

City of Reidsville
City Council Called Meeting

FILE

Monday October 3, 2022
5:00 p.m.

Draft Copy- Not approved by Council until November 14, 2022

The Reidsville City Council held a “Special Called Meeting” on Monday October 3, 2022 @ 5:00 p.m. Purpose of the meeting was to revisit the millage rate which previously set. Council members present were:

Lindsay Bennett
Carolyn Crume- Blackshear
Donald Prestage
Doug Williams
Verdie Williams

City Attorney DuAnn Cowart-Davis was absent on medical leave. Nivea Jackson, City Clerk was present. Mayor Curtis Colwell called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Mayor Colwell led the meeting in prayer and the audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance aloud in unison. Mayor Colwell began by informing the Council that a meeting was necessary to be called concerning the millage rate that was set previously on September 29th and that the scheduled Planning Session would take place immediately after the special called meeting. Mayor Colwell turned the floor over to Councilwoman Blackshear to explain why we were having a called meeting, and to explain the five-year tax history, the tax digest, the PT 32 millage rate, and how the calculations were derived. She stated that, “on Thursday, September 29th, the Council voted to leave the current millage at 7 percent. This vote would raise City taxes and no public meetings had been held to make citizens aware of the tax hike and fulfill the legal steps to raise City taxes. She also stated that “On Friday, September 30th, after our regular finance meeting, I tried reaching out to all Councilmembers by phone, and left voice messages as well concerning the issue. I wanted to let everyone know what I had learned concerning the millage rate, and why we needed to revisit the tax rate immediately. Council members were given PT32 and PT38 to help with the explanation. Susan Thomas, former City Clerk was in the audience and asked questions pertinent to the explanation. “Taxes were due to the State by October 1st. A Public hearing would have to happen prior to this date, to raise the taxes, and because of the state’s due date, this could not be possible!” Blackshear stated, “The 6.806 is the figure derived by the Department of Revenue website used to not cause a tax increase to citizens. Thomas says that if the taxes are not raised this year and raised next year, it may seem like a large tax hike to the citizens. Blackshear stated, “we cannot legally raise the taxes without those hearings and making the public aware of the increase. However, the city will still get more revenue than last year because property values have increased.” Councilman Doug Williams made a motion to accept the millage at 6.806 instead of 7.0

Motion by: Doug Williams
2nd by: Verdie Williams
Vote: Carried unanimously

Meeting Adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

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