

Meeting Minutes

City of Newnan
Downtown Development Authority
Wednesday, January 14th, 2026
8:00 am – Newnan City Hall
25 Lagrange Street- Council Chamber Room

Members Present: Ashley Beck, Valerie Dumas, Roger Miles, Martha Ann Parks, Casey Smith, Jim Thomasson, & Graylin Ward
Staff Present: Abigail Strickland, Jesse Branch

The meeting was called to order at 9:00am.

The previous meeting minutes were reviewed by the Authority. Graylin Ward made a motion to accept the December meeting minutes as presented to the Authority. Jim Thomasson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Abigail Strickland presented the Financial Report to the Authority, noting the following account balances:

- i. BOZ primary: \$7,596.89
- ii. MMI: \$90,045.17
- iii. YTD Income: \$96,928.60
- iv. YTD Expense: \$99,244.87
 1. Net Income: -\$2,316.27

Abigail Strickland noted the report reflects the EOY financials for 2025. Abigail noted that the Summer NewnaNights were more expensive to host, and that we are still waiting for a sponsor check from LaGrange Grocery for the Oktoberfest event. Abigail also noted that the City Council approved the City's 2026 budget at their January 13th meeting, meaning that the Authority will be looking to pay the City \$5,000 for the Placer.Ai software as well as consider hiring a firm to perform a Pedestrian Walkability Safety Study during the 2026 calendar year.

Abigail Strickland noted that the current Authority meeting schedule includes two potential conflicts – the April 8th meeting falling during spring break, and the June 10th meeting falling on a scheduled training for Abigail. Abigail asked the Authority if they would like to consider rescheduling these meetings. Casey Smith noted that the Authority can make the call closer to the meeting dates whether or not to reschedule the meetings based on anticipated attendance.

Abigail Strickland updated the Authority on the 2026 Annual Assessment for both the National and State Main Street designations. Abigail noted that the Main Street Newnan program is in compliance for both designations. Abigail also noted that Main Street Newnan will continue to be a GEMS community until the next in person assessment.

Abigail Strickland updated the Authority on upcoming training opportunities in 2026. Abigail reminded the Authority that they are required to obtain 2 hours of training annually to remain in

compliance. Abigail noted that there are both online and in-person training opportunities, and she is willing to help Authority members sign-up for any opportunities that they are interested in.

Abigail Strickland updated the Authority on the 2026-2028 Work Plan. Abigail noted that this is a new work plan that we will begin implementing this year. Casey Smith suggested that it might be beneficial to host a work session to review the plan and assign tasks to members of the Authority, potentially after a regularly scheduled Authority meeting. Casey asked Abigail to come up with a few dates and send them out to the Authority to determine if there is a date that would work for everyone.

Abigail Strickland updated the Authority on the 57 East project. Abigail noted that there is a scheduled call on Friday, January 16th with the legal and financial advisor team that are working on moving the project forward.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17am.

**Next Meeting:
Wednesday, February 11, 2026
8:00 am – Newnan City Hall
25 Lagrange Street- Council Chamber Room**