



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

**Minutes
April 14, 2022**

Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Mayor Roberts

Council Members Present: Vicki Benefield, Dennis Nelson, Lee Prettyman, Kristine Rogers, Andrenia Stoner

Staff Present: City Attorney Darrell Caudill, City Manager Eric Wilmarth, Police Chief Bryon Reeves, Finance Director Donna England, City Planner Chris Luly, and City Clerk Karen L. Jordan

Item 2: Pledge of Allegiance

Item 3: Approve Agenda

**Council Member Nelson put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Benefield to approve the meeting agenda with the following amendments:
Remove Item 8(k) and 8(l) and table Item 8(j) until the May Council Meeting.
Motion Unanimously Approved.**

Item 4: Appearances - None

Item 5: Announcements/Informational Items/Project Updates – City Manager

April 27- Touch a Truck – Community Center 5/7PM

April 30 – BBQ & Brews – City Park 12/8PM

May 21 – Ball Ground Garden Club Plant Sale – Botanical Garden 10/4PM

June 25 – City Annual Fireworks and Concert – City Park

**Item 6: Consider Approval of Minutes: March 3, 2022 Work Session
March 10, 2022 Council Meeting**

**Council Member Rogers put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Stoner to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2022 Council Work Session and March 10, 2022 Council Meeting as submitted in writing by the City Clerk.
Motion Unanimously Approved.**

Item 7: Old Business - None

Item 8: New Business

a) Consider First Reading of 2022-2023 FY Budget

The following 2022-2023 FY Budget was presented to council for consideration.

In the General Operating Fund Budget, the projected total revenue of \$1,681,717.00 is an increase of 17% over the previous year.

SPLOST is anticipating collecting \$672,100.00 in revenue based on the receipts from the first six months of 2022.

Water and Sewage Budget projected revenue \$1,979,400.00.

The budget proposes a restructuring of the current rate table, resulting in one less tier in the overall structure. This will result in an increase of approximately \$2.25 per customer.

Storm Water Utility Fund expects revenue of \$48,500.00 for the coming year.

Solid Waste Fund anticipates the collection of \$292,560.00 in revenue for the coming year. This is an increase in revenue of approximately \$40,00.00. from the previous year.

Total budget reflects a 20.3% increase over the previous FY 2020/2021 Budget.

Budget totals are as follows:

General Fund	\$1,681,717.00
Fire District Tax	\$ 452,290.00
SPLOST	\$ 672,100.00
Water/Sewer	\$1,979,400.00
Storm Water	\$ 48,500.00
<u>Solid Waste</u>	<u>\$ 300,560.00</u>
Total	\$5,134,567.00

Council Member Prettyman put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Rogers to approve the first reading of the 2022-2023 FY Budget as presented.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

b) Consider removal of Stop Signs on Valley Street at RR Crossing

Council Member Prettyman put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Benefield to approve the removal of stop signs at the Valley Street Railroad Crossing and replace with yield signs.

Motion Unanimously Approved

c) Consider Approval of 4-way Stop Installation, Old Dawsonville Rd @ William Court

Council Member Rogers put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Benefield to approve the installation of a 4-way stop intersection with William Court and Farmer's Green main entrance. 4-way stop to be installed with signage and solar powered flashing beacons. This 4-way stop intersection to also be provided with crosswalk striping.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

d) Consider Adoption of New Schedule of Fees

A schedule of new fees for service and fees increased as outlined by City Manager:

New Fees

Road Repair Fee \$1,000 plus \$20.00 per sf for everything over 25sf
Meter Relocation \$750.00
Service Location Fee Any time over 1 hr. to be charged \$100.00 per hour.
Materials to be charged at cost plus 20%. \$750.00 if tapping of line required.
Deck Permit \$250.00
Deck Permit w/stairs \$200.00
Curb Cut Fee/Single Family Residential \$1,000.00 plus cost to repair any damage
Curb Cut Fee/Subdivision Entrance \$1,000. Plus milling if needed and new topcoat of asphalt on city st. for minimum of 100 ft. each direction of entrance.

Fee Changes

Building Permits \$2,500. per 2,000 sf structure
Sewer Capacity \$6,000.
Water Capacity \$2,500.
Solid Waste \$18.50
Recycle \$7.00
Package Distilled Spirits \$5,000.

Council Member Benefield put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Rogers to approve the new fees and fee changes as outlined above. Motion Unanimously Approved.

e) Consider approval of Intergovernmental Agreement between Cherokee County and City of Ball Ground for the Use of PremierOne Mobile Dispatch

Chief Reeves provided an overview of the new CAD system as stated in the Intergovernmental Agreement.

