CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
PUBLIC HEARING #3 (MILLAGE RATE)

AUGUST 25, 2025 AT 6:00 PM

COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 1859 CITY CENTER WAY, JONESBORO, GA 30236

MINUTES

I. CALLED TO ORDER

The roll was called at by Mayor Sartor at 6:02 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

The roll was called by Assistant City Clerk, Pat Daniel.

- Mayor Donya L. Sartor
- Mayor Pro-Tem Tracey Messick
- Councilmember Alfred Dixon
- Councilmember Don Dixon
- Councilmember Bobby Lester
- Councilmember Asjah Miller
- Councilmember Billy Powell
- City Attorney, David Dreyer (Absent)
- City Clerk, Shandrella Jewett (Absent)
- Assistant City Clerk, Pat Daniel
- Downtown Development Authority Manager, Andrew Simpson
- Economic Development Manager, Faith Akuta
- Finance Director, Donnette Cannady
- Police Chief, Christopher Cato
- Public Works Director, Marcus Heard

III. PRESENTATIONS

None

IV. PUBLIC HEARING - NOTICE OF PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

Mayor Sartor informed the audience that the sole focus of the meeting would be on issues related to the millage rate/property tax increase.

Public Hearing Opened

- Michael Wood (Jonesboro Resident) – Mr. Wood asked Mayor Sartor to explain why the millage rate was advertised at 15 mills.

At this time, Mayor Sartor provided an overview of the millage rate and outlined her reasoning behind recommending a millage rate of 15 mills. She presented a few slides from the FY 26 Budget Presentation to support her explanation. Addressing Mr. Wood, she stated that based on the approved millage rate, she would update the proposed FY 26 Budget.

- Shellian Hollwell (Jonesboro Resident) – Spoke regarding the proposed millage rate of 11 mills vs. 12.5 mills.
- Lance Van Dyke (Jonesboro Business Owner) – Spoke regarding tax revenue, projected income (new developments), and projected increases in services.
- Russell Smith (Jonesboro Resident) – Spoke regarding Charter Sec. 2.27 (5) - Powers and Duties of the Mayor, Charter Sec. 6.23 - The Operation of Budgets and Charter Sec. 6.28 - Annual Independent Audit.
- Michelle Hix (Jonesboro Resident) – Spoke regarding the proposed millage rate increase and residents that are on a fixed budget.

Public Hearing Closed

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Council to consider approval and adoption of the Millage Rate for FY 2026.

A motion was made to approve and adopt the millage rate at 9 mills for FY 26.

Mayor Sartor explained that having a millage rate of 9 mills, the City would face significant budget reductions.

RESULT:	**Approved (Vote 4 to 3)**
MOVER:	**Councilmember D. Dixon**
SECONDER:	**Councilmember Powell**
AYES:	**Mayor Pro-Tem Messick; Councilmembers A. Dixon, D. Dixon, Lester, and Powell**
NAYS:	**Mayor Sartor; Councilmember Miller**

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

RESULT:	**Approved (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER:	**Councilmember Powell**
SECONDER:	**Councilmember D. Dixon**

Donya L. Sartor

Dr. Donya L. Sartor, Mayor

Shandrella Jewett

Typed by Shandrella Jewett, City Clerk

Pat Daniel

Pat Daniel, Assistant City Clerk