

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

# MINUTES **June 12, 2025**

Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Mayor Roberts at 7:03 PM.

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

Staff Present: Ashley Byrd, Darlene Pendley, Karla Weaver, Michelle Tanner, Sidney Haynes, Jamie Gianfala, Eric Wilmarth Darrell Caudill, and Kaylyn Bush.

Item 2: Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Roberts.

Item 3: Approve Agenda

Council Member Rogers made a motion, Seconded by Council Member Homiller to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion unanimously approved.

## Item 4: Appearances

Recognize the City of Ball Ground Municipal Court Clerk for Municipal Court Clerks Week June 9-13, 2025.

Mayor Roberts Recognized the City of Ball Ground Municipal Court Clerk, Karla Weaver, for Municipal Court Clerks Week. He presented her with a Proclamation and a gift on behalf of the city for her dedication and commitment as the city's Municipal Court Clerk.

Recognition of Chris Luly by City Manager Eric Wilmarth.

City Manager Wilmarth recognized former Planning and Zoning Director, Chris Luly, for his dedication to the City of Ball Ground from July 2021-May 2025. He presented Luly with a plaque on behalf of the city as a Thank You for being an outstanding Planning and Zoning Director.

Item 5: Announcements - City Manager

6/28- Ball Ground Fireworks.

Item 6: Approval of May 8, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes

Council Member Barnes made a motion, Seconded by Council Member Homiller to approve the May 8, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes.

Motion unanimously approved.

## Item 7: Old Business

a. Consider a Second Reading of an Ordinance Creating a Local Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)



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Council Member Homiller made a motion, Seconded by Council Member Rogers to approve the update with the Joint Cherokee County Local Emergency Operations Plant (LEOP).

Motion unanimously approved.

## f. Consider Appointment of Sign Ordinance Rewrite Committee

Council Member Barnes made a motion, Seconded by Council Member Nelson to approve the Appointment of the Sign Ordinance Rewrite committee.

Motion approved with a 4-0 vote.

Council Member Homiller abstained from voting due to the appointment of her husband, Dan Homiller.

## Sign Ordinance Rewrite Committee:

Scott Barnes Kristine Rogers Dan Homiller Jamie Gianfala David Dean

#### Item 9: Chief of Police Report

Chief Gianfala reported a new top speed of 139 MPH on the interstate where our Police Department issued a citation. He stated that the Department will be removing signs that are placed in the city's Right-of-Ways. Chief Gianfala also encouraged city residents to maintain their properties. The department is going to be focusing on a few properties that are currently under the city's standards to help keep the rest of the city's property values up.

## **Item 10: City Manager Comments**

City Manager Wilmarth provided Mayor Roberts and the Council with an overview of May finances. He let them know that city staff are in preparation for the audit and end of year. The city is also exploring options for dependent insurance coverage for city staff. He mentioned we are exploring scanning services to help consolidate documents to help save space in the records room and become more digitized.

City Manager Wilmarth gave an update on a few capital projects, starting with the roundabout project which is currently being done by Wilson Construction. They have already started clearing the area. Soon waterline relocation and lighting removal will be taking place. The Mountain Brooke Sidewalk Extension is at about 85% completion.

## **Item 11: Mayor Roberts Comments**

Mayor Roberts stated that since we have raised the speed limit on Valley Street, he would like to discuss putting in speed cameras in the school zone at the next Work Session which will be held on July 10, 2025.



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

**Item 13: Public Comments** 

Justin Page introduced himself to the Mayor and City Council as he is running for the Cherokee County Commissioner Post 1 seat.

Item 14: Executive Session- None.

Item 15: Adjourn

Council Member Barnes made a motion, Seconded by Council Member Rogers to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 PM.

Motion unanimously approved.

APPROVED THIS 17th DAY OF JULY , 2025.

A.R. (Rick) Roberts, III

Mayor

Kaylyn Bush City Clerk