



Meeting Minutes

PUBLIC HEARING (FY2022 PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE)
November 09, 2021, 6:15 PM

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
November 09, 2021, 6:30 PM

Swearing in of Council Member Jason Phillips: Newly Elected Jason Phillips was sworn in by Mayor Jordan at 6:10 PM

PUBLIC HEARING:

Call to order: The November 09, 2021 Public Hearing was called to order by Mayor David Jordan at 6:15 PM.

Attendance: Mayor David Jordan, Mayor Pro-Tem Lee Strickland, Larry Bowen, Kenneth Roach, Matt Fields, Wayne Braswell, Jason Phillips

Issue:

- A. FY2022 Proposed Millage Rate of 10.000 Mills:** City Council proposing leaving the millage at the current rate of 10.000 for Fiscal Year 2021 Taxes to be billed December 10, 2021 with a due date of Feb 10, 2022.

Invitation of Public Comment: None made.

Response by Council: None required.

Close Public Hearing: A motion was made by Matt Fields to close the Public Hearing at 6:30 PM. Motion was seconded by Wayne Braswell. Motion passed 6-0.

REGULAR MEETING:

Call to Order: The November 09, 2021, regular council meeting was called to order by Mayor David Jordan at 6:30 PM.

Attendance: Mayor David Jordan, Mayor Pro-Tem Lee Strickland, Larry Bowen, Kenneth Roach, Matt Fields, Wayne Braswell, Jason Phillips

Approval of All Outstanding Minutes: A Motion was made by Wayne Braswell to approve the October 12, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes. Kenneth Roach seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Additions or Deletions to Agenda:

Executive Session after Audit Presentation
Add to F: Appoint W Johnson to Library Board
Add Letter L: Automotive Merchant Car Show

Approval of Agenda: A Motion was made by Larry Bowen to approve the agenda with additions. Lee Strickland seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Main Street Update – Michael Crump: City had a very good turnout for the Trick or Treat at the Wellness Park despite the weather. Saturday November 13th Franklin County will have a Hometown Heroes celebration with a parade on the courthouse grounds from 12-6PM. November 27th is Small Business Saturday with a Holiday Market at the Depot. Tuesday, November 30th is Christmas in Royston at 5 PM with the Tree Lighting at 7PM. December 11th will be the Christmas Market from 10-3 with the Parade to follow at 5 PM.

New Business:

- A. **FY2021 Audit: Rushton & Company:** Sam Latimer with Rushton presented the FY2021 Audit results. An unmodified opinion was presented. The city had a good report.
- Executive Session: Personnel & Litigation:** Larry Bowen made a motion to enter Executive Session at 6:48PM. Kenneth Roach seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0. Kenneth Roach made a motion to close the Executive Session at 7:14PM. Wayne Braswell seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0. Matt Fields left before the end of the Executive Session.
- B. **FY2021 Final Budget Amendment: City Manager Ed Andrews:** Recommendation from the Auditors that we made a Budget Amendment to the Hotel Motel Fund. An increase in revenues required a need for a Budget Amendment. Motion made Larry Bowen to accept the Budget Amendment. Kenneth Roach seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.
- C. **Establish the 2021 Millage Rate for FY22 Property Tax: Mayor David Jordan:** 2021 Proposed Millage Rate of 10.000 mills. Lee Strickland made a motion to keep the 2021 Mill Rate at 10.000. Motion was seconded by Jason Phillips. Motion carried 5-0.
- D. **Report Nov 2, 2021, Election Results: City Clerk Sharleen Ayers:** Report from the Local Filing Officer of the November 02, 2021, local election results was read. Results have been Certified with the State of Georgia Elections.
- E. **Re-Appointment of Planning Commission members Paul Crawford and Darryl Ayers and Appointment of new member Fletcher Hodges: Michael Crump:** Mayor Jordan reappointed Paul Crawford to finish his prior term and appointed Fletcher Hodges to fill the vacancy left by Jason Phillips as he has been elected to Council. Michael Crump relayed to Council that Tara BeeBee had withdrawn her bid to be on the Planning Commission. She prefers to wait until the Historic Preservation Commission is revived and offer to be on that board instead. Mayor Jordan asked Mr. Crump to pass on his appreciation that she is looking to be involved. Wayne Braswell made a motion to approve the appointments. Larry Bowen seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.
- F. **Royston Library Fall Update & Library Board Appointment L Johnson: Library Branch Manager Maggie West:** Ms. West gave the City Council a full report on the activities of the Royston Library during the last couple of months. They have had good involvement from the communities. These included Pumpkin Painting, Halloween mask decorating, and a Paint Day for Adults. For November there is a Teen Game Night Planned, another Adult Play Date, and a Reading Pal program for Pre School and Elementary students. The library staff was treated to a Pizza lunch by Mary Redden, which was much appreciated. There are plans in progress to get the Children's Garden back up and running with Daniel Tompkins and Isaiah Garrett. Council and Mayor expressed their appreciation for all the efforts made by the staff and community. Ms. West presented Willena Johnson to be appointed to the Royston Library Board. Larry Bowen made a motion to approve the appointment. Jason Phillips seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.
- G. **Ratify Binding for Public Safety Officials and First Responders Pay Supplement Grant: Mayor Jordan:** Mayor Jordan explained to Council and those present that the State of Georgia is offering a grant for Public Safety and First Responders supplement of \$1,000 for Full time Public Safety and \$300 for Volunteer Firefighters. Mayor asked for the Council to ratify the submission

