



**City of Flowery Branch
City Council Meeting
Wednesday, January 7, 2026, 6:00 PM
5410 Pine Street
Flowery Branch, GA 30542**



Call To Order Organizational Meeting:

City Clerk Cooper called the organizational meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Presentation of Colors:

Boy Scout Troop 228 conducted the Posting of the Colors.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Boy Scout Troop 228 led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Administer Oaths:

Judge John Breakfield administered the Oath of Office to Council Members William McDaniel, Charles Vanderbilt, Pete Lena and to Mayor Oliver McClellan.



Pictured left to right: Council Member Pete Lena, Post 5, Council Member Charles Vanderbilt, Post 4, Council Member Joseph Mezzanotte, Post 2, Mayor Oliver McClellan, Council Member William McDaniel, Post 3, Council Member Chris Mundy, Post 1, Judge John Breakfield.

- a. Administer Oath to Council Member William McDaniel

- b. Administer Oath to Council Member Charles Vanderbilt
- c. Administer Oath to Council Member Pete Lena
- d. Administer Oath to Mayor Oliver McClellan

Election of Mayor Pro-Tem:

There was a motion made to nominate Council Member Chris Mundy as the Mayor Pro-Tem.

Mayor McClellan called for any other candidates, and none were called.

Motion: Joseph Mezzanotte
Second: William McDaniel
Ayes: Chris Mundy, Joseph Mezzanotte, William McDaniel, Charles Vanderbilt, Pete Lena
Nays: None
Result: passed

Call Work Session to Order:

Mayor McClellan called the work session to order at 6:20 p.m.

Present: Mayor McClellan and Council Members Chris Mundy, Joseph Mezzanotte, William McDaniel, Charles Vanderbilt, and Pete Lena.

Also present were City Manager Tonya Parrish, City Clerk Shelia Cooper, Planning and Community Development Director Chris McCrary, Public Works Director Bill Whidden, Public Utilities Director Peter Woerner, Deputy Chief John Powell, Fun Director Renee Carden and City Attorney Ted Baggett.

Adoption of Agenda:

There was a motion made to adopt the agenda as presented.

Motion: Chris Mundy
Second: William McDaniel
Ayes: Chris Mundy, Joseph Mezzanotte, William McDaniel, Charles Vanderbilt, Pete Lena
Nays: None
Result: passed

Awards & Recognitions: There were no awards or recognitions.

Public Hearing:

- a. **Consider First Reading of Ordinance 773 to Augment Section 11.10 — Swimming Pools to Achieve Statewide Uniformity, Enhance Public Safety, and Eliminate Conflicts with Mandatory State Codes**

City Clerk Cooper read the caption for Ordinance 773.

Director McCrary presented Ordinance 773 to augment Section 11.10; swimming pools to achieve statewide uniformity, enhance public safety, and eliminate conflicts with mandatory states codes. Ordinance 733 proposes more robust requirements for site plans and construction BMPs for residential swimming pools. The current requirements for location, setbacks, and fencing remain in place and are supported by the additions to the site plan and construction requirements.

Council held a discussion with Director McCrary.

There being none for or against Ordinance 773, Mayor McClellan closed the public hearing at 6:24 p.m.

Unfinished Business - Work Session:

- a. **Consider Resolution 25-014 to Accept Public Right-of-Way at Pod Z - Sterling on the Lake**

Director McCrary presented Resolution 25-014 to accept public right-of-way at Pod Z in Sterling on the Lake. Streets to be dedicated are Winding Canyon Road, Conifer Court, Running Deer Court and Cherokee Rose Way with a total of 7.240 acres of right-of-way. Staff recommend tabling this item until February 5, 2026 City Council Meeting.

City Clerk Cooper read the caption for Resolution 25-014.

- b. **Consider Resolution 25-015 to Accept Public Right-of-Way at Pod Knutson - Sterling on the Lake**

City Clerk Cooper read the caption for Resolution 25-015.

Director McCrary presented Resolution 25-015 to accept public right-of-way at Pod Knutson in Sterling on the Lake. Streets to be dedicated are Scarlet Oak Way, Moondancer Court, Star Gaze Court, Bluegill Road, Woodtrail Run, Lake Overlook Lane, and Blackbird Court, totaling 9.307 acres of right-of-way. Staff recommend approving Resolution 25-015.

New Business - Work Session:

- a. **Consider Resolution 26-001 to Accept Public Right-of-Way at Sydney Square Subdivision**

City Clerk Cooper read the caption for Resolution 26-001.

Director McCrary presented Resolution 26-001 to accept public right-of-way at Sidney

Square Subdivision. Streets to be dedicated are Melbourne Lane, Canberra Drive, and Sidney Square Drive, totaling 1.960 acres of right-of-way.

b. **Consider a Consulting Agreement with Jimmy Dean for Wastewater Consulting Services**

Director Woerner presented consideration of a consulting agreement with Jimmy Dean for wastewater consulting services. The wastewater treatment plant is now under construction with an anticipated completion date of August 2026. Jimmy Dean's advice continues to be sought and is of great value to the City of Flowery Branch during construction. Staff has recommended that Jimmy Dean's schedule is adjusted to eight hours per month, as needed, usually by telephone. The agreement will not exceed six hundred and thirty dollars per calendar month.

Council held a discussion with Director Woerner.

