



Called City Council Meeting

OFFICIAL MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 18, 2017

ALPHARETTA CITY
HALL COUNCIL
CHAMBERS
2 PARK PLAZA
11:30 AM

Official Minutes

The public is advised that the following minutes are not a verbatim transcription of business presented at the Council Meeting of the date shown; but are a synopsis of pertinent information. The public is further advised that the tapes recorded at said meeting are a matter of public record and are available to be heard at the City of Alpharetta's Clerk's office during normal business hours.

I. CALL TO ORDER

❖ *Mayor Pro Tem Owens called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.*

II. ROLL CALL

- Council Members
 - Mayor David Belle Isle (*absent*)
 - Chris Owens (Mayor Pro Tem)
 - Jason Binder
 - Jim Gilvin
 - Mike Kennedy
 - Dan Merkel
 - Donald Mitchell
- Staff
 - Bob Regus, City Administrator
 - Coty Thigpen, City Clerk
 - Sam Thomas, City Attorney
 - James Drinkard, Asst. City Administrator
 - Tom Harris, Director of Finance

III. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

IV. PUBLIC HEARING

A. Public Hearing on the Fiscal Year 2018 Millage Rate Levy

- Director of Finance, Tom Harris, came forward to present this item
- The purpose of this hearing is to obtain public comment on the Recommended Fiscal Year 2018 Millage Rate Levy.

- The FY 2018 Budget was distributed electronically to the City Council on April 28, 2017 and made available on the City's website through the financial transparency portal (OpenGov) and as a downloadable pdf document.
- The Finance Department presented an overview of the operating/capital budget and proposed millage rate levy at the May 1st, 15th, and 22nd City Council Meetings.
- Public Hearings on the budget were held on June 5th, 12th, and 19th with final approval of the FY 2018 Budget occurring on June 19, 2017.
- Due to uncertainty regarding the tax digest, adoption of a millage rate was postponed pending receipt of the certified tax digest from the Fulton County Tax Commissioner. The tax digest was received on August 24, 2017 and highlights tax base growth of 4% which is in-line with budgetary estimates. It should be noted that the majority of this growth is related to new construction as revaluation of existing properties (primarily residential) was postponed pending a review of Fulton County Tax Assessor practices/procedures.
- The City's millage rate levy proposal for 2017 (FY 2018) is the same as the prior year at 5.75 mills while funding \$35 million in capital investment (including funding for capital improvements as well as maintenance of our infrastructure) that is focused on alleviating traffic congestion, expanding sidewalk connectivity, improving park amenities, etc.
- The City's millage rate of 5.75 mills includes 4.72 mills for general government (i.e. operations and recurring capital investment) and 1.03 mills for debt service on voter approved bonds. To ensure Alpharetta remains an affordable place to live and raise a family, the City provides a \$40,000 homestead exemption that saves our homeowners over \$2.4 million annually (e.g. equates to a 1.3 mill reduction for the average homeowner). The City's homestead exemption is the highest in Georgia.

Public Comment

None

V. ADJOURNMENT

❖ *Mayor Pro Tem Owens adjourned the meeting at 11:35 a.m.*