



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

**Minutes
January 14, 2016**

Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Mayor Rick Roberts

Council Members Present: John Byrd, Fran Homiller, Mickey O'Malley and Andrenia Stoner

Council Member Lee Prettyman was absent

Staff Present: Michael Chapman, Donna England, Bryon Reeves, Darrell Caudill, Eric Wilmarth and Karen Jordan

Item 2: Pledge of Allegiance

Item 3: Appearances

James Bence, Mauldin & Jenkins, LLC - Presentation of Financial Audit for Period Ended June 30, 2015

Item 4: Announcements/Informational Items/Project Updates – City Manager

- **City Hall will be closed on Monday, January 18, 2016 in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday**

Item 5: Approval of December 10, 2015 Minutes

Council Member Stoner put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Byrd to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2015 Council Meeting as submitted in writing by the City Clerk.

Motion Unanimously Approved

Item 6: Old Business – None

Item 7: New Business

- Consider Appointment of Mayor Pro Tem**
- Council Member John Byrd put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Mickey O'Malley to approve the appointment of Frank Homiller as Mayor Pro Tem for the 2016 year.**

Motion Unanimously Approved

- Consider Appointment of 2016 Department Heads, Committees and Board Members**

Council Member Andy Stoner put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member John Byrd to confirm the following appointment made by Mayor Roberts.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

**City Clerk
Chief of Police
Public Works
City Attorney
City Auditor
Engineer**

**Karen L. Jordan
Bryon Reeves
Eric Wilmarth
Roach, Caudill & Gunn
Mauldin & Jenkins
G. Ben Turnipseed Engineers**

Architect Mark Robillard
Elections Super Karen Jordan

Clerk of Court Karen Jordan
Assistant Clerk of Court Kim Forman
Municipal Court Judge Gary Markwell

Tree Board Appointments

Council Member John Byrd put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Andy Stoner to approve Karen Jordan as Chairman, Jennie Byers, Beth Hall and Sitting president of the Ball Ground Garden Club to the 2016 Tree Board: Motion Unanimously Approved

Zoning Board of Appeals

Council Member John Byrd put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Mickey O'Malley to approve the appointments of David Kubala, Daniel Sission and Sandy Klaesius to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

(Appointment to fill two vacancies on the board will be made at the February Council Meeting)

Motion Unanimously Approved.

d) Consider Appointments to Downtown Development Authority

Council Member Andy Stoner put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Mickey O'Malley to approve John Byrd, Brent Richardson and Lee Lusk to a four-year term on the Downtown Development Authority Board and Main Street Board.

Motion Unanimously Approved

e) Reaffirm Check Signers for any/all banking/checking accounts

Council Member John Byrd put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Mickey O'Malley to approve Mayor Rick Roberts, City Manager Eric Wilmarth and City Clerk Karen L. Jordan as check signers for any/all banking/checking accounts.

Motion Unanimously Approved

Council Member John Byrd put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Mickey O'Malley to approve the opening of checking account related to the Police Department Seized Assets with Chief Bryon Reeves and City Manager Eric Wilmarth as check signers.

Motion Unanimously Approved

f) Consider Establishing and Fixing Qualifying Fees for Municipal Elections per O.C.G.A. §21-2-131(1)(a)

Council Member Andrenia Stoner put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Mickey O'Malley to establish a Qualifying Fee of \$108.00 for the Office of Mayor and \$35.00 for the office of City Council.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

g) Consider Arbor Day Proclamation

Council Member Andrenia Stoner put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Mickey O'Malley to proclaim Friday, February 19, 2016 as Arbor Day in the City of Ball Ground.

Motion Unanimously Approved

Proclamation #2016-01

Whereas, In 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day is set aside for the planting of trees, and

Whereas, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, and

Whereas, Arbor Day is now observed through the nation and the world, and

Whereas, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife, and

Whereas, trees are a renewable resources giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products, and

Whereas, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community, and

Whereas, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal, and

Now, Therefore, I A. R. Roberts, III, Mayor of The City of Ball Ground, do hereby proclaim February 19, 2016, as **Arbor Day** in The City of Ball Ground, and I urge all citizens to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands and

Further, I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden hearts and promote the well-being of present and future generations.

Dated this 14th Day of January 2016

/S/ A. R. Roberts, III, Mayor
A.R. Roberts, III, Mayor

Attest /S/ Karen L. Jordan, City Clerk
Karen L. Jordan, City Clerk

Item 8: City Manager Comments

Financial Report – City Manager Wilmarth presented an unaudited report of account balances, statement of revenue and expenditures for the month ended December 31, 2015. The report showed cash on deposit totaled 783,049.21

Public Safety – Chief Reeves presented a written report of the department’s activity for the month ended December 31, 2015 and 2015 Annual Calls for Service Activity Report.

Item 9: Mayor Roberts & City Council Comments

Mayor Roberts expressed his excitement to see so many people visiting our downtown. He stated as he drove through downtown recently to find the parking spaces were all filled and a great number of people walking around visiting the restaurants and businesses.

Mayor Roberts announced the Council's Annual Planning Retreat would be held on Saturday, February 29, 2016 at a location to be determined.

Council Member O'Malley reported:

- The Creekview Girls Jr. Grizzly Tennis Team would begin practice next week on our tennis courts.
- The Ball Ground City Gym is being utilized by a number of local basketball teams

Council Member Byrd expressed how exciting it was to be able to walk to downtown for dinner and other events.

Council Member Stoner expressed her appreciation to the Public Works Staff for the duties they perform daily.

Council Member Stoner also expressed her love for the City and her excitement to see the City grow and prosper. She did express concern on several vacant and dilapidated houses and how the matter could be addressed.

Mayor Roberts stated he and City Manager Wilmarth are currently reviewing a list of concerns and hope to address the matter within a few weeks.

Item 10: Public Comments - None

Item 11: Executive Session (If Needed)

Item 12: Adjourn

There Being no further business for Council consideration a motion was duly made and seconded to adjourn at 8:35 PM.

The minutes of this January 14, 2016 Meeting of Council approved this 11th Day of February 2016.

Mayor A. R. Roberts, III

Mayor Pro Tem Frank Homiller

Council Member John Byrd

Council Member Mickey O'Malley

Council Member Lee Prettyman

Council Member Andrenia Stoner

Attest: _____
Karen L. Jordan, City Clerk