

Meeting Minutes

City of Newnan

Downtown Development Authority

Wednesday, February 11th, 2026

8:00 am – Newnan City Hall

25 Lagrange Street- Council Chamber Room

Members Present: Valerie Dumas, Roger Miles, Martha Ann Parks, Casey Smith, Jim Thomasson, & Graylin Ward

Members Absent: Ashley Beck

Staff Present: Abigail Strickland, Jesse Branch, Hasco Craver

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

The previous meeting minutes were reviewed by the Authority. Jim Thomasson made a motion to accept the January meeting minutes as presented to the Authority. Roger Miles seconded the motion. The motion carried.

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

- i. BOZ primary: \$6,425.05
- ii. MMI: \$85,052.27
- iii. YTD Income: \$1,388.46
- iv. YTD Expense: \$9,064.94
 1. Net Income: -\$7,676.48

Abigail Strickland reviewed the financial report, noting that the expenses shown include costs associated with the Love Local event and annual software renewals. She also shared that the income reflected includes a sponsorship for the upcoming Oktoberfest event. Abigail noted that a transfer was made between program accounts to support current expenses and that the funds will be replenished as event revenue begins to come in, with the first payments expected in the coming weeks.

Abigail Strickland provided an update on the 57 East project. She shared that draft bond resolution documents have been received and are currently under review by City staff. It was noted that the Authority and the City will each have items to consider as the process moves forward. It was also noted that a plan of finance will likely be presented at a future Authority meeting or special called meeting. Additionally, the development team anticipates beginning initial work on the property in the coming weeks following completion of their plan revisions.

Abigail Strickland provided an update on the Strategic Plan Work Session and shared information about upcoming training opportunities. She noted that the Authority may consider holding the work session immediately following the regular Authority meeting in May; however, it would not count toward the state's annual training requirement.

Abigail also informed the Authority about upcoming training opportunities, including a Digital Marketing and AI class hosted by Small Business Development Center at the UWG Newnan campus on March 20 at the requests of the businesses. She also mentioned a regional meetup scheduled for May 5 in Hogansville that would meet the requirement as well. Abigail will distribute additional details and registration information for these opportunities.

Abigail Strickland notified the Authority that the Planning Department is seeking nominees for the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee. Abigail noted that the committee is appointed by the City Council, and that there is typically at least one representative from each City Board/Authority. Hasco Craver noted that appointees can still participate in community feedback meetings. Casey Smith made a motion to nominate Ashley Beck to the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee. Graylin Ward seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Abigail Strickland presented a draft RFQ for professional services to complete a Pedestrian Safety, Connectivity & Multimodal Mobility Study. Abigail requested feedback from the Authority, particularly concerning the Scope of Work section of the document. Abigail noted that she would like to post the RFQ in early March, select a qualified candidate by May, and hopefully receive a finalized document by October. Abigail will send out the draft and is looking to obtain feedback from the Authority concerning issues or changes.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20am.

Next Meeting:
Wednesday, March 11, 2026
9:00 am – Newnan City Hall
25 Lagrange Street- Council Chamber Room