



DRAFT

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

**MINUTES
November 14, 2024**

Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Mayor Rick Roberts

Council Members present: Scott Barnes, Vicki Benefield, Annette Homiller, Dennis Nelson, and Kristine Rogers were present.

Staff Present: Donna England, Chris Luly, Abby Roach, Jamie Gianfala, Eric Wilmarth and Karen Jordan

Recognize Veteran of the Month—Mayor Pro Tem Nelson recognized Mr. Lee Loughran as the Veteran of the Month. A proclamation and a challenge coin were presented to Mr. Loughran for his service.

Item 2: Pledge of Allegiance led by Veteran of the Month Mr. Lee Loughran.

Item 3: Approve Meeting Agenda

Council Member Benefield put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Nelson to approve the agenda adding the following amendments: Item (f) Consider Approval of A Resolution to approve the purchase of a 2024 Ford Explorer w/equipment for \$66,637.23 with a guaranteed interest rate of 5.15% through the Georgia Municipal Association Lease Program. Item (g) Consider Approval to enter into an agreement with VC3 for Cybersecurity and Technology Services and to authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement pending review by the City Attorney. Item (h) Consider Agreement to convert city email addresses to .gov and convert to Microsoft 360 Government Platform.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

Item 4: Appearances/Public Comments – None

Item 5: Announcements/Informational Items

November 30 Hometown Tree Lighting in the Botanical Garden sponsored by the Garden Club.

December - The Annual March of the Toys Parade for Toys for Tots Parade

December – 7 – Holiday Market Downtown

Item 6: Consider Approval of Minutes: October 10, 2024

Council Member Homiller put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Rogers to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2024 meeting as submitted in writing by the City Clerk.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

Item 7: Old Business - None

Item 8: New Business

- a) Consider a Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) between the CITY OF BALL GROUND, and CHEROKEE COUNTY for procuring certain animal control ordinance and impoundment services from Cherokee County.

Council Member Nelson put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Barnes to enter A Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) between the City of Ball Ground and Cherokee County for procuring certain animal control ordinance and impoundment services from Cherokee County as stated in the Ordinance.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

- b) Consider a Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) between the CITY OF BALL GROUND, and CHEROKEE COUNTY for procuring certain code enforcement services from Cherokee County and to perform such services on the terms and conditions as outlined in this agreement.

Council Member Barnes put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Homiller to enter A Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) between the CITY OF BALL GROUND, and CHEROKEE COUNTY for procuring certain code enforcement services from Cherokee County and to perform such services on the terms and conditions as set forth in this agreement.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

- c) Consider a Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) between the CITY OF BALL GROUND, and CHEROKEE COUNTY to enter into An Agreement for the Magistrate Court of Cherokee County to assist the City of Ball Ground Municipal Court with the conducting of first appearance bond hearings on criminal matters and other such services as set forth in this agreement.

Council Member Nelson put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Rogers to enter into A Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) between the CITY OF BALL GROUND, and CHEROKEE COUNTY for the Magistrate Court of Cherokee County to assist the City of Ball Ground Municipal Court with the conducting of first appearance bond hearings on criminal matters and other such services as set forth in this agreement.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

- d) Consider A Resolution for the Acceptance of Infrastructure for Calvin Farmer Creekside Development

Council Member Barnes put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Rogers to approve the adoption of the following Resolution accepting the streets or portions of streets within Creekside at Farmers Crossing Subdivision for City Maintenance.

Whereas, it is hereby found and determined that all or a portion of Groover Street right of way (Approx. 2,164 Linear Feet or Roadway and 6,246 Linear Feet of 5’ Wide Sidewalk) meet the requirements as set forth in the Regulations of the City of Ball Ground, Georgia pertaining to the streets, curb, gutter, markings, sidewalk and street lamps and other components of the road right-of-way; and,

Whereas, it is hereby found and determined that all or a portion of storm sewer infrastructure (6,507 Linear Feet Of Curb And Gutter, 15 Drop Inlets, 8 Headwalls, 23 Single Wing Catch Basins, 1 Double Wing Catch Basin, 4,849 Linear Feet of HDPE Pipe From 18" To 48") meet the requirements as set forth in the Regulations of the City of Ball Ground, Georgia pertaining to the stormwater infrastructure; and,

Whereas, it is hereby found and determined that all or a portion of sanitary sewer infrastructure (4,374 Linear Feet of 8" Main (PVC) and 18 Manholes) meet the requirements as set forth in the Regulations of the City of Ball Ground, Georgia pertaining to the gravity sanitary sewer infrastructure; and,

Whereas, it is hereby found and determined that all or a portion of water infrastructure (3,164 Linear Feet of 8" DIP and 7 Fire Hydrants and 9, 8" Valves) meet the requirements as set forth in the Regulations of the City of Ball Ground, Georgia pertaining to the water infrastructure; and,

Now Therefore, be it resolved by the Mayor and City Council of Ball Ground that all or a part of Groover Street (Approximately 2,164 Linear Feet) having a fifty-foot (50) right-of-way and including water, sanitary sewer and storm sewer infrastructure within the right-of-way of Creekside at Farmers Crossing subdivision and located in Land Lots 11 and 12 of the 3rd District, 2nd Section of Cherokee County, Georgia and Land Lot 337 of the 4th District, 2nd Section of Cherokee County, Georgia are accepted and will be maintained by said City from this date forward. The City accepts no infrastructure outside of the aforementioned right of way.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

- e) Consider A resolution for the Acceptance of Infrastructure for Lynwood Development

Council Member Rogers put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Homiller to approve the following Resolution accepting the streets or portion of streets within the Lynwood Subdivision for City Maintenance.

