



**BOARD OF MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC HEARING
June 25, 2018
10:00 a.m.**

MINUTES

Members Present: Brian Fisher, Mayor Pro Tem
Lionel Laratte, Commissioner
Lisa Shortell, Commissioner

Members Absent: Jonathan Elmore, Mayor
Adela Yelton, Commissioner

Staff Present: Ken Turner, Interim City Manager/Finance Director

Item No. 1 Meeting Called to Order

Item No. 2 Adoption of Agenda
Commissioner Shortell moved to approve. Commissioner Laratte seconds. All ayes.

Item No. 3 **Receive Public Comment on the 2018 Tax Millage Rate**
The millage rate is a number set each year to calculate property taxes. A millage rate of 9.957 mills is proposed for 2018. Even though that is the current rate, taxes would rise 8.32% because of increased property values. For taxes to remain the same, a millage rate of 9.192 mills (called the "rollback") would be set.

This is the second of three public hearings before the Board of Mayor and Commissioners (BOMC) votes to set the millage rate. The vote will take place at the regular meeting following the third public hearing at 6:30 p.m. this same day.

A resident shared an analysis she did showing there could still be an excess of funds over the proposed budget if the millage rate is lowered some. Another resident says she and her husband are on disability and have been in Avondale for 33 years. She requests some consideration be given to those on a fixed income. She added she may have to move. That was echoed by another resident who asked for tax relief for those whose income was under a certain amount. After doing research, one resident says Avondale is the only city that does not offer exemptions for seniors. One resident says she appreciates the city services and knows costs rise every year. She would like the City to do research for have a consultant advise on the topic but knows funds are limited. One attendee

recommended doing a graph to show how much more residents would pay based on their home values. Mr. Turner explained how staff reached the proposed numbers. A resident offered to look up exemptions from other areas for the BOMC.

Item No. 4

Adjournment

Commissioner Shortell moved to adjourn. Commissioner Laratte seconds. All ayes.

APPROVED THIS 30th DAY OF AUGUST 2018



Jonathan Elmore, Mayor

ATTEST:



Gina Hill, City Clerk