**Council Minutes**

**Regular Meeting**

**October 4, 2022**

**A regular meeting of the Millen City Council was held on October 4, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Present were Mayor King Rocker, Council Members Darrel Clifton, Regina Coney, Ed Fuller, and Giovanni Shumake. Absent was Council Member Robin Scott. Also present were City Attorney Hubert Reeves, and City Manager Jeff Brantley.**

1. **Call to Order**

Mayor Rocker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. **Invocation**

City Attorney Reeves gave the invocation.

1. **Public Hearing for the 2022 Millage Rate**

Mayor Rocker opened the Public Hearing for the 2022 City of Millen Millage Rate at 6:01 p.m. City Manager Brantley reviewed the 5-year history of levy and explained that the millage rate was being reduced from 7.246 in 2021 to 7.219 in 2022. There being no questions or comments from the public or council, Mayor Rocker closed the Public Hearing at 6:04 p.m.

1. **Consent Agenda**
2. **Approve Minutes from the September 6, 2022 Regular Council Meeting**

Council Member Clifton made a motion, seconded by Council Member Coney to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **Discuss and Vote to Set the City of Millen 2022 Tax Millage Rate**

Council Member Coney made a motion, seconded by Council Member Fuller to set the City of Millen’s 2022 Property tax Millage rate at 7.219. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **Review and Approve the 2021 Millen CDBG Construction Bid**

Mayor and Council were informed by City Manager Brantley that the 2021 CDBG project was going to be rebid due to none of the submitted bids coming within the grant budget. A new bid opening date is being set during the month of November.

1. **Review and Approve the 2023 LMIG paving Bid**

The following bids were received for the 2023 LMIG paving project which is resurfacing SSG Robert Mosely Road and a section of North Gray Street:

Sikes Brothers, Inc - $134,464.80

Reeves Construction Company - $145,909.95

Council Member Clifton made a motion, seconded by Council Member Fuller to adopt the resolution as presented to accept the bid from Sikes Brothers, Inc in the amount of $134,464.80 and to fund the project with $48,866.60 of LMIG funds and the balance from the T Splost fund. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **Discuss updating the Junk Cars Ordinance and Truck Ordinance**

The Mayor and Council reviewed rough drafts of new Junk Car and Truck Ordinances prepared by City Attorney Reeves. A workshop is scheduled for 10/26/2022 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss these ordinances.

1. **Discuss letter from the County Commission Chairman requesting addition funding for the Chamber and MainStreet Millen**

The Mayor and Council discussed a letter from County Commission Chairman Hiller Spann requesting the City provide additional funding of $10,000.00 per year to the Jenkins County Development Authority to assist with funding of the Chamber of Commerce and MainStreet Millen. The Chamber of Commerce is not a City program and is self-funded through dues and fund raisers. By common consent the Mayor and Council agreed not to grant additional funds.

1. **Department Head Updates**

The Department Heads each reported on activity in their departments. The report outs were given by Lottie Kaigler – Billing; Clay Boulineau – Public Works; Dwayne Herrington – Public Safety; and John Thomas – Utilities.

1. **City Manager Report**
2. **Financials**

City Manager Brantley updated the Mayor and Council on the monthly financials. Revenues and expenses were up about 40% due to the high prices of natural gas during the month of September. The City had several large, one time or once a year expenses in September totaling $102,605.

1. **Blight Tax Update**

City Manager Brantley updated Mayor and Council on the 7 properties that were in the process of being served under the Blight Tax Ordinance.

1. **Staffing Update**

Council was informed that all departments were full except 1 open position in Public Works. There is open position in the Fire Department but it is not affecting the shift coverage. It is an administrative position.

1. **Update on Projects Accepting Bids**

The mayor and Council were informed that there are 2 bid opening scheduled prior to next months meeting. The openings are the RDF Grant - Kirkland building set for 10-26-2022 at 2:00 p.m. and the pump station installation set for 11-1-2022 at 11:00 a.m.

1. **Mayor’s Comments/Report**

No Comments

1. **City Attorney Comments/Report**

No report

1. **Council Member Comments/Reports**

Council Member Shumake made a comment about a disturbance at 717 Herndon Street and inquired about the code enforcement efforts for the Masonic Lodge on Reeves Street. The City is trying to have the tax-exempt status removed on this property.

1. **Executive Session**

**Discussion or deliberation on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a city officer or employee as provided in O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(6)**

Council Member Coney made a motion, seconded by Council Member Clifton at 7:07 p.m. to exit regular session and enter executive session to discuss compensation. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Council Member Clifton made a motion, seconded by Council Member Coney to exit executive session and enter regular session at 7:30 p.m. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **Adjournment**

There being no further business Mayor Rocker adjourned the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

**Approved by Mayor and Council: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Mayor’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Attest City Manager: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**