



DRAFT

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

**MINUTES
May 9, 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

Staff Present: Chris Luly, Donna England, Darrell Caudill, Jamie Gianfala, and Karen Jordan

- **Recognize Veteran of the Month – Council Member Dennis Nelson recognized Bob Wood as Veteran of the Month. A proclamation was presented to Mr. Wood along with a challenge coin for his service.**

Item 2: Pledge of Allegiance Led by Mr. Bob Wood, Veteran of the month.

Item 3: Approve Agenda

Council Member Rogers put forward a motion, Seconded by Council Member Barns to approve the agenda with the exception to remove Item 8(b) Consider AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND RESTATING SUBPART A-GENERAL ORDINANCES; CHAPTER 22-SOLID WASTE; ARTICLE II-COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL; DIVISION 2-NONCOMMERCIAL SOLID WASTE; SECTION 22-34- PLACEMENT OF WASTE CONTAINERS FOR PICKUP from the agenda.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

Item 4: Appearances/Public Comments

Mr. Harold Hunter asked the council to consider installing signs in the downtown area to encourage parents to hold the hand of their children because of the area being so congested.

Mayor Roberts told Mr. Hunter that his request would be considered.

Item 5: Announcements/Informational Items

May 11 – Ball Ground Garden Club Plant Sale

May 25 – Concert in the Park

June 29 – Concert in the Park and Annual Fireworks Display

Item 6: Consider Approval of Minutes: April 4, 2024

Council Member Rogers put forward a motion, Seconded by Council Member Benefield, to approve the minutes of the April 4, 2024 meeting as submitted in writing by the City Clerk.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

Item 7: Old Business

a) Consider Second Reading of An Ordinance to Amend Official Zoning Map of the City of Ball Ground for City-Initiated Rezoning of Various Parcels

- Robert Chapman/Town & Country Wrecker Service
8611 Ball Ground Hwy
Map & Parcel 03N01 118A

Current zoning R-40. Propose change to GC.

- Stephen Homiller - 405 Gilmer Ferry Road
- Charlene Jenkins & David Dean - 410 Gilmer Ferry Road
- City of Ball Ground - 420 Gilmer Ferry Road
Current zoning CC-R. Propose change to CCT.

Chris Luly, Director of Planning and Zoning stated the required public hearings and proper notice of the adoption amendments were properly advertised. He further stated the reason for the changes.

Council Member Benefield put forward a motion, Seconded by Council Member Nelson to approve the proposed changes as stated.

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Map & Parcel 03N01 118A
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Current zoning CC-R. Propose change to CCT.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

b) Consider Second Reading of 2023-2024 FY Operating Budget

Mayor Roberts noted that the budget had been properly advertised, and a public hearing was held prior to tonight's meeting, with only staff in attendance. No public comments received.

Council Member Rogers put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Barnes, to approve the FY 2024-2025 Operating Budget as submitted.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

Item 8: New Business

a) Consider Appointment to represent Ball Ground on the Sequoyah Regional Library System

Mayor Roberts stated the term of Vivian Murphy will expire on June 30, 2024 and she did not wish to be reappointed for a second term. He had spoken with Stephanie Joyner, and she has agreed to serve as the Ball Ground representative. Ms. Joyner's term will end on June 30, 2027.

Council Member Homiller put forward a motion, Seconded by Council Member Nelson to approve the appointment of Stephanie Joyner as the new Ball Ground representative on the Sequoyah Regional Library Board beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2027.

Motion Unanimously Approved.,

- b) Item removed from agenda.
- c) Consider Adoption of Parks Master Plan

Mayor Roberts asked Chris Luly to provide an overview of the process to develop the Parks Master Plan.

Chris stated feedback was received from meetings with the various groups that utilize the athletic facilities. Two open houses were also held where residents could view the proposed plan. An online survey was also conducted where an overwhelming number of residents responded. All the information was then compiled into the document to be considered this evening.

Mayor Roberts thanked Chris for his endeavor in formulating a plan that will enhance the use and beauty of Calvin Farmer Park today and for years to come.

Council Member Benefield put forward a motion, Seconded by Council Member Barnes to approve the Parks Master Plan as submitted by Chris Luly, Director of Planning and Zoning.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

- d) Consider 3-Way Stop at Groover St. and Civic Drive

Chris Luly explained the situation of traffic flow on Civic and Groover Streets since Groover has been extended to access new development. Cars traveling the extension of Groover go straight while cars traveling Civic also go straight creating an intersection with no signage signaling anyone to yield to on coming traffic.

Council Member Benefield put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Barnes to amend the item of business to consider a four-way stop at Groover St. and Civic Drive rather than the three-way stop as proposed.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

After further discussion Council Member Homiller put forth a motion, Seconded by Council Member Barnes to create a four-way stop intersection where Groover St. intersects with Civic Drive.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

- e) Consider Property Lease Agreement with Patriot Rail

Mayor Roberts stated the negotiations with Patriot Rail are ongoing and asked that the council consider tabling this item of business for sixty days.

Council Member Nelson put forward a motion, Seconded by Council Member Rogers, to table this item of business for sixty days.
Motion Unanimously Approved.

- f) Consider First Reading of Request of Farm Winery License/Wine Consumption on Premises
Business: 1984 Brewing LLC/DBA Rock Solid Brewing Co.
Applicant: Christina Lauer
Location: 345 Gilmer Ferry Rd.

Council Member Benefield put forward a motion, Seconded by Council Member Barnes to approve the first reading of the request for a Farm Winery License for consumption of wine only on premises with the following condition:
Applicant Christins Lauer agrees not to submit application for a license to operate a distillery or a license for distilled spirits by the drink for consumption on premises.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

The second reading of this application will be heard at the June 13, 2024 City Council meeting.

Item 9: City Manager Comments

Chief Gianfala presented the council with a monthly report of the department's activity. He also reported on the status of completing the process to achieve State Certification. Chief Gianfala stated he is optimistic the department will achieve this goal within the next six to nine months.

Item 10: Mayor Roberts

Item 11: Council Comments

Council Members commended Chief Gianfala and his department for their endeavors to reach the goal of being State Certified. Council Members also commended staff for the work they have done to complete the City Connection Park.

Item 12: Public Comments

Item 13: Executive Session (If Needed)

Item 14: Adjourn

There being no further business for consideration Council Member Benefield put forward a motion, Seconded by Council Member Homiller to adjourn the meeting.

The minutes of this meeting will be considered for approval at the July 11, 2024 City Council Meeting.

Respectfully submitted by:
Karen L. Jordan
City Clerk