



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

**MINUTES
February 9, 2023**

Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Mayor Roberts.

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

Staff Present: City Attorney Darrell Caudill, City Manager Eric Wilmarth, Police Chief Bryon Reeves, Finance Director Donna England, City Planner Chris Luly.
Absent: City Clerk Karen L. Jordan

Recognition of Veteran of the Month - Council Member Benefield introduced Mr. Lee Prettyman as Veteran of the Month. Mr. Prettyman led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 2: Pledge of Allegiance led by Veteran of the Month Mr. Lee Prettyman

Item 3: Approve Agenda

Council Member Rogers put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Homiller to approve the agenda as submitted.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

Item 4: Appearances - None

Item 5: Announcements – City Manager

February 15th at the Ball Ground Senior Center - The Ball Ground Police Department in conjunction with the North Georgia Elder Abuse Task Force will provide a program on scams targeting senior citizens and common types of elder abuse.

April 8th - BBQ and Brews Festival 12 – 8 PM

April 29th at Calvin Farmer Park Multi-Use Field The Georgia SWARM Pro Lacrosse Sports team will come to town to explain the history and origins of lacrosse and to demonstrate how the game is played.

February 17th at 9:00AM on the grounds of City Hall - Annual Arbor Day Tree Planting will take place.

**Item 6: Approval of Council Meeting Minutes: January 5, 2023 Work Session
January 12, 2023 Council Meeting**

Council Member Benefield put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Barnes to approve the minutes of January 5, 2023 Work Session and January 12, 2023 Council Meeting as submitted in writing by the City Clerk.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

Item 7: Old Business – None

Item 8: New Business

a) Consider Request by Lantern Walk HOA for Speed Humps

Council Member Benefield put forth a motion to approve the installation of speed humps in the Lantern Walk Subdivision at the cost not to exceed \$2,400 or the total cost of speed humps placed at 6 locations throughout the neighborhood .

Council member Barnes asked council members to consider an amendment to the motion made by Council Member Benefield. He asked that the amendment state should the Lantern Walk HOA request the speed humps be removed within the first two years after they are installed the Lantern Walk HOA would be responsible for the cost of removal and any subsequent repairs related.

Council Member Benefield amended her motion to include that should the Lantern Walk HOA request the speed humps be removed within the first two years after they are installed the Lantern Walk HOA would be responsible for the cost of removal and any subsequent repairs related.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

b) Consider Appointment to Library Board

Council Member Rogers put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Benefield to appointment Ball Ground resident Vivian Murphy to represent Ball Ground on the Cherokee County Public Library Board.

Motion Unanimously Approved

c) Consider Declaration of Surplus Property

Council Member Barnes put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Homiller to consider the items listed below as surplus property and to list those items for sale on Govdeals as recommended by City Manager Wilmarth.

Item	Serial #	Comments
Hardee 1060 5' Offset Bush hog	004832	Worked when removed from service.
John Deere Fertilizer Spreader		1XFSS10BEB0291647 Operational
John Deere Zero Turn 737 Comm'l Mower		Run when removed from service but deck is damaged – will not mow.
Honda HS720 Snow Blower HS720ASA		Never Used – Does not Start.
RYOBI Quiet Run Portable Generator		Does not start.
RYOBI Leaf Blower – Gas Powered		Does not start.
RYBOI Leaf Blower – Gas Powered		Does not start.
White Line Chalking Hopper for ball fields		Broken Wheels
Bulldog 4x2 BD300		Does not run – replacement engine.
20" Husqvarna Push Mower		Does not run
RYOBI Weed Eater		Motor Only-Does not run – no shaft.
Currahee		Trailer 6 x 10 - Bent Axle – Missing Wheel
2009 Crown Victoria Police Cruiser		Requires a boost to start-fair condition.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

d) Consider Resolution Supporting Submittal of RAISE Grant

Council Member Homiller put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Benefield to adopt A Resolution of the City of Ball Ground City Council, in partnership with Cherokee County and the Cities of Woodstock, Holly Springs, And Canton, seek to apply for and accept a Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation for the Old Highway 5 Corridor Operational and Mobility Project in accordance with the terms of the grant award. Further stated in Resolution the City of Ball Ground City Council agrees to participate in the local funding commitment match of twenty percent (20%) as estimated for the City of Ball Ground, on Exhibit "A" and coordinate with Cherokee County to complete the necessary agreements to fulfill the requirements of the RAISE Grant Program and complete the design of the Old Highway 5 Corridor Operational and Mobility Project.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

City Manager Wilmarth stated the matching grant of \$133,950. would fund the engineering of sidewalks along Old Highway 5 between Howell Bridge Road and Mineral Springs Road on both sides of the highway.

e) Consider Initiation of Water Capacity purchase request to CCWSA

A motion was put forth by Council Member Rogers, Seconded by Council Member Barnes to initiate a purchase request for wholesale water capacity in the amount of 50,000 gallons per day to the Cherokee County Water and Sewerage Authority at a cost of \$125,000. to be acquired with a combination of water funds and SPLOST funds.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

f) Consider Request for Conditional Use Permit for Outdoor Storage

A motion was put forth by Council Member Homiller, Seconded by Council Member Rogers to approve a Special Use Permit for Outdoor Storage in the vicinity of 121 Stewart Way as substantially shown on Conceptual Site Plan C201, project number 20101 and as submitted by the applicant, Hal Hamrick. The motion included a requirement that the applicant must work with staff to develop a landscape plan that will focus heavily on installation of evergreen trees with staff having final approval of tree species, sizes, placement, and quantity, and that this requirement would be in addition to the opaque screening already required by ordinance.

Motion Unanimously Approved

Item 9: City Manager Comments

City Manager Wilmarth provided Council Members with an unaudited report of account balances, and statement of revenue and expenditures for the month ended January 31, 2023. The report showed cash on deposit totaled \$2,815,178.

Chief Reeves presented a written report of the Police Department's activities for the month of January 2023.

City Manager Wilmarth Updated Mayor and Council on activities within the City over the preceding month.

Item 10: Mayor Roberts

Mayor Roberts announced that the annual council planning retreat would begin on Friday, February 24, 2023 at 11:30 AM and conclude at 5:00 PM. The planning session will continue the following day at 8:30AM and will conclude at 4:00 PM.

Item 11: Council Comments

Item 12: Public Comments

Item 13: Executive Session (If Needed)

**A motion was put forth by Council Member Benefield, Seconded by Council Member Rogers to go into Executive Session To consult and meet with legal counsel pertaining to pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the City of Ball Ground or council member or employee or in which the council member or employee may be directly involved.
(O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-2**

Motion Unanimously Approved.

A motion was put forth by Council Member Homiller, Seconded by Council Member Rogers to adjourn the Executive Session and return to the open meeting.

Motion Unanimously Approved

Item 14: Adjourn

There being no further business for council consideration a motion was duly made and seconded to adjourn.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

The minutes of this February 9, 2023 City Council Meeting approved this 9th Day of March 2023.

**Karen L. Jordan
City Clerk**