Department Reports:

City Clerk Report

City Clerk Cooper provided an update on the Clerk's Office. The software update was successfully transitioned from Granicus to CivicPlus for agenda and minutes management. Open records requests continue to increase on a yearly basis. In August 2025, the clerk's office successfully completed a purge of fifty-eight boxes designated for destruction, and she reported the next purge will be in July 2026. Although the November 2025 election was canceled as each position had a single qualified candidate, substantial planning and administrative efforts were undertaken. City Clerk Cooper will be completing the final Master Clerk class in February 2026; aiming to earn Master certification by September 2026.

Department of Fun Report

Director Carden noted 2026 events.

Planning Department Report

Director McCrary briefly presented a year in review for 2025.

Attorney Report

Attorney Baggett reported that on December 19, 2025, Hall County Superior Court ruled in the city's favor in the Edge City Properties versus the City of Flowery Branch, agreeing with Council and Director McCrary that the City's HB Zoning Classification does not permit the construction of eighty-eight town homes.

Council Report

Council Member Mundy encouraged residents to take the Comprehensive Plan survey. He reported he heard great feedback on the Noon Years Eve event.

Council Member Mezzanotte welcomed the newly elected council members and those returning to council.

Council Member McDaniel welcomed the newly elected council members and our new mayor.

Council Member Vanderbilt stated it is an honor to have this responsibility to serve on

council.

Council Member Lena stated he is looking forward to serving the community.

Adjournment Work Session:

Mayor McClellan adjourned the work session at 6:45 p.m.

Voting Session Agenda

Call Voting Session to Order:

Mayor McClellan called the voting session to order at 6:45 p.m.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Consent Agenda:

- a. **Consider December 2025 Per Diem for Council Member Joseph Mezzanotte**
- b. **Consider December 2025 Per Diem for Council Member Oliver McClellan**
- c. **Consider December 18, 2025 City Council Meeting Minutes**

There was a motion made to approve the consent agenda.

Motion: Chris Mundy
Second: William McDaniel
Ayes: Chris Mundy, Joseph Mezzanotte, William McDaniel, Charles Vanderbilt, Pete Lena
Nays: None
Result: passed

Unfinished Business - Voting Session:

- a. **Consider Resolution 25-014 to Accept Public Right-of-Way at Pod Z - Sterling on the Lake**

City Clerk Cooper read the caption for Resolution 25-014.

There was a motion made to table Resolution 25-014 to February 5, 2026 City Council Meeting.

Motion: Chris Mundy
Second: Joseph Mezzanotte
Ayes: Chris Mundy, Joseph Mezzanotte, William McDaniel, Charles Vanderbilt, Pete Lena
Nays: None
Result: table

b. **Consider Resolution 25-015 to Accept Public Right-of-Way at Pod Knutson - Sterling on the Lake**

City Clerk Cooper read the caption for Resolution 25-015.

There was a motion made to approve Resolution 25-015.

Motion: Joseph Mezzanotte
Second: William McDaniel
Ayes: Chris Mundy, Joseph Mezzanotte, William McDaniel, Charles Vanderbilt,
Pete Lena
Nays: None
Result: passed

New Business - Voting Session:

a. **Consider First Reading of Ordinance 773 to Augment Section 11.10 - Swimming Pools to Achieve Statewide Uniformity, Enhance Public Safety, and Eliminate Conflicts with Mandatory State Codes.**

City Clerk Cooper read the caption for Ordinance 773.

There was a motion made to approve the first reading of Ordinance 773.

Motion: Chris Mundy
Second: William McDaniel
Ayes: Chris Mundy, Joseph Mezzanotte, William McDaniel, Charles Vanderbilt,
Pete Lena
Nays: None
Result: passed

b. **Consider Resolution 26-001 to Accept Public Right of Way at Sydney Square Subdivision**

City Clerk Cooper read the caption for Resolution 26-001,

There was a motion made to approve Resolution 26-001.

Motion: William McDaniel
Second: Joseph Mezzanotte
Ayes: Chris Mundy, Joseph Mezzanotte, William McDaniel, Charles Vanderbilt,
Pete Lena
Nays: None
Result: passed

c. **Consider a Consulting Agreement with Jimmy Dean for Wastewater Consulting Services**

There was a motion made to approve a consulting agreement with Jimmy Dean for Wastewater Consulting Services as presented.

Motion: Joseph Mezzanotte
Second: William McDaniel
Ayes: Chris Mundy, Joseph Mezzanotte, William McDaniel, Charles Vanderbilt, Pete Lena
Nays: None
Result: passed

Executive Session:

There was a motion made to enter executive session for matters related to the acquisition/disposition of real estate, for matters related to certain personnel issues, and for matters related to the pending or potential litigation at 6:49 p.m.

Motion: Chris Mundy
Second: William McDaniel
Ayes: Chris Mundy, Joseph Mezzanotte, William McDaniel, Charles Vanderbilt, Pete Lena
Nays: None
Result: passed

There was a motion made to exit the executive session at 7:56 p.m.

Motion: William McDaniel
Second: Chris Mundy
Ayes: Chris Mundy, Joseph Mezzanotte, William McDaniel, Charles Vanderbilt, Pete Lena
Nays: None
Result: passed

There was a motion made to approve the Second Amendment to the Lease Agreement with Norfolk Southern Railway as of January 7, 2026.

Motion: Chris Mundy
Second: William McDaniel
Ayes: William McDaniel, Pete Lena, Joseph Mezzanotte, Chris Mundy, Charles Vanderbilt
Nays: None
Result: Passed

Adjournment:

There was a motion made to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

Motion: Chris Mundy
Second: William McDaniel
Ayes: Chris Mundy, Joseph Mezzanotte, William McDaniel, Charles Vanderbilt, Pete
Lena
Nays: None
Result: passed

Oliver McClellan
Mayor

Date

Shelia Cooper
City Clerk