

**BALL GROUND CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Thursday, January 13, 2005**

The Ball Ground City Council met in regular session on Thursday, January 13, 2005 beginning at 7:30 P.M. with Mayor Rick Roberts presiding. Karen Jordan, City Clerk administered the oath of office to Newly Elected Council Member Lee Prettyman and incumbent Frank Homiller and Andrenia Stoner. Each will serve a two-year term in office. Following the swearing of the new council members Mayor Roberts let those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Members Present: John Byrd, Frank Homiller,  
Lee Prettyman and Andrenia Stoner  
Council Member Absent: Ashley Holcomb

Also Present: Ken Keating, Wes Latimer, Toby Latimer, Sharon Byrd, Judy Prettyman, Scott Lathem, Benjie Webb, Ron & Deb Philips, BSA Troop 1755 and Troop Leader Steve Ballew, Police Chief Dana Davis, City Attorney Darrell Caudill, City Administrator Eric Wilmarth and City Clerk Karen L. Jordan.

**2. Appearances**

With unanimous approval of the City Council Mayor Roberts presented Steve Ballew and Ball Ground BSA Troop 1755 with a Certificate of Appreciation for their participation in the city's annual tree lighting and participation in other community projects. Troop Leader Steve Ballew accepted the certificate of appreciation on behalf of the troops. Troop Leader Ballew stated the troop began in October of 2004 with 5 members. The troop today has 22 members who pledge their continued support to the Ball Ground Community.

Wes Latimer appeared before Mayor Roberts and members of Council presenting his plan to construct a new building on property he owns at 252 Valley Street. Mr. Latimer also stated he planned to renovate the existing building to match the one he plans to build. Council Members asked Mr. Latimer to present his plans for their review before making any decision. After further discussion Mayor Roberts asked Council to authorize the executive committee comprised of himself, City Administrator Wilmarth, Council Members Holcomb and Homiller to approve the plans upon their review. Council Member Stoner moved to empower the executive committee to approve the plans submitted by Mr. Latimer for his proposed development. Council Member Byrd seconds the motion. Motion Approved 4-0. 1 Absent.

**3. Approve Minutes of the December 9, 2004 Meeting of City Council**

Council Member Stoner moved to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2004 City Council Meeting as submitted in writing by the City Clerk. Council Member Homiller seconds the motion. Motion Approved 4-0. 1 Absent.

#### **4. Old Business**

##### **a) 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Huey Holloway Annexation Petition**

Mayor Roberts presented the Huey Holloway Annexation of 23.06 acres for its second reading. Council Member Byrd moved to accept the second reading of the Huey Holloway Annexation Petition for 23.06 acres located on Cartersville Street. Council Member Stoner seconds the motion. Motion Approved 4-0. 1 Absent.

#### **5. New Business**

##### **a) Appointment of 2005 City Officials, Committees and Boards**

Mayor Roberts appointed the following committees. Mayor Roberts and City Administrator will serve as *Ex Officio Members* to each committee.

Road & Streets Committee – John Byrd, Chairman  
Ashley Holcomb

Parks & Recreation Committee – Lee Prettyman, Chairman  
Andrenia Stoner

Water & Sewer Committee – Frank Homiller, Chairman  
John Byrd

Public Safety Committee – Ashley Holcomb, Chairman  
Lee Prettyman & Dana Davis

Natural & Historic Resources Committee – Andrenia Stoner, Chairman  
Frank Homiller

Building, Planning & Development Committee – Frank Homiller, Chairman  
John Byrd & Karen Jordan

Executive Committee – Mayor, Mayor Pro-Tem & City Administrator  
Finance & Personnel Committee – Mayor, Andrenia Stoner, City Administrator &  
City Clerk

Council Member Prettyman moved to confirm the Committee Appointments listed above as announced by Mayor Roberts. Council Member Stoner seconded the motion. Motion Approved 4-0

Mayor Roberts recommended the following for council approval:

City Clerk: Karen L. Jordan  
Asst. City Clerk: Stacie Howell  
Chief of Police – Dana Davis  
Clerk of Court - Karen L. Jordan  
Asst. Clerks of Court: Eric Wilmarth & Stacie Howell  
Auditors: Land & Associates  
City Attorney: Roach, Geiger & Caudill  
Mayor Pro-Tem: Frank Homiller  
Zoning Board of Appeals – David Kubala, Daniel Sission, Judson Roberts, Jerrie Hall & Scott Barnes

Tree Board – Garden Club President, Mayor, City Clerk, Jerrie Hall & Ann Conrad

Council Member Stoner moved to confirm the above listed appointments as submitted by Mayor Roberts. Council Member Byrd seconded the motion. Motion Approved 4-0 1 Absent.

Mayor Roberts stated the Public Safety Committee at the February Meeting would appoint members to the Board of Health.

**b) Approve Qualifying Fee for November 2, 2005 Municipal Election**

Council Member Stoner moved to fix a qualifying fee of \$25.00 for those qualifying for city council and a qualifying fee of \$108.00 for those qualifying for mayor in the November 2, 2005 Municipal Election. Council Member Prettyman seconded the motion. Motion Approved 4-0. 1 Absent

**c) First Reading of Amendment to LI Zoning Ordinance**

The Mayor and Council considered an amendment to the Ball Ground Code regarding LI Zoning Ordinance. Mayor Roberts and City Adm. Wilmarth outlined a number of reasons for the amendment to the ordinance. Mayor Roberts stated that an amendment to the ordinance would serve as an alternative to rezoning.

Council Member Homiller moved to approve the first reading of an amendment to the LI Zoning Ordinance. Council Member Stoner seconded the motion. Motion Approved 4-0. 1 Absent.