for the ARPA Grant request. City Manager Ed Andrews mentioned the Finance and Personnel committee had also discussed Premium Pay for Municipal Employees that are not covered by this grant. We will have some numbers together next month for those amounts. Wayne Braswell made a motion to ratify the grant request for the Public Safety and First Responders. Kenneth Roach seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

- H. **Franklin County Service Delivery Strategy Extension: Mayor Jordan:** The County has asked for an extension until February 2022 to complete due to changes. Jason Phillips made a motion to approve the extension. Wayne Braswell seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.
- I. **Resolution & Adoption Agreement: Restatement of GMA 401(a) Defined Contribution Plan: Mayor Jordan:** Wayne Braswell made a motion to approve the Resolution and Adoption Agreement. Larry Bowen seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.
- J. **Authorize Mayor to sign GEFA Loan Modification documents: City Attorney Grant:** This was a modification due to the 6-month extension allowed for the GEFA loans due to COVID-19. Jason Phillips made the motion to authorize Mayor Jordan to sign the modification paperwork. Wayne Braswell seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.
- K. **FY2022 Alcohol License Renewals:** A list of renewals for alcohol licenses was presented to Mayor Jordan. All licenses other than Dill's Food City, Walgreens, and El Timon were presented with no changes for renewal. The prior 3 will have a Public Hearing in December to present new licensees. Wayne Braswell made a motion to renew the Alcohol Licenses presented. Larry Bowen seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.
- L. **Automotive Merchant Car Show Request: Graham Diesel:** Cody Graham, the owner of the Diesel Shop on Lee Street would like to hold a Car Show downtown with the other Royston Automotive Shops. Requesting to shut down Lee Street on December 4th from 2-5 PM. There will be Food Trucks, Food Drive, and perhaps a Toy Drive. A \$25 donation fee will be requested from entries. Donation will be made to TJ and Friends. Ms. Grant emphasized that Mr. Graham was asking the council for a Special Event permit. Chief Bolemon stated the PD had evaluated and does not see any issues. The Street Department will put up barriers and it will be advertised. Kenneth Roach made a motion to approve the permit. Larry Bowen seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Other Business – City Manager Update: Mr. Andrews said the Amphitheater is coming along. Still some finishing to be done. Landscaping, concrete finishing, and electrical. Council should go over and look at what is done so far. The retirement discussed was not related to the current retirement requesting changes. Mr. Andrews wants to get together with the Finance Committee and the Mayor Elect to discuss the changes that were evaluated. Mr. Andrews still wanted to consult with the auditors also about the liabilities that would be increased with the changes. Harper Lane is complete and a short portion, 800 feet, down Brooks Street. Striping will be completed soon. 2021 LMIG funding exhausted with that project. 2019 LMIG still being finished up due to changes to the original plans.

Adjourn: Kenneth Roach made a motion to adjourn at 7:37 PM. Wayne Braswell seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.