

MINUTES

The City of Blountstown, County of Calhoun, State of Florida, met in a Tentative Budget Hearing Monday, September 18, 2023, at 5:01 P.M. at the Police Department Meeting Room. The following members of the City Council present were: Mayor Tony Shoemake, Councilman Clifford Jackson, Councilman Bill Gaskin, Councilwoman Mert Stephens, and Councilwoman Sheila Blackburn.

Also present were: City Manager Traci Hall, Police Chief Mark Mallory, Public Works Director Phillip Griffin, Fire Chief Ben Hall, and Council Secretary Joni Lambeth.

Mayor Shoemake called the Tentative Budget Hearing to order at 5:01 P.M.

Councilwoman Stephens led the Invocation. Mayor Shoemake led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The purpose of this meeting was to hold a Tentative Budget Hearing. Mrs. Hall discussed with the Council the proposed Tentative Budget. Mrs. Hall went over the changes that were made as a result of the last workshop. She began with the Commercial Sanitation rates which were increased by 10%, which totaled to \$14,232. The Capital Outlay for the Police Department, one police vehicle was removed in the amount of \$55,000 and added the Traffic Collection Data System at the cost of \$5,500. For Payroll, increase of \$1 per hour for part- and full-time employees and \$3 per hour for the four salaried supervisors for a total of \$132,605. The Council increase pay of \$500 per month, which totals \$30,000 per year. There was an additional increase in state revenue of \$4,404. For the Water Department, added the well #1, high service pump, labor, and supplies increased the Capital Outlay by \$68,500. These changes resulted in a decrease in reserves used to balance budget of \$105,839. Total reserves used to balance the budget is \$1,165,800.

Councilman Gaskin made a motion to accept the 2023/2024 Budget. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The next item was the 1st reading of Ordinance 2023-08: An Ordinance establishing Ad Valorem Millage Rate of 1.500 Mills For 2023-2024. Mrs. Hall read the Ordinance by title only. Councilman Gaskin made the motion to accept the 1st reading of Ordinance 2023-08. Councilwoman Stephens seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Next was the 1st reading of Ordinance 2023-09: An Ordinance Adopting Budget for FY 2023-2024. Mrs. Hall read the Ordinance by title only. Councilwoman Stephens made the motion to accept the 1st reading of Ordinance 2023-09. Councilman Gaskin seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The 2nd reading and vote on Final Budget will be held on Monday, October 02, 2023, at 5:01 P.M.

Councilman Gaskin made the motion to give permission to advertise the Final Ad Valorem Millage Rate & Final Budget under consideration for Adoption. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

There being no further business Councilman Gaskin made the motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Stephens seconded the motion. The motion passed. Mayor Shoemake adjourned the meeting at 5:09 P.M.

BY: 
Tony Shoemake, Mayor

ATTEST: 
Traci S. Hall, City Manager