**Item 9: Announcements by City Manager**

1/19- City Hall Closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day  
2/7- Galentine's Day  
3/28- The Hunt

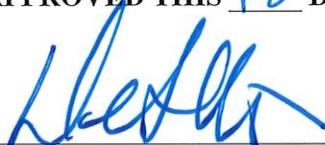
**Item 10: Executive Session- None.**

**Item 11: Adjournment**

Councilmember Rogers made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 P.M., Seconded by Councilmember Stancil.

Motion unanimously approved.

APPROVED THIS 12 DAY OF February, 2020.

  
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Dennis Nelson, Mayor

  
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Kaylyn Bush, City Clerk