

MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING

September 3, 2019

MONTGOMERY CITY COUNCIL

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro-Tem T.J. Wilkerson declared a super-majority quorum was present, and called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Jon Bickford City Council Place # 1
 John Champagne, Jr. City Council Place # 2
 T.J. Wilkerson City Council Place # 3
 Rebecca Huss City Council Place # 4

Absent: Sara Countryman Mayor
 Tom Cronin City Council Place #5

Also Present: Richard Tramm City Administrator
 Susan Hensley City Secretary

PUBLIC HEARING:

Convene into Public Hearing #2:

1. Open forum that allows each citizen present to address the governing body to express their concerns on the proposed tax increase. (Limit of 3 minutes)

Mayor Pro Tem Wilkerson convened the Public Hearing at 6:00 p.m.

- Mr. Richard Tramm read into the record that the overall tax rate the City has proposed is \$.4000/per \$100, which is the same tax rate as last year. Mr. Tramm advised this will allow \$.1888 for debt service and \$.2112 for maintenance and operations. Mr. Tramm advised this tax rate will raise approximately \$73,000 more than last year, with over \$62,000 of that money will be raised from new property that has been added to the City's tax roll. Mr. Tramm said the City has additional revenue that is mostly coming from sales tax increases

due to the growing economic base of the City and will benefit the City's residents because a lot of that can be funded by people visiting the City but are not residents of the City. Mr. Tramm said increased revenue will allow the City to maintain its services to the public including adding two police positions for greater visibility and the ability for an onsite police force and investigator. Mr. Tramm advised they would be adding one person to Public Works that will assist with responses to public complaints and maintenance activities. Mr. Tramm said the increased funds are largely going to increase road projects and capital projects for long-term capital projects.

Jon Bickford said notwithstanding the official verbiage of a hearing for a tax rate increase, he wanted to say that there has been no tax increase as there has not been for the past six years and they are collecting more tax revenue simply because we have more homes and therefore more people here. Jon Bickford said he might not be officially correct in stating that information but asked if he was operationally correct. Mr. Tramm said he believed he was operationally correct. Mr. Tramm said they are collecting a marginal amount because of increased valuations, but the vast majority of the increase comes from the addition of new properties with all the commercial and residential development. Mr. Tramm said they have properties that are on the tax rolls this year that were not on the rolls last year or were on the rolls as unimproved property. Jon Bickford said his point and comment is simply that the City and the City Council have not raised taxes, we are simply collecting more based-on valuations and additional homes and commercial activity. Mr. Tramm said that is correct, the tax rate has remained the same.

Adjourn Public Hearing


Mayor Pro Tem Wilkerson adjourned the Public Hearing at 6:05 p.m.

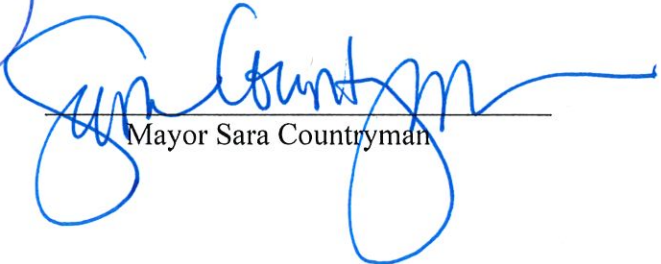
2. Announcement of the date, time and place when City Council will adopt the 2019 Tax Rate for the City of Montgomery.

Mr. Tramm announced the adoption of the 2019 Tax Rate for the City of Montgomery is planned to occur at the City Council Meeting to be held on September 10, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at 101 Old Plantersville Road, Montgomery.

ADJOURNMENT

Jon Bickford moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:06 p.m. Rebecca Huss seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously. (4-0)

Submitted by:  Date Approved: 09/10/19
Susan Hensley, City Secretary


Mayor Sara Countryman

