



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

**MINUTES
September 8, 2016**

Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Mayor Rick Roberts

Council Members John Byrd, Frank Homiller, Mickey O'Malley and Lee Prettyman were present.

Council Member Andrenia Stoner was absent.

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

Item 2: Pledge of Allegiance

Item 3: Appearances - None

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

- **September 10, 2016 – Trade Days and Concert in the Park**
- **September 24, 2016 – Movie in the Park**
- **October 28, 2016 – Spooktacular in the Park**

Item 5: Approval of August 11, 2016 Council Meeting Minutes

Council Member Prettyman put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member O'Malley to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2016 City Council Meeting as submitted in writing by the City Clerk.

Motion Unanimously Approved

Item 6: Old Business

a) Consider 2nd Reading of Annexation Petition

Applicant: Danny Jordan

Location: 263 Commerce Lane – 0.51 acres

Council Member Byrd put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Prettyman to approve the annexation petition for a second reading as submitted by Danny Jordan.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

b) Consider 2nd Reading of AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AND ENACTING A NEW CODE FOR THE CITY OF BALL GROUND, GEORGIA; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES NOT INCLUDED THEREIN; PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF; PROVIDING FOR THE MANNER OF AMENDING SUCH CODE; AND PROVIDING WHEN SUCH CODE AND THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE

Council Member Byrd put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member O'Malley to approve the second reading of this ordinance as submitted.

Motion Unanimously Approved

Item 7: New Business

- a) **Consider request by U.S. Postal Service for placement of cluster box units at City Park**

City Manager Wilmarth stated a representative of the U.S. Postal Service had contacted him to discuss the possibility of installing a cluster box unit at City Park. Presently the mail is delivered to individual businesses in the downtown area and as more businesses locate in the downtown area this could pose a problem. If a cluster unit were to be installed businesses would be required to pick up their mail at that location.

Mayor and Council Members discussed the request made by the U.S. Postal Service. It was the consensus of Mayor and Council that this request is not a matter for Council to become involved in at this time. Therefore no action was taken.

- b) **Consider 2016/2017 Budget Amendments**

The following 2016/2017 Budget Amendments were presented to Mayor and Council Members for consideration.

GENERAL FUND:

Increase revenue by \$16,000 (source would be Reserve Fund Balance)

Increase Operating transfers by \$16,000

SPLOST FUND:

Increase revenue by \$16,000 in "Transfers from General Fund)

Increase State Grant Receipts from \$20,000 to \$26,511

Decrease Valley Streetscapes Expense by \$10,000

Decrease Contingencies by \$12,458.

Increase Repairs and Maintenance (Capital) by: \$44,969

Council Member Byrd put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Prettyman to approve the 2016/2017 budget amendments as presented. Motion Unanimously Approved.

- c) **Consider Birchwood Properties LLC Application for Zoning Change**

Address: 312 Northridge Road

Applicant is requesting to rezone 10.0 acres from AG to RZL for a single family residential subdivision.

City Staff was advised by the Cherokee Co. Planning Commission that Birchwood Properties failed to attend the Commission Meeting held last night. Therefore the request for rezoning by Birchwood Properties was rescheduled for the October 4th Planning Commission Meeting.

Council Member Homiller put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Byrd to table this item of business until the October 13, 2016 City Council Meeting.
Motion Unanimously Approved.

Item 8: Staff Comments

City Manager Eric Wilmarth

- **Financial Report – City Manager Wilmarth presented an unaudited report of account balances, statement of revenue and expenditures for the month ended August 31, 2016. The report showed cash on deposit totaled \$755,539.61.**
- **Other Items Reported.....**
- **Employee Healthcare Insurance will be considered for renewal December 1, 2016. Current provider Humana has given notice that the current plan will no longer be an option. Staff will be working with current insurance broker to find a plan.**
- **As operations began to close the borrow pit site used for the construction of the new Etowah River Bridge, staff received notice that C.W. Matthews may be interested in taking dirt from the site for another project. City Staff will begin discussion with C.W. Matthews on an agreement to be brought to Mayor and City Council for consideration.**
- **Valley Street Resurfacing Project bid opening is scheduled for September 18, 2016. As of today no bids had been received.**
- **City contract for sanitation services with North Metro Waste will expire on January 31, 2017. City Manager Wilmarth proposed Council Members consider his request to advertise for bid for these services.**

Council Member Byrd put forth a motion, Seconded by Council member O'Malley to approve staffs' request to advertise for bid for sanitation services.
Motion Unanimously Approved.

- **A position on the Zoning Board of Appeals has been vacant for a while and needs to be filled. Staff proposed Mayor and Council consider the appointment of Jeremy Parker to fill the position. City Manager Wilmarth stated Mr. Parker is employed by the City of Woodstock as Superintendent of Public Works and is familiar with the zoning regulations.**

Council Member Prettyman put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member O'Malley to appoint Mr. Jeremy Parker to the Zoning Board of Appeals.
Motion Unanimously Approved

Police Chief Reeves presented Mayor and Council with a written monthly report of the department's activity for the period ended August 31, 2016.

- **Other Items Reported.....**
- **Sgt. Murphy recently attended the Terminal Agency Coordinator Conference in Savannah. This was to receive certification as a TAC for the Department, in order to be able to obtain GCIC where the officers can perform inquiries on driver's licenses and registrations without relying upon Cherokee Co. Dispatch.**
- **Chief Reeves stated he would be speaking at the 911 Memorial Service in Downtown Canton on September 9, 2016. The public is invited to attend this event.**

Item 9: Mayor Roberts Comments

Mayor Roberts announce he has tentatively scheduled a City Council Planning Retreat on Saturday, November 5, 2016. Time and location will be determined at a later date.

Item 10: City Council Comments

Council Member O'Malley reported the relationship with Creekview High School Athletic Department continues to strengthen. The girls' softball team is currently playing games each week on our fields.

Council Member Byrd proposed Council Members consider leasing the old City Hall building located at 301 Gilmer Ferry Road to the Downtown Development Authority (DDA)/Main Street Board. He stated by the Council leasing the building to the DDA/Main St. Board; it would become a source of revenue and increase the involvement in the growth of downtown.

Mayor Roberts and Council Members discussed the proposal made by Council Member Byrd who is also the Chairman of the Downtown Development Authority/Main Street Board. Following discussion Council Member Byrd put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member O'Malley to approve the lease of the old City Hall Building located at 301 Gilmer Ferry Road to the Downtown Development Authority/Main St. Board for \$1.00 per year pending approval by the city attorney.

Motion Unanimously Approved

Item 11: Public Comments

Item 12: Executive Session –None

Item 13: Adjourn

There being no further business for Mayor and City Council consideration a motion was duly made and seconded to adjourn at 8:00 PM.

The minutes of this September 8, 2016 Meeting of the City Council approved this 13th Day of October 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