

Canton, Georgia

*110 Academy Street
Canton, Georgia 30114*



Minutes - Final - Draft

Wednesday, February 11, 2026

9:00 AM

**City Hall
110 Academy Street**

Downtown Development Authority

1. Call to Order

Board Members Present:

*Jennifer Hughes (Chair)
Bill Grant
Lee Oliver
Brooke Schmidt
Cory Wilson*

City Staff & Council:

*Bryan Roach, City Council
Billy Peppers, City Manager
Nathan Ingram, Asst. City Manager
Ryan Lockett, Finance Director
Aundi Lesley, Economic Development Manager
Lauren Johnson, Communications Manager*

2. Approval of the Agenda

Member Oliver moved to approve the agenda with a New Business addition to discuss and possibly Appoint Board Officials; Member Schmidt seconded the motion; Motion carried.

3. Review/Approval of Minutes

A. Downtown Development Authority Draft Minutes - January 14, 2026

Attachments: [Minutes - Downtown Development Authority - January 14, 2026](#)

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

4. Public Input

None

5. Financials

A. **Discussion and Possible Action of Reimbursement to the City for Expenses**

Mr. Lockett provided the Board with the past months' invoices for monies spent by the City on behalf of the DDA. Member Oliver moved to approve reimbursement of that invoice; Member Wilson seconded the motion; Motion carried.

6. New Business

Discussion of Board Officials:

The Board discussed appointing a new Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and

Treasurer. Member Schmidt moved to appoint Jennifer Hughes as Chair, Lee Oliver as Vice-Chair, Brooke Schmidt as Secretary and Ryan Lockett (City Finance Director) as Treasurer; Member Grant seconded the motion; Motion carried.

7. Old Business

A. Update on the Downtown Fire Station

Assistant City Manager provided the Board with an update on the design. Wrapping up the final design changes and hopefully construction will commence soon. Everything is still on track for a completion during the first quarter of 2027. The board asked that staff reach out to the Eng/Arch and Contractor, to post signs on the site to inform the public of details surrounding the project.

B. Update on the North Street Gateway Redevelopment Project

Mr. Ingram provided the Board with an update on recent meetings with the County, Engineer/Arch firm and contractor.

Mr. Ingram also provided the Board with information regarding assistance to the Cherokee North Apartment tenants with moving expenses.

C. Update on the Hickory Flat Highway Gateway Project

Mr. Ingram informed the board that the City received two proposals/bids for the Hickory Flat Hwy Project, and these are currently under review. Mr. Ingram asked the Chair, if the DDA would care to have a review representative for those proposals. The Board has requested that we set up interviews with both proposers, with the Board as a whole. Staff will work to set those meetings up. Demolition on the Canton Village Shopping Center should wrap up this week, with material cleanup going into next week.

D. Update and Discussion on the Downtown Hotel RFP

We had meetings with the two proposers on the downtown Hotel Development. The Board requested that staff set up meetings with both proposers. It was requested that these meetings be set up in conjunction with the HFH Gateway reviews. It was proposed that all of these meetings could potentially be set up for the morning of March 11, 2026, the date for the next DDA meeting. Staff will look into setting these up.

8. What's Going On in Canton!

City staff provided a flyer to the Board with information on upcoming events within the City.

9. Board Introduced Items

None

10. Adjourn

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