

**CITY OF METTER
CALLED MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2019
5:45 P.M.**

A public hearing was held at City Hall on Wednesday, September 11, 2019 at 5:45 p. m. in the Council Chambers.

Attending the meeting were the following officials:

Mayor Edwin O. Boyd
Councilman Paul MacGregor
Councilwoman Amy Harrelson
Councilwoman Rashida Taylor
Councilman Brandon Sikes
Councilwoman Chyrileen Kilcrease
Interim City Manager Carter Crawford
City Clerk Angie Conner
Finance Manager Cindy Collins
Director of Tourism/Business Development Heidi Jeffers
Public Works Director Cliff Hendrix
Police Chief Robert Shore
Carvy Snell, Metter Advertiser

There were no guests present at this meeting.

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Mayor Boyd called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilwoman Harrelson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION

Councilman Sikes gave the invocation.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Called Meeting, September 11, 2019

PURPOSE

The purpose of the meeting was to approve the 2019 millage rate and to adopt the FY 2020 budget.

2019 Millage Rate

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve the 2019 Millage Rate at 11.983 mills (same as last year). Councilwoman Harrelson seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

FY 2020 Budget

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve a Resolution approving the FY 2020 proposed Budget for all funds. Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion. Councilman MacGregor said that he thinks the commercial sanitation rates are too high. We may need to look at different classes for billing. He apologized that he missed this last year when it was passed. He would like to look at reducing these fees. He said that an 80% increase is just too much at one time. Councilman MacGregor pointed out that the city has raised taxes about 50% in the last two years. He would like to reduce the rates.

Councilman MacGregor said that he would also like to see retirement put back in at 6%. He feels strong about this because he doesn't want to take away from the employees. Mr. Crawford said that he would investigate the retirement options.

Councilman MacGregor said that we are also looking at water base rates going up. This means that everybody pays. He said that he thinks that the base rate should be lower and the more water you use to more you pay. This would help the lower income people that don't use a lot of water. We should be increasing the tiered rates. This budget also includes a \$5 streetlight fee for each customer. Councilman MacGregor said that all these increases are just too many at one time. Mr. Hendrix explained that the base rate will include 1,000 gallons, presently it doesn't.

Mayor Boyd stated that the budget is just a plan and can be adjusted later if needed. He reminded the department heads to keep a tight lid on spending.

Mr. Carter said that the Fire Chief and Fire Captain are gathering information on how other places charge for fire inspection fees. He said that he hopes to have something to present to council.

After budget discussions concluded, Mayor Boyd called for the vote on the resolution adopting the FY 2020 budgets for all funds. The vote was four in favor and one opposed. Councilman MacGregor was opposed to the motion.

The FY 2020 budgets for all funds were passed as follows:

Called Meeting, September 11, 2019

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| General Fund Revenues | \$3,630,400 |
| General Fund Expenditures | \$3,630,400 |
| Hotel Motel Revenues | \$ 76,996 |
| Hotel Motel Expenditures | \$ 76,996 |
| Water/Sewer Revenues | \$1,701,452 |
| Water/Sewer Expenditures | \$1,701,452 |
| Sanitation Revenues | \$ 502,309 |
| Sanitation Expenditures | \$ 502,309 |

ADJOURNMENT

After no further business, Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

Angie Conner, City Clerk