



**City of Flowery Branch
Special Called City Council Meeting
Wednesday, May 6, 2026, 6:00 PM
5410 Pine Street
Flowery Branch, GA 30542**



Call Work Session to Order:

Mayor McClellan called the meeting to order at 6:00 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, Finance Director Matthew Hamby, Human Resources Director Krystle Hightower, Public Works Director Bill Whidden, Public Utilities Director Peter Woerner, Fun Director Renee Carden, Planning & Community Development Director Chris McCrary, Police Chief Chris Hulsey.

Absent: City Attorney Ted Baggett

Council Member Vanderbilt left the meeting at 6:47 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor McClellan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of Agenda:

There was a motion made to adopt the agenda.

Motion: Chris Mundy

Second: William McDaniel

Ayes: Chris Mundy, Joseph Mezzanotte, William McDaniel, Charles Vanderbilt, Pete Lena

Nays: None

Result: passed

New Business - Work Session:

a. FY27 Budget Review

Director Hamby presented the FY2027 budget review, which is designed to sustain the City's key priorities: public safety, infrastructure improvements, internal controls, financial stability, and economic development. Notable items in the proposed budget include full implementation of the Classification and Compensation Study, up to a 3% merit increase tied to annual reviews, and two proposed positions—an Assistant City Manager and a shared position supporting Human Resources and the City Clerk's Office.

On the revenue side, property tax revenue remains uncertain, so estimates assume 3% growth over FY2026 actuals. Local Option Sales Tax is projected to remain flat due to expectations of a slowing economy, while other revenue lines are projected to increase slightly or hold steady based on historic trends and approved housing growth. Fund balance is expected to decline due to reduced transfers to capital projects. Water and Sewer Fund revenues are projected to rise due to growth and approved rate increases, and the Employee Benefits Fund is projected to increase to support proposed staffing.

Expenditures across multiple departments are projected to increase primarily due to proposed positions, the compensation study, and merit adjustments. The City Manager, Finance, City Clerk, and HR budgets reflect increases tied to staffing and IT-related costs, while the Planning Department budget is reduced due to eliminating the use of a third-party inspector. The Water and Sewer Fund includes higher costs for wastewater expansion debt payments, and the Employee Benefits Fund increases slightly to reflect additional positions.

The Public Hearing is scheduled for June 4, 2026, and the adoption is scheduled for June 18, 2026.

Council held a discussion with Director Hamby, Director McCrary, and City Manager Parrish.

b. Per Diem Discussion

Mayor McClellan led a discussion regarding per diem eligibility requirements.

Council held a discussion with City Manager Parrish.

Mayor McClellan asked City Manager Parrish whether an additional item could be added to the agenda for Council discussion.

City Manager Parrish advised that an item may be added with a motion and vote.

There was a motion made to add an item to the agenda for discussion of TAD Allocation.

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

Council Member Vanderbilt raised concerns about the proposed TAD Allocation and expressed reservations about proceeding with the TAD Advisory Committee.

Council held a discussion regarding the TAD Advisory Committee.

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 pending or potential litigation at 6:47 p.m.

Motion: Chris Mundy
Second: Joseph Mezzanotte
Ayes: Chris Mundy, Joseph Mezzanotte, William McDaniel, Pete Lena
Nays: Charles Vanderbilt
Result: passed

Council Member Vanderbilt left the meeting at 6:47 p.m.

There was a motion made to exit the executive session at 7:26 p.m.

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

Adjournment:

There was a motion made to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

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

Oliver McClellan
Mayor

Date

Shelia Cooper
City Clerk