



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

**MINUTES  
May 8, 2025**

**Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Mayor Roberts at 7:01 PM.**

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

**Staff Present: Donna England, Chris Luly, Michelle Tanner, Cory DeBord, and Kaylyn Bush.**

**Ball Ground Police Department Present: Matthew Young, Josh Cohen, Bill Schrader, Parker Robinson, Cliff Garrett.**

**Item 2: Pledge of Allegiance led by Council Member Rogers.**

**Item 3: Approve Agenda**

**Council Member Nelson made a motion, seconded by Council Member Benefield, to approve the meeting agenda as proposed.**

**Motion unanimously approved.**

**Item 4: Appearances**

**Recognize the City of Ball Ground Police Department for National Police Week May 11-17, 2025**

**Mayor Roberts recognized The City of Ball Ground Police Department for National Police Week with a Proclamation and a gift on behalf of the city for their commitment and dedication in keeping the City of Ball Ground community safe.**

**Recognize the City of Ball Ground City Clerk for Professional Municipal Clerks Week May 4-10, 2025**

**Mayor Roberts recognized The City of Ball Ground City Clerk, Kaylyn Bush, for the 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Professional Municipal Clerks Week with a Proclamation and a gift on behalf of the city for her dedication to the community.**

**Item 5: Announcements – Chris Luly**

**May 10- Ball Ground Garden Club Annual Plant Sale  
May 24- Guardians of the Jukebox Concert**

**Item 6: Approval of the April 10, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes  
Approval of the May 1, 2025, Executive Session Minutes**

**Council Member Barnes made a motion, seconded by Council Member Rogers to approve the Minutes of the April 10, 2025, meeting of the Mayor and City Council.**

**Motion Unanimously Approved.**

**Council Member Homiller made a motion, seconded by Council Member Rogers to approve the Minutes from the Executive Session on May 1, 2025.**

**Motion approved with a vote of 4-0.**

**Council Member Nelson abstained from voting.**

**Item 7: Old Business**

- a. Consider a Second Reading of Annexation Ordinance-Wanda Anderson (Lusk)- Case 2024-A-02**

**Council member Homiller made a motion, seconded by Council Member Barnes to approve the Second Reading of Annexation Ordinance-Wanda Anderson (Lusk)- Case 2024-A-02.**

**Motion unanimously approved.**

- b. Consider a Second Reading of Rezoning Ordinance-Wanda Anderson (Lusk)- Case 2024-R-03**

**Council Member Barnes made a motion, seconded by Council Member Nelson to approve the Second Reading of Rezoning Ordinance-Wanda Anderson (Lusk)- Case 2024-R-03**

**Motion unanimously approved.**

- c. Consider a Second Reading of Annexation Ordinance-Two Little Hands Farm (Briggs)- Case 2024-A-03**

**Council Member Rogers made a motion, seconded by Council Member Benefield to approve the Second Reading of Annexation Ordinance-Two Little Hands Farm (Briggs)- Case 2024-A-03**

**Motion approved with a vote of 4-0.**

**Council Member Homiller abstained from voting.**

- d. Consider a Second Reading of Rezoning Ordinance-Two Little Hands Farm (Briggs)- Case 2024-R-04**

**Council Member Rogers made a motion, seconded by Council Member Barnes to approve the Second Reading of Rezoning Ordinance-Two Little Hands Farm (Briggs)- Case 2024-R-04.**

**Motion approved with a vote of 4-0.**

**Council Member Homiller abstained from voting.**

- e. Consider a Second Reading of the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year Budget**

**Council Member Nelson made a motion, seconded by Council Member Rogers to approve the Second Reading of the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year Budget.**

**Motion unanimously approved.**

- f. Consider a Second Reading of an Ordinance to Amend Subpart A. – General Ordinances; Chapter 4. – Alcohol Beverages; Article III.- Open Container Alcohol District to Establish New Times of Regulation**

