



**Regular Meeting of the Mayor and City Council
City of Ball Ground, Georgia
Ball Ground City Hall ~ 6:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES
December 10, 2015**

Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Mayor Pro Tem Frank Homiller.

Council Members Present: John Byrd, Lee Prettyman and Andrenia Stoner

Staff Present: Donna England, Darrell Caudill, Eric Wilmarth and Karen Jordan

Item 2: Pledge of Allegiance

Item 3: Appearances: None

Item 4: Announcements/Informational Items/Project

- **City Hall will close at noon on December 24th and all day on December 25th and January 1st.**

Item 5: Approval of Minutes – November 19, 2015, City Council Meeting

Council Member John Byrd put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Lee Prettyman to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2015 Council Meeting as submitted in writing by the City Clerk.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

Item 6: Old Business - None

Item 7: New Business

a) Consider Acceptance of roads in Mountain Brooke North Subdivision

Mr. John Harwell, President of HOB Ga, LLC respectfully submitted in writing a request to transfer the following streets including right of way, curb and gutter, sidewalks, storm sewer, etc to the City of Ball Ground

- **North Mountain Brook Drive – Street Length 1776 Ft.**
- **Tom Avery Drive – Street Length 1503 Ft**
- **Erin Lane – Street Length 1255 Ft**
- **John Mason Ct. – Street Length 545 Ft.**

Council Member Prettyman put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Byrd to accept the streets identified above located in the Mountain Brook North Subdivision.

Motion Unanimously Approved

Council Member Byrd put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Prettyman to accept 5275 feet of Water Service lines and valves and 5989 feet of Sanitary System including manholes and service lines as related to the Mountain Brook North Subdivision.

Motion Unanimously Approved

b) Consider Change of City Voting Precinct from Community Center to Ball Ground United Methodist Church

City Manager Eric Wilmarth stated that the County Election Superintendent was put on notice earlier in the year that there was a possibility the Community

Center would be torn down. With that notice, the Cherokee Board of Elections moved forward with securing an alternate site to conduct the county elections. The site selected and approved by the board was Ball Ground United Methodist Church. Because the City contracts with the Cherokee County Board of Elections to conduct our City Elections it will be necessary for the City to consider relocating the City Polling location stated City Manager Wilmarth.

Council Member Prettyman put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Stoner to relocate the polling location for the City of Ball Ground Municipal Elections to Ball Ground United Methodist Church, located at 3045 Canton Highway, Ball Ground, Georgia.
Motion Unanimously Approved.

City Clerk Karen Jordan stated all affected voters would receive new prescient cards notifying them of the location change.

c) **Consider Transfer of Property Ownership (367 Old Canton Road) to Downtown Development Authority (DDA)**

City Manager Wilmarth asked that City Council gives consideration to transferring ownership of property located at 367 Old Canton Road to the Ball Ground Downtown Development Authority(DDA) for the amount of \$10,000.00. He stated the property is currently vacant and because the DDA has more flexibility to dispose of the property than the City. The proceeds of the property would be deposited into the City's Special Local Option Sales Tax(SPLOST) to help with the expense of developing the new municipal parking lot downtown.

Council Member Prettyman put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Stoner to approve the transfer of Ownership of property located at 367 Old Canton Road from the City of Ball Ground to the Ball Ground Downtown Development Authority(DDA). With the proceeds of \$10,000.00 be deposited in the SPLOST account for the purpose of assisting with the cost of developing the new municipal parking lot downtown.
Motion Unanimously Approved.

Item 8: City Manager Comments

- Municipal Parking Lot scheduled to open on Friday evening.
- Georgia Northeastern Railroad has been sold to a company located in Florida. The company has already begun improving the rail system. Some of the improvements will include the Depot and Groover Streets crossings.
- 2016 will bring improvements by the Georgia Department of Transportation to the intersection of Canton Highway and SR 372.

City Manager Wilmarth noted that included in Council's packet was a financial statement for the period ended November 30, 2015, and a monthly police department report.

Item 9: Mayor Roberts & City Council Comments

Council Member John Byrd noted the increase in people visiting our downtown since the opening of the Burger Bus. He also commented on the beauty of the City with the storefronts decorated for the Christmas Season.

Council Member Prettyman praised the city staff and volunteers for the success of the Christmas Parade.

Item 10: Public Comments -None

Item 11: Executive Session: None

Item 12: Adjourn

There being no further business for Council consideration a motion was duly made and seconded to adjourn at 6:30 PM.
Motion Unanimously Approved

Following the adjournment of the meeting TY Brown, asked to address Mayor and Council on behalf of his son Dylan Brown, Owner of the Ball Ground Burger Bus. Mr. Brown thanked Mayor Roberts, Council Members and City Staff for their support of the opening of the Ball Ground Burger Bus. Mr. Brown then asked Council to consider a one-time approval to allow alcoholic beverages in the "Gazebo Park" area. Mr. Brown stated the Burger Bus would be holding their Grand Opening on Saturday and due to the expected large number of people to attend the event would Council allow patrons who purchased an alcoholic beverage be allowed to drink them in the designated area.

City Manager Wilmarth stated the ordinance allows for an outdoor special event but the event must be approved by Council.

Council Members discussed the request made by Mr. Brown before deferring comment of the request to City Attorney Darrell Caudill.

City Attorney Darrell Caudill stated Mr. Brown should have made his request known before adjournment of the meeting. Since the meeting had been adjourned City Attorney Caudill instructed Mr. Brown to submit his request in writing to the City Council for their consideration. The council members would be polled by phone and a decision would then be given to Mr. Brown.

No further discussion.

The minutes of this December 10, 2015 City Council Meeting will be considered for adoption at January 14, 2016 City Council Meeting.