

Canton, Georgia

*110 Academy Street
Canton, Georgia 30114*



Minutes Draft - Draft

Thursday, April 2, 2026

6:00 PM

**City Hall
110 Academy Street**

City Council

1. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation by Leonard Akers, Local Church.

2. Call to Order

Call to Order by Mayor Grant at 6 p.m.

3. Consideration to Approve Agenda

Mayor Grant requested to add an executive session to discuss Real Estate and Personnel. Councilmember Yawn moved to approve as amended. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Guests and Visitors

- A. Presentation of Proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Month

The Mayor proclaimed April as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

- B. Recognition of Academy for Citizens Training (ACT) Graduates

The Mayor recognized the graduates of the City's first Cohort of ACT.

- C. Presentation of Proclamation for Safe Digging Month

The Mayor proclaimed April as Safe Digging Month.

5. Public Hearing

- A. Public Hearing for Cases ANNX2601-003 and RZON2601-004 - Request to Annex and Rezone 4.2 Acres at 2521 Reinhardt College Parkway - Zoning Administrator Steve Green

Attachments: [ANNX2601-003 and RZON2601-004 Documentation](#)

Steve Green gave an overview of the case.

The Mayor opened the public hearing.

The applicant was represented by the owner Joe Mero. He provided information about the project and spoke in favor of the annexation and rezoning.

With no one else signed up to speak, Mayor Grant closed the public hearing.

The Council discussed the case.

6. Consideration to Approve Minutes

- A. Council Meeting Draft Minutes - March 19, 2026

Attachments: [Minutes - Council Meeting - March 19, 2026](#)

Mr. Waterman moved to approve. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

7. Informational Items

8. Other Announcements

9. Ten Minute Public Input

10. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Request for Master Sign Plan for District on the Etowah - Zoning Administrator Steve Green

Attachments: [Master Sign Plan - District on the Etowah](#)

- B. Approval of Road Resurfacing Intergovernmental Agreement with Cherokee County - Operations Manager Kelly Pendley

Attachments: [2026 LMIG](#)

- C. Approval of 2026 Right of Way Maintenance - Operations Manager Kelly Pendley

Attachments: [2026 ROW Maintenance](#)

- D. Approval of Task Order 1 to TetraTech for America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) Risk and Resilience Assessment (RRA) and Emergency Response Plan (ERP) Update in the Amount of \$112,484 - City Engineer Bethany Watson

Attachments: [Tetra Tech Consulting Services](#)

- E. Approval of Proposed List of Assets to be Disposed - Assistant City Manager Nathan Ingram

Attachments: [Auction Items](#)

Mr. Yawn moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Mr. Waterman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

11. Old Business

- A. Discussion and Possible Action on Cases RZON2511-008 and VAR2601-001 - Request to Rezone Property Located at 631 Marietta Road from O-I (Office-Institutional) to GC (General Commercial) and Associated Variance Application - Zoning Administrator Steve Green

Attachments: [RZON2511-008 and VAR2601-001 Documentation](#)

Mr. Green provided background on the case. Staff recommended approval of the rezoning and variance cases as requested with the following conditions:

- 1) The owner/developer shall dedicate sufficient property to provide a right turn lane into the parcel from Marietta Road. This right-of-way dedication shall be approved by the City Engineer during the Land Disturbance Permit application process.***
- 2) The building elevation facing Marietta Road shall have a store front finish or the appearance of a store front as approved by the Canton Design Review Team.***
- 3) Unfinished or smooth-faced concrete masonry shall be prohibited as an exterior building material.***
- 4) Wall mounted lighting shall be prohibited on any building.***
- 5) Sight lighting shall face inward toward the property and shall not cause a disturbance to neighboring properties of the motoring public.***
- 6) The property shall be developed in substantial accordance with the applicants Letter of Intent dated November 30, 2025, and attached hereto as "Exhibit A."***
- 7) The requested buffer reduction and setback reduction shall be as shown on the applicant's site plan stamped "Revised 3-3-26" and attached hereto as "Exhibit B."***

Mr. Roach moved to approve the request to rezone from O-I to GC and the variance request with all staff recommendations, and additionally that the property only be used for retail and office, and of the office it will not be used for vape shops. Mr. Tolan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- B. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Submittal of an Application for the City of Canton to Participate in the Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (GICH) Senior Program - Housing Initiatives Director Ken Patton

Attachments: [GICH Senior Program](#)

Mr. Patton gave an overview of the request seeking to approve the submittal of an application to be considered to participate in the Georgia Initiative for Community Housing Senior Program, with application being due April 10.

Mr. Tolan moved to approve the submittal of an application for the City to participate in the GICH Sr. Program. Mr. Rice seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

12. New Business

- A. Discussion of Proposed Concept for Heritage Park Sculpture Project - Theatre Events and Facilities Director Kristin Norton Green

Attachments: [Heritage Park Sculpture](#)

Ms. Norton-Green gave background on the call for artists to design a sculpture project at Heritage Park near the Waleska Street Bridge. The Council discussed the sculpture project and process.

- B. Discussion of Theatre House Lighting Replacement Project - Theatre Events and Facilities Director Kristin Norton Green

Attachments: [Theatre House Lighting](#)

Ms. Norton-Green discussed the need for an approval of funding to replace the house lighting within the Historic Canton Theatre due to issues with the sourcing of materials to repair the current fixtures. The proposed cost for the project is \$32,202.64 and would take five to seven days to complete.

- C. Discussion of Request for Master Sign Plan for Reservoir Drive Pod 16 - Zoning Administrator Steve Green

Attachments: [Master Sign Plan - Reservoir Drive Pod 16](#)

Mr. Green presented the request by the applicant for a master sign plan related to a monument sign for an apartment development at 179 Reservoir Drive.

Mr. Peppers asked to make a privileged comment and was granted a moment by Mayor Grant. Mr. Peppers thanked Mr. Steve Green for nearly 18 years of service to the City and recognized him for his upcoming retirement.

- D. Discussion of Authorization of First Offers for Property Acquisition for Highway 140 Improvements Project Highway 140 at Marietta Highway/Riverstone Parkway - City Engineer Bethany Watson

Attachments: [Property Acquisitions](#)

Ms. Watson overviewed the process of first offers as a required in the partner project with the Georgia Department of Transportation at State Highway 140 near the intersection of Marietta Highway and Riverstone Parkway. The first offers will be made to eighteen of the twenty-three impacted parcels after formal Council approval.

13. City Manager's Report

Mr. Peppers updated the Council about a meeting with the Cherokee County School District Board of Education Chair, Vice Chair and Superintendent related to traffic plans for the new Cherokee High School. Mr. Peppers thanked the Council and staff for their time for the retreat.

14. Council Introduced Items

15. Mayor's Report

Mayor Grant thanked everyone for the retreat. Mayor Grant thanked the staff for assisting with a Knox Elementary Field Trip earlier in the day.

Mayor Grant noted an opening on the DDA. Ms. Carmen Slaughter is stepping down. Mayor Grant would appoint Andreina Perez. Mr. Rice seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

16. Adjourn

Mr. Waterman moved to adjourn into Executive Session for the purposes of discussion of real estate and personnel. Mr. Yawn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.