

**MINUTES
PUBLIC HEARING
TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2019
6:00 P.M.**

{Summary minutes of City Council meeting. Audio tapes of the meeting are on file and are included by reference as part of this meeting. An agenda of this meeting has been either mailed or made available to persons, organizations and local news media as per their request. The agenda gives the date, time and place of the meeting as well as the order of business. This disclosure is in compliance with the South Carolina Code of Laws of 1976, Section 30-4-80 (c).}

A public hearing was held on Tuesday, May 28, 2019 at 6:00 P.M. in the City Municipal building with the following present:

COUNCIL: Mayor Harold Thompson, Mayor Pro Tem Robert Garner; Councilmembers Tommy Anthony, Vicki Morgan, Ricky Harris; Pamela Sloss and Sonja Craig

DEPARTMENTAL STAFF: Gloria Rogers – Municipal Clerk/Human Resource Director; Joe Nichols – Utility Director; Laura Hembree – Finance Director; Kenny Thomas – Public Service Director; DeWayne Hardy – Public Service Supervisor and Rebecca Lance – Accounting Supervisor

CITY ATTORNEY: Larry Flynn was not in attendance

NEWS MEDIA: Mike Stevens – WBCU Radio

OTHERS: Dave Lance

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Thompson called the meeting to order.

2. **BUSINESS**

HEARING TO SOLICIT PUBLIC COMMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROPOSED BUDGET ORDINANCE – 2019-2020 AND TAX LEVY ORDINANCE FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020

Mayor Thompson asked Finance Director Laura Hembree to comment on the Proposed Budget and the Tax Levy Ordinance for fiscal year 2019-2020.

Finance Director Laura Hembree states that Fiscal year 2019-2020 Proposed Budget All Funds Summary is \$43,887,090, a decrease of 2.3% under Fiscal Year 2018-2019. The General Fund's projected revenues are \$6,077,490. Expenditures are proposed at \$6,604,330. This leaves a deficit of \$526,840 to be funded by fund balance. Taxpayers will receive a credit against their property taxes due to local option sales tax revenue. The tax millage will increase by 3.0 mills to 89.8 mills for a \$50,000 home. The increase will be approximately \$6.10 on the 2019 tax notice; for a \$100,000 home, the increase will be approximately \$12.20. A \$5 disposal fee will be added to the 2019 tax notices. For most homeowners, the local option tax credit will absorb these increases. Capital equipment and improvements in the amount of \$324,750 is included in the proposed expenditures amount above. The Solid Waste Management fund has a budget of \$855,240, an increase of 8.3%. The garbage pickup fee will increase by \$1 to \$17 per month. The Utility Fund projected revenues are \$35,509,280. Expenses are proposed at \$35,632,000, a decrease of 3.9% under last year's budget. The deficit of \$122,720 will be funded by retained earnings. No electric rate increase is proposed, but the PPA will continue to true up the cost of power each month. No rate increases are proposed for water or sewer customers. Natural gas base rates will not increase, but the PGA will continue to true up the cost of gas each month. Capital equipment in the amount of \$188,000 and infrastructure of \$4,647,700 are included in the total utility proposed expenses above. A 2.6% cost of living raise is proposed for City employees. The General Fund and Utility Funds will use

fund balance/cash reserves to balance. The following is a list of special revenue funds and their FY 2019-2020 proposed budgets.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| a. Local Hospitality & Accommodations | \$445,000 |
| b. Main Street Junction | \$133,520 |
| c. Economic Development | \$100,000 |
| d. Drug Fund | \$7,000 |
| e. Community Change | \$20,000 |
| f. Debt Service – Tax Increment | \$90,000 |

Mayor Thompson asked if anyone from the general public want to comment on the proposed budget and tax levy for fiscal year 2019-2020.

No one commented.

3. **Adjournment**

Public hearing adjourned at 6:04 P.M.

Gloria J. Rogers, Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved _____ 2019