Whereas, it is hereby found and determined that all or a portion of Lynwood Lane right of way (Approx. 520 Linear Feet; 3175 Square Yards) meet the requirements as set forth in the Regulations of the City of Ball Ground, Georgia pertaining to the streets, curb, gutter, markings, sidewalk and street lamps and other components of the road right-of-way; and,

Whereas, it is hereby found and determined that all or a portion of storm sewer infrastructure (860 Linear Feet of 18" to 30" Pipe and 10 Precast Structures) meet the requirements as set forth in the Regulations of the City of Ball Ground, Georgia pertaining to the stormwater infrastructure; and,

Whereas, it is hereby found and determined that all or a portion of gravity sanitary sewer infrastructure (1185 Linear Feet of 8" Main (PVC and DIP) and 8 Manholes) meet the requirements as set forth in the Regulations of the City of Ball Ground, Georgia pertaining to the gravity sanitary sewer infrastructure; and,

Whereas, it is hereby found and determined that all or a portion of force main sanitary sewer infrastructure (1400 Linear Feet of 3" HDPE Fused Force Main and 2 Air Release Valves) meet the requirements as set forth in the Regulations

of the City of Ball Ground, Georgia pertaining to the force main sanitary sewer infrastructure; and,

Whereas, it is hereby found and determined that all or a portion of water infrastructure (1200 Linear Feet of 6" DIP and 3 Fire Hydrants and 5 Gate Valves) meet the requirements as set forth in the Regulations of the City of Ball Ground, Georgia pertaining to the water infrastructure; and,

Now Therefore, be it resolved by the Mayor and City Council of Ball Ground that all or a part of Lynwood Lane (Approx. 520 Linear Feet; 3175 Square Yards) having a fifty-foot (50) right-of-way and including water, sanitary sewer and storm sewer infrastructure within the right-of-way of Lynwood subdivision and located in Land Lot 66 of the 3rd District, 2nd Section of Cherokee County, Georgia are accepted and will be maintained by said City from this date forward. The City accepts no stormwater infrastructure outside of the aforementioned right of way.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

- f) Consider A Resolution to authorize and direct an officer of the City to execute one or more lease supplements for a lease or leases under the GMA direct Leasing Program; To designate such leases as qualified tax-exempt obligations; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes.

Council Member Rogers put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Benefield to approve the Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute such documents to purchase a 2025 Ford Explorer from Branner Motor Company for \$48,500.00.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

- g) Consider entering into an agreement with Vc3 for Cyber Security Services.

Council Member Rogers put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Homiller, to approve entering into an agreement with Vc3 for Cyber Security Services pending review by the City Attorney.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

- h) Consider an Agreement to convert city email addresses to .gov and convert to Microsoft 360 Government Platform.

Council Member Rogers put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Homiller to enter into a Conditional Agreement to apply for a matching grant to assist with the cost of converting to.gov and Microsoft 360 Government Platform pending review by the City Attorney.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

Item 9: City Manager Comments

Chief Gianfala presented a monthly report of the department's activities for the month of October.

City Manager Wilmarth presented the mayor and council with an unaudited report of account balances and a statement of revenue and expenditures for the month ended October 31, 2024.

Round-A-Bout update: The lead engineer from SEI Engineering left the company without reviewing documents related to this project. A new engineer has been assigned to review the documents which will take approximately two months for a response. City Manager Wilmarth met with State Representative Rick Jaspers to ask for his assistance to expedite the review process. We are hopeful of having a response within three to four weeks. Upon receipt of approval, we hope to move forward with project bidding.

Certificate of Achievement awarded to the City of Ball Ground for the completion of the lead service inventory report.

David Dean attended the Georgia Rural Water Conference where he received the **Public Water Service Quality Award** for the City of Ball Ground.

City Manager Wilmarth congratulated **Ashley Byrd**, Downtown Manager, on the success of the recent downtown events.

Item 10: Mayor Roberts

Mayor Roberts suggested Council Members consider several dates in February or March to hold the **2025 Annual Planning Retreat**. The date and time are to be determined at the December meeting.

Item 11: Council Comments

Council Member Barnes extended an invitation to the attendees to the **Annual Toys Parade for Toys for Tots** to be held on December 6, 2024, at 7:00 PM. He also asked for volunteers to assist with the parade.

Council Members Benefield, Nelson, and Homiller congratulated **David Dean**, Superintendent of the Water & Sewer Department, and his team on the work they do.

Council Member Rogers commended **Council Member Benefield** for her ongoing work on the **Veterans Memorial** and the yearly **Veterans Memorial Program**.

Item 12: Public Comments - None

Item 13: Executive Session - None

Item 14: Adjourn

There being no further business for Council consideration a motion was made by **Council Member Barnes**, Seconded by **Council Member Rogers** to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 PM. Motion Unanimously Approved.

The minutes of this meeting will be considered for approval at the **December 12, 2024 Council Meeting**.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Karen L. Jordan
City Clerk