

Canton, Georgia

*110 Academy Street
Canton, Georgia 30114*



Minutes - Final - Final

Thursday, May 15, 2025

4:00 PM

**City Hall
110 Academy Street**

Downtown Development Authority

1. Call to Order***Board Members Present:***

Jennifer Hughes (Chair)
Ashley Carlile
Raul Cifuentes
Lee Oliver
Brooke Schmidt
Cory Wilson

City Staff & Council:

Bill Grant, Mayor
Bryan Roach, City Council
Dwayne Waterman, City Council
Billy Peppers, City Manager
Nathan Ingram, Asst. City Manager
Bethany Watson, City Engineer
Aundi Lesley, Economic Development Manager
Velinda Hardy, Downtown Development Manager
Lauren Johnson, Communications Manager
Kristin Norton Green, Theatre Events and Facilities Director

2. Approval of the Agenda

Member Schmidt moved to approve the agenda as presented; Member Oliver seconded the motion; Motion carried.

3. Review/Approval of the Minutes**A. Downtown Development Authority Draft Minutes - March 12, 2025**

Attachments: [Minutes - Downtown Development Authority - March 12, 2025](#)

Member Oliver moved to approve the minutes; Member Schmidt seconded the motion; Motion carried.

4. Public Input

There was no public input.

5. Financials

Nathan Ingram provided the Board with updated financials through April.

6. New Business**A. Discussion of Date & Time of Future DDA Meetings**

Members of the Board discussed preferred dates and times of future meetings. After discussion, Member Hughes made a motion to hold standard meetings at 9am on the second Wednesday of each month; Member Schmidt seconded;

Motion carried.

- B. Review and Possible Approval of Georgia Power Easement at the Canton Village Property

Bethany Watson presented the Board with two easements from Georgia Power for consideration. These easements are located on the Canton Village property owned by the DDA. Member Schmidt moved to approve the Georgia Power easements; Member Oliver seconded; Motion carried.

7. Old Business

- A. Review and Possible Approval of Contract with CROFT & Associates to Provide Architecture and Engineering Services for the Fire Station #16 Project

Attachments: [Cherokee County Fire Station No 16 Proposal](#)

Nathan Ingram provided the Board with an update on the RFP/Q search for Architectural & Engineering Services on the DT Fire Station. The County submitted an RFQ for these services and ten firms proposed. A review committee was convened, they narrowed the firms to four finalists to be interviewed, and then selected the firm of CROFT & Associates to recommend for award. Member Wilson moved to approve CROFT & Associates to provide architecture and engineering services for the Fire Station #16; Member Oliver seconded; Motion carried.

- B. Review and Possible Approval of Contract with Horwath HTL to Update the Downtown Hotel Feasibility Study

Attachments: [Updated Feasibility Study Proposal](#)

Nathan Ingram presented a proposal from Horwath HTL to complete an update to the Hotel Feasibility Study that was conducted two years ago. Members discussed the previous hotel feasibility study and expectations of the update. The update will support the pending issue of a new RFP for Hotel Services. Member Schmidt moved to approve the update to the Hotel Feasibility Study; Member Wilson seconded; Motion carried.

- C. Discussion of Proposed Intergovernmental Agreement between the City, DDA, and Cherokee County for the Development of a Multi-Use Project along North Street

Billy Peppers and Nathan Ingram provided the Board with an update on an IGA between the City, DDA and County, on development of a multi-use facility along North Street. It was noted that the City and County are currently trying to finalize the details of this agreement. A draft will be forthcoming in the following weeks.

8. What's Going On in Canton!

Velinda Hardy provided the Board with an update on upcoming events in the Canton area. Kristin Norton Green updated the Board of upcoming events and let them know of the success of the 'Big Check Presentation' by Fox Theatre on May 7th.

9. Board Introduced Items

None.

10. Adjourn

Member Schmidt moved to adjourn; Member Wilson seconded; Motion carried.