

CITY OF IVANHOE
TAX RATE SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES

September 12th, 2020

1:00 PM

Mayor Bennett called the Special meeting to order and Quorum established with all Council members present. Councilman Herrington was attending via phone. She informed Council the PA was turned down in the room to avoid sound feedback but to utilize the microphones so those attending the meeting by FaceBook would be able to hear. (City Sec. note: 178 individuals had viewed the meeting on Facebook as of 9/15/20)

Agenda Item #1 – FY-2021 Proposed Tax Rate

Mayor Bennett explained the Special meeting was scheduled in order to meet the deadline to submit the proposed tax rate information to Tyler County Tax Assessor/Collector Lynnette for publication in the Tyler County Booster prior to the adoption of the tax rate to cover the FY-2021 Budget. She said the 14 page formula used to determine the no new revenue does nothing to simplify and make the tax rate setting process more transparent for tax payers.

The mayor pointed out that the budget she proposed originally was put together before we had received the actual figures from the Tax Assessor/Collector. She said the value she used to calculate the rate was \$67,575,351 and the actual figure that taxes were assessed on was \$70,394,870. This was due to the fact that so many property values were under protest and that the final figure was after all of the protests had been heard.

The figure for 2020 is \$72,484,828 which includes an estimate of the properties under protest for this year.

A meeting was held earlier in the week with Chief Appraiser Mr. David Luther, Councilman Herrington, Councilman Morris and herself to review how the Appraiser and the Tax Assessor/Collector had worked up the no new revenue tax rate. Councilman Blackstone asked for clarification of what is meant by no additional tax revenue. Councilman Herrington explained that individual property owners may pay more or less depending on what happened to their property value during the year. The city would have no additional revenue from taxes based on the no new revenue tax rate. Comparison wise the FY-2020 tax rate is .7237 per hundred for Maintenance & Operations and .2183 per hundred for interest & Sinking for a total of .942 cents per hundred. Mayor Bennett explained the proposed .9091 tax rate per hundred dollar value for FY-2021 includes both Maintenance & Operations and Interest & Sinking and is lower than the current year tax rate.

Agenda Item #2 – Record Vote on Proposed Tax Rate

Mayor Bennett informed Council that the Proposed Tax Rate of .9091 per hundred dollar value must be voted individually. By record vote: Councilman Skip Blackstone in favor, Councilman Will Warren in favor, Councilman Tommy Morris in favor, Councilman David Herrington in favor and Councilman Chuck Vonderlin in favor. Mayor Cathy Bennett in favor. The vote was unanimous in favor of the proposed tax rate. Mayor Bennett clarified for those watching by Facebook that the proposed tax rate must be published in the newspaper before the Council would be able to adopt the tax rate. Councilman Vonderlin asked if the 14 page formula used to calculate the no new revenue take into account the actual tax collection rate or is it based on total assessed value. Mayor Bennett responded that the formula takes into account the 94% collection rate for the previous year. Councilman Herrington reiterated that the proposed tax rate is a reduction from the current year tax rate. The Council scheduled Tuesday, September 29th at 6:30 PM at the Buck Priest Ivanhoe Civic Center for a Special Meeting to adopt the official tax rate to cover the proposed budget.

Agenda Item #3 – Adjourn

Councilman Blackstone made the motion to adjourn with a second by Councilman Warren and the meeting was concluded at 1:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

C. D. Woodrome, City Secretary