



City of Flowery Branch
Special Called City Council Meeting
Saturday, July 25, 2026, 9:00 AM
Flowery Branch Train Depot, 5302 Railroad Ave.
Flowery Branch, GA 30542



Call to Order:

Mayor McClellan called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Mayor McClellan and Council Members Chris Mundy, Joseph Mezzanotte, and Pete Lena

Absent: Council Member Charles Vanderbilt

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor McClellan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Discussions:

a. The Role of the Council and Staff

Mayor McClellan reviewed the respective roles of the City Council and staff. He explained that the City operates as a municipal corporation, with the City Council serving as the board of directors and the City Manager serving as the chief executive officer. The Council is responsible for setting directions, establishing policies and priorities, approving budget adjustments, and hiring and evaluating the City Manager. The City Manager provides professional guidance, implements Council decisions, oversees staff, manages daily operations, and ensures the city is administered legally and efficiently.

Council held a discussion.

Mayor McClellan clarified that hiring and termination decisions below the City Manager level are the responsibility of City management under the City Manager's authority.

b. The Legal Implications of Posting to Social Media (Personal and City Risks)

Mayor McClellan introduced the legal implications of social media use, including both personal and City-related risks. Council members discussed their personal social media practices and the reasons for limiting engagement, particularly to avoid misinformation and unwanted interactions.

c. The Use of Small Meetings vs. Work Sessions

Council discussed the use of non-quorum and "serial" meetings and agreed that non-quorum meetings would no longer be held. Council Member Mezzanotte expressed concern that small-group meetings can prevent the full Council from receiving the same information and providing feedback.

Mayor McClellan stated that there would not be any non-quorum meetings going forward. This is to ensure that all council members hear the same questions and concerns.

d. Reviewing and Improving Transparency

Council discussed transparency and how eliminating non-quorum meetings would improve transparency. There was a discussion about transparency and the 2027 budget process.

e. Planning for Future Infrastructure Needs

Mayor McClellan opened a discussion about the future of Hog Mountain Road and the upcoming vote to accept the IGA with Hall County. The terms of the agreement were discussed along with the areas of Hog Mountain Road that were currently within the city. There was a question about the ownership of the roundabout at the entrance to Folksong.

Adjournment:

There was a motion made to adjourn the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

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

Oliver McClellan
Mayor

Date