Council Member Nelson put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Benefield to enter a Limited License Agreement for the use of PremierOne Mobile Dispatch between Cherokee County and City of Ball Ground. For the Limited License to use the system throughout the Agreement, the City agrees to pay the County a license fee \$10.00 due and payable within thirty (30) days of the complete execution of the Agreement and annually thereafter by the same date of each applicable twelve-month period. Motion Unanimously Approved.

f) Consider relocating financial accounts to another financial institution

Council Member Stoner reported that the financial institution the city is currently using is charging account management fees on several of our accounts. She stated the finance committee met and after discussing the matter felt it was in the best interest of the city to move several of the accounts to another bank that does not charge a management fee.

Council Member Nelson put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Rogers to close the general fund account, police investigation account and sanitation account at Regions Bank and move the funds of each to United Community Bank.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

g) Consider Proclamation recognizing April 17-23 as Garden Week in Georgia

Council Member Benefield put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Rogers to recognize by Proclamation April 17-23 as National Garden Week in the City of Ball Ground as signed by Mayor Roberts.
Motion Unanimously Approved.

h) Consider Proclamation recognizing April as Safe Digging Month

Council Member Stoner put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Rogers to recognize by Proclamation the month of April as Safe Digging Month in Ball Ground as signed by Mayor Roberts.
Motion Unanimously Approved.

i) Consider Resolution recognizing Georgia Cities Week, April 24-30, 2022

Council Member Stoner put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Rogers to declare by Resolution April 24-30 as Georgia Cities Week in the City of Ball Ground.
Motion Unanimously Approved.

j) Consider First Reading of Annexation Application 2022-A01
Applicant: Davia Group, LLC
Location TINs: 94N06 009, 03N07 059 and 94N06 011 • Addresses: 120 Roberts Lake Road and 110 Gazaway Lane

Tabled until May 19 City Council Meeting

k) Consider SunCap Property Group, LLC request for rezoning of 67.72 +/- acres from AG (General Agriculture) to LI (Light Industrial) at 6775 Ball Ground Hwy and 355S Sharp Mountain Church Ln.

l) Consider Adoption of Development Agreement between the City, Cherokee County and SunCap Property Group, LLC

Item 9: City Manager Comments

City Manager Wilmarth provided Council Members with an unaudited report of account balances, and statement revenues and expenditures for the month ended March 31, 2022. The report showed cash on deposit totaled \$2,657,893.40.

City Manager Wilmarth stated that in the 2022-2023 Georgia Interlocal Risk Management (GIRMA) Quote Proposal it was recommended that the city consider a higher liability limit specifically for Public Officials Liability and Law Enforcement Liability line of coverage. The increase is recommended because of the number of recent litigation cases the insurance company has handled. GIRMA offers limits of \$1,000,000., \$2,000,000., \$3,000,000., \$4,000,000. and \$5,000,000.

City Manager Wilmarth proposed we increase our liability coverage to \$4,000,000. for the coverage year May 1, 2022-May 1, 2023 and possibly consider to \$5,000,000.00, provided the cost did not exceed \$45,000.00.

Council Member Stoner put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Rogers to approve increasing the liability coverage to \$4,000,000. for the coverage year May 1, 2022-May 1, 2023 and consider increasing the amount

of liability coverage to \$5,000,000.00, provided the premium cost does not exceed \$45,000.00.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

City Manager Wilmarth reported that David Dean recently completed and received his Wastewater Collection System Operator Certification. The certification program provides the employee knowledge of the design, installation, inspection, and repair of a wastewater collection system.

Chief Reeves presented a written report of the Police Department's monthly activities for month ended March 31, 2022.

Chief Reeves stated the department recently hired a new officer. The officer is scheduled to begin duty on May 2, 2022. It is also anticipated that an additional new officer will be hired in May or June.

City Manager Wilmarth stated that with the hiring of one possibly two new officers it would be necessary to purchase two new vehicles. The funds to purchase the vehicles is included in the 2022/2023 fiscal year budget.

Council Member Rogers put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Stoner to approve a Resolution to authorize and direct an officer of the city to execute one or more lease supplements for a lease/purchase of two police vehicles under the GMA Direct Leasing Program; to designate such leases as qualified tax-exempt obligations for the purchase of:

(1) One Ford F-150 w/equipment Amount financed: \$42,981.19

(1) Ford Explorer w/equipment Amount financed: \$51,656.75

Motion Unanimously Approved.

Item 10: Mayor Roberts Comments

Mayor Roberts commented on the Roberts Lake Trail being such an asset to the city today and in the years to come. The remnants of the dam are very interesting and are there for everyone to enjoy for many years to come.

Mayor Roberts announced that the May work session would be held on May 17th and council meeting would be held a week later May 19th.

Mayor Roberts and Council Members discussed some changes they would like made to the existing sign ordinance. Mayor Roberts asked that the discussion be continued at an upcoming work session.

Item 11: Council Comments

Item 12: Public Comments

Item 13: Executive Session (If Needed)

Item 14: Adjourn

There being no further business for consideration Council Member Nelson put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Stoner to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 PM.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

The minutes of this April 14, 2022, City Council Meeting approved this 19th Day of May 2022.