**Council Member Barnes made a motion, seconded by Council Member Homiller to approve the Second Reading of an Ordinance to Amend Subpart A. – General Ordinances; Chapter 4. – Alcohol Beverages; Article III.- Open Container Alcohol District to Establish New Times of Regulation.**

**Motion unanimously approved.**

**Item 8: New Business**

- a. Consider a First Reading of an Ordinance Creating a Local Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)**

**Council Member Homiller made a motion, seconded by Council Member Benefield to approve the First Reading of an Ordinance Creating a Local Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)**

**Motion unanimously approved.**

**Item 9: Police Report – Sgt. Young**

**Sgt. Young gave a friendly reminder that the Police will be more present as it is event season in the city. He gave an update regarding the speed limit increase on Valley Street; it has been over 30 days since the speed limit increases. Since the increase, the Police Department has not noticed anyone going over the new 35 MPH speed limit.**

**Item 10: City Manager Comments- None.**

**Item 11: Mayor Roberts**

**Mayor Roberts highlighted the ribbon cutting for the Grand Opening of the Preserve at Long Swamp Recreation Park held on Friday May 2, 2025. He stated that he was unable to attend, however, Head Chairperson of the Ball Ground Parks and Recreation Committee, Scott Barnes, attended in his place and spoke on behalf of the city which resulted in Mr. Barnes being quoted in the Cherokee Tribune.**

**Item 12: Council Comments- each council member provided closing comments.**

**Item 13: Public Comments**

**City resident, Greg Edgar, addressed the Mayor and City Council regarding the solicitation that is taking place at the Howell Bridge Intersection and 4-Way stop at Gilmer Ferry Road and Old Canton Road. He believes that both locations are unsafe for the solicitors as well as drivers. Mr. Edgar would like to see the solicitation to stop for safety.**

**Planning and Zoning Director, Chris Luly, responded by saying that the solicitation taking place at the Howell Bridge Intersection will soon be interrupted as the**

Round-A-Bout Project is about to take off. He stated that staff will continue to navigate internally on a solution to the solicitation.

Council Member Rogers stated that she agreed that the solicitation is unsafe. However, Gilmer Ferry Road is a State Highway, and the State is allowing the solicitation to take place therefore the city cannot enforce differently.

City resident, Richard Nitto, addressed the Mayor and City Council regarding the Pulte Developer putting a sidewalk connecting the Bleckley Station Subdivision to the North Mountain Brooke Subdivision that would run adjacent to his homes deck.

Planning and Zoning Director, Chris Luly, stated that the sidewalk plan was from a previous proposal when the Fire Department requested there be two entrances to the development but that could not be completed which resulted in the plan to construct a single home instead. Mr. Luly said that as of right now there are no plans for a sidewalk connection since there would be a home there.

City resident and HOA Vice President of the Farmers Crossing Neighborhood, Jordan Hudson, addressed the Mayor and City Council on behalf of the residents of Creekside at Farmers Crossing located along Groover Street requesting the installation of 15 MPH speed limit signs and speed bumps. She stated there has been an increase in volume and speed from both residents and non-residents in the neighborhood. Mrs. Hudson gave examples of property being ran over by drivers speeding and not paying attention. She believes that the increase in signage and speed bumps would be vital to the safety of the children and residents of the neighborhood. The HOA has started a petition to present to the Mayor and City Council.

Mrs. Hudson suggested the city put up a “No Outlet” sign at the beginning of the neighborhood as the residents have noticed a considerable number of cars driving through the neighborhood just to turn around since the road does not continue.

Council Member Rogers recommended to Mrs. Hudson that she continue collecting names of residents and to formally type up the petition requesting speed bumps. She also stated that the City Staff and Council will discuss options further.

Item 14: Executive Session- None.

Item 15: Adjourn

Council member Barnes made a motion, seconded by council member Homiller to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 PM.

Motion unanimously approved.

**The minutes of this meeting were approved at the June 12, 2025, Regular Meeting of the Mayor and City Council.**

Respectfully submitted by:

Kaylyn Bush  
City Clerk