**CITY OF HAHIRA**

**AUGUST 30, 2022**

**WORK SESSION**

**6:00 P.M.**

**COURTHOUSE**

The Mayor and Council met for a Work Session on August 30, 2022 with Mayor Bruce Cain presiding.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Bruce Cain, Councils: Mason Barfield, Louise White and Mayor Pro Tem Kenneth Davis. Councilman Tony Rosatti was not present. City Manager Jonathan Sumner, City Clerk Lisa Mashburn, PWD Willie Jones, Fire Chief Dwight Bennett, Police Chief Terry Davis and MSD Jennifer Price.

**REVIEW/CORRECTION OF MINUTES:**

1. **AUGUST 2, 2022 WORK SESSION**
2. **AUGUST 4, 2022 COUNCIL MEETING**

The Mayor asked if anyone had any corrections or questions regarding the minutes. None noted.

**PUBLIC HEARING: (COUNCIL MEETING)**

1. **HA-2022-08 REZONING REQUEST BY JUSTIN COLEMAN, WEST STANFILL STREET PROPERTY (PLANNING AND ZONING ADMINISTRATOR)**

Matt Martin Planning and Zoning Administrator reviewed HA-2202-08 stating this revisit from a few years ago. The request is to rezone from R-10 to Neighborhood Commercial which is 16.5 acres. We have reviewed the boundary survey map for CN Neighborhood Commercial. This is not a plan just marketing plan to show property, not the actual layout of what is planned to build. This just shows the street pattern and how it would look, it also shows street running East to West on the property which is Stanfill to Hwy 122. This will be non-residential property. The Planning Commission met and had 6-0 vote for approval. They did have 1 person at meeting who spoke against this. Mr. Martin asked if anyone had any questions. The Mayor said this is not a planned development, this is redesign but as stated before with Mr. Coleman there will be a 50 ft. buffer and this CN does not affect CH to left of this property. Mr. Martin said no need to change this now, wait until later time to adjust if need to.

1. **THIRD MILLAGE RATE PUBLIC HEARING (CITY MANAGER)**

This is the third millage rate public hearing that is required by law. We had two public hearings on August 25th, noon and 6:00 p.m. It was all advertised in the paper as required and it was a very informal meeting. We had a few in attendance that had the economic conditions as a concern. The two points discussed were the Special events that the City has, can’t we stop having them to save money, and I explained these events pay for themselves with sponsorship. Another point was franchise fees and how it would work. This will be considered by Council and the October meeting and they will vote on the Ordinance at that time. This is a fee that is assessed against the Water Sewer fund just like the electric and telephone franchise fees. We also discussed the wording of the advertisement saying it would be 24.86% increase, this is wording set by the state. All Cities and Counties agree that it is misleading wording. The total collected taxes are estimated at $364,820 which is an increase of $90,000 which affects the total collected not each individual citizen. I gave out copies of the budget and reviewed the highlights. They had no more questions. This will be a Special Approval on Thursday night. The recommendation by staff is to raise to 5.75 which is less than all other Cities and County in area. The Millage rate was last raised in 1995 (27 years ago) and it has been cut several times in that time period. We will have public input on Thursday night at the Council meeting. I explained this will be an estimated difference of $40 to each property owner and our population as tripled since 1995. Mayor Pro Tem Davis added I do not like it but after going over the budget and the inflation increase I know the City has been affected like everyone else. Revenue did drop but expenses did not. We had the Corvid money to keep us of the red but it is going to happen again if we don’t make some changes. We have to take care of ourselves. Councilman Barfield this is due time and the advertisement is very misleading. Councilmember White said that $10 is a lot to some people. The Mayor asked if anyone had any more questions or discussion. None noted.

1. **FY23 BUDGET PRELIMINARY ADOPTION (CITY MANAGER)**

City Manager Sumner stated we will combine item 9 and 6 C for discussion. We had no discussion at Hearing I. We distributed the proposed budget to the department heads back in May and it was returned to Administration in June. We presented the recommended budget in July and discussed it at the August Work Session. We had no comments at the August meeting and it has been advertised and copies at City Hall for pick up. We will have the formal adoption at the October meeting and it will take effect on January 1, 2023. The salaries for personnel were shifted around and reclassified. I suggest you read the budget message from the Mayor. This is a complete draft and changes can be done. Does anyone have any questions? None noted.

**REVIEW OF BILLS/BUDGET OVERAGES**:

The Mayor asked if anyone had any questions or concerns regarding the bills. None noted.

**9. FY 23 BUDGET WORKSHOP II (CITY MANAGER)**

**This was included with item 6C under Public Hearing.**

The Meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

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**Mayor Bruce Cain**

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**City Clerk Lisa Mashburn**