



**BOARD OF MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS  
PUBLIC HEARING  
June 13, 2019  
6:01 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

Members Present: Jonathan Elmore, Mayor  
Adela Yelton, Commissioner  
Lionel Laratte, Commissioner  
Lisa Shortell, Commissioner

Member Absent: Brian Fisher, Mayor Pro Tem

Staff Present: Patrick Bryant, City Manager  
Keri Stevens, Assistant City Manager  
Paul Hanebuth, Finance Director  
Lynn Thomas, Police Chief  
Gina Hill, City Clerk

Item No. 1 Meeting Called to Order

Item No. 2 Adoption of Agenda  
Commissioner Shortell moves to adopt. Commissioner Yelton seconds. All ayes.

Item No. 3 **Receive Public Comment on the 2019 Tax Millage Rate**  
The millage rate is a number set each year to calculate property taxes. A millage rate of 9.8 mills is proposed for 2019. This is the same as the 2018 millage rate. The rate in 2017 was 9.957 mills. City staff estimates this will result in a 3.4% increase in total property tax revenues.

From 2014 to 2018, City expenditures have increased by an average of 6.53 percent, so a similar increase in the dollar amount collected from property tax is likely necessary to maintain the same level of service to City residents and businesses.

This is the first of three public hearings before the Board of Mayor and Commissioners (BOMC) votes to set the millage rate. The other public hearings are on Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup> and Monday, July 1<sup>st</sup>, both at 6:01 p.m. The BOMC will vote to set the millage rate at the regular meeting on July 1<sup>st</sup> immediately following the public hearing.

Ed Reiker didn't feel that taxes should be raised and he recommended they be lowered instead. Clai Brown requested that the computation

for the millage rate rollback report be added to the website. Liz Goodstein also spoke out against raising taxes. She claimed property values are going up so taxes are as well. She was also worried about some residents not being able to afford to stay in their homes. Candace Jones believed the millage rate should remain the same but some relief should be given to low-income seniors who have lived here a long time. Don Connelly agreed and suggested that taxes could be frozen on a property until it is sold. Kathy Kingsbury asked what was being done for the residents (other than downtown improvements) with increased funds from taxes. Mayor Elmore reminded her this meeting was only for public comment.

Item No. 4

Adjournment

Commissioner Laratte moves to adjourn. Commissioner Yelton seconds. All ayes.

APPROVED THIS 1<sup>st</sup> DAY OF JULY 2019

  
Jonathan Elmore, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Gina Hill, City Clerk

  
Patrick Bryant, City Manager