

**CITY OF METTER
PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE INCREASE
PUBLIC HEARING
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2017
6:00 P.M.**

A public hearing was held at City Hall on Wednesday, August 9, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Attending the hearing were the following officials:

Mayor Billy Trapnell
Councilman Ed Boyd
Councilwoman Marsha Colson
Councilman Paul MacGregor
City Manager Mandi Cody
City Clerk Angie Conner
Captain Robert Shore
Jerri Goodman, Metter Advertiser

Attending the hearing were the following guests:

Mr. & Mrs. Alton Slater

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Mayor Trapnell called the hearing to order and welcomed everyone.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the hearing was to present the tentatively adopted 2017 millage rate which will require an increase in property taxes by 28.6 percent. The tentative increase will result in a millage rate of 9.983 mills, an increase of 1.99 mills. Without this tentative tax increase, the millage rate will be no more than 7.993 mills. The proposed tax increase for a home with a fair market value of \$100,000 is approximately \$79.60 and the proposed tax increase for non-homestead property with a fair market value of \$300,000 is approximately \$238.80.

This is the second of three required public hearings.

Mayor Trapnell explained that the city and staff have really strived to get by without a tax increase. In 2008 there were decreases in home values. The state implemented a lot of exemptions which reduced the city's income little by little but salaries, insurance, and other expenses were steadily going up. We have finally reached the point that we need to increase our revenue. The proposed increase is not a lot but it is an increase.

Mr. Slater said that he just wanted to remind everyone of what he said in the other public hearing early. He asked council to make sure they are being careful as they can with the budget and to think about the people on fixed income.

Mr. Slater asked when the SPLOST vote will come up and when will it be available to look at. Mayor Trapnell said that it will be on the ballot in November. Ms. Cody said that the information will be ready in September.

ADJOURNMENT

After no further comments, Mayor Trapnell thanked everyone for coming and adjourned the hearing at 6:15 p.m.

Angie Conner, City Clerk

William M. Trapnell, Mayor