**d) First Reading of Amendment to Section 4-3-1 Related to Motor Vehicles in City Park.**

The Mayor and Council considered an amendment to the Ball Ground Code regarding Motor Vehicles in City Parks. City Administrator stated individuals driving privately owned tractor-trailers were using the city parks as parking lots. The amendment would make it unlawful to continue that use.

Council Member Byrd moved to approve the first reading of an amendment to the Ball Ground Section 4-3-1 relating to Motor Vehicles in Parks. Council Member Stoner seconded the motion. Motion Approved 4-0. 1 Absent.

**e) Approve to Proceed With Participation in GMA's Reverse Auction**

City Adm. Wilmarth outlined the process of participating in this service offered by GMA. City Adm. Wilmarth stated this could be beneficial when purchasing generators or other equipment.

Council Member Byrd moved to approve the request of the City Administrator to participate in the GMA's Reverse Auction. Council Member Prettyman seconded the motion. Motion Approved 4-0. 1 Absent.

**f) Approve Proposed Improvements of Lighting and Irrigation to Downtown Park**

City Adm. Wilmarth outlined a proposal from Georgia Horticultural & Landscape, Inc. to install lighting in the park, make repairs to the irrigation system and relocate power control panel. The total cost of the project is \$3,477.53. City Adm. Wilmarth stated the improvements are within budget and will leave approximately \$1,000.00 for any additional improvements.

Council Member Homiller moved to approve the improvements to the downtown park by Georgia Horticultural & Landscape, Inc. Council Member Stoner seconded the motion. Motion Approved 4-0. 1 Absent.

**g) Approve Resolution to Change The Portion of Ball Ground Hwy Located Within The City Limits to Canton Hwy.**

City Adm. Wilmarth stated it necessary for the Ball Ground Highway to have one name throughout the city limits and for the numbering system to run concurrently with county assigned addresses.

Chief Davis stated the numbers are not in sequence and confusing for the department when responding to an emergency.

Motion by Council Member Stoner moved to approve Resolution 2005-01, which states that Ball Ground Highway is named to Canton Highway within the Corporate City Limits of Ball Ground. Council Member Byrd seconded the motion. Motion Approved 4-0. 1 Absent.

**h) Resolution 2005-02 Roy Street Address Change**

City Adm. Wilmarth stated this resolution would change 175 Glenn Street to 175 Roy Street. City Adm. Wilmarth explained that 175 Glenn Street is at the dead end of Roy Street. Both the builder and homeowner have complained because of it confusing when trying to direct someone to the home. Over the years a drainage problems has caused Glenn Street not to be a through street therefore requiring access only through Roy Street.

A motion by Council Member Stoner, second by Council Member Prettyman would allow the change of address of 175 Glenn Street to 175 Roy Street. Motion Approved 4-0. 1 Absent.

**i) 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ball Ground Food Mart Beer and Wine Application**

City Adm. Wilmarth stated the city clerk has received an application for the packaged sales of beer and wine from Ball Ground Food Mart. City Adm. Wilmarth recommended the approval of the first reading of the application with the final reading at the February meeting.

Council Member Stoner moved to approve the first reading of the Ball Ground Food Mart Application for license of the sale of package beer and wine. Council Member Byrd seconded the motion. Motion Approved 4-0. 1 Absent.

**j) Authorize Release of RFP**

Mayor Roberts stated we are working hard on plans to construct a new city hall and we are in need of hiring an architect at this time. The RFP would solicit proposals from qualified architectural/engineering firms to undertake design and development of site planning for a new city hall building and bid-ready plans.

Council Member Stoner moved to approve the release of the RFP to solicit proposals from qualified architectural/engineering firms to undertake design and development of sit planning and preparation of bid-ready plans for the construction of a new city hall. Council Member Prettyman seconded the motion. Motion Approved 4-0. 1 Absent.

**6. City Administrator's Report**

Financial Report – City Adm. Wilmarth presented a financial statement for period ending December 31, 2004 for Mayor Roberts and Council review.

Council Member Stoner moved to approve the financial statement for period ending December 31, 2004 as submitted in writing by the city administrator. Council Member Byrd seconded the motion. Motion Approved 4-0. 1 Absent.

Public Safety – Chief Dana Davis introduced Bryon Reeves as the new officer to the department. Chief Davis also presented a detail report of the months activity for Mayor and Council review.

Water/Sewer Department – Problems continue to hamper the start up of pump c.

Administrative – Appointments to the Downtown Streetscape Project Steering Committee have been notified and asked to attend a meeting to be held at the Library.

**7. Mayor's Comments**

Mayor Roberts announced the council's annual planning retreat would be held Saturday, February 5, 2005 at Hawks Ridge from 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM.

Mayor Roberts invited everyone to attend the Ribbon Cutting to signal the start date of renovation of the community center. The festivities will be held Saturday, January 29, 2005 at 11:00 AM.

Mayor Roberts outlined his 2005 Goals for the city.

1. The construction of a new city hall is our number one priority stated Mayor Roberts.
2. Downtown Streetscape Project is important for the revitalization of our downtown
3. Valley Street Project.
4. Water System Improvements. Mayor Roberts stated it's crucial to find an additional well site.
5. Blight Reduction has been slow in the past. Mayor Roberts pledged to make great strides this year to clean up the city.

**8. Adjourn**

There being no further business for mayor and council consideration a motion was duly made and seconded to adjourn at 8:45 PM.

**Date Approved:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Mayor A. R. Roberts, III**

**Attest:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Karen L. Jordan, City Clerk**