



**CITY OF LITHONIA**  
**MINUTES–PUBLIC HEARING VIRTUAL MEETING**  
**Establishing 2021 Millage Rate**  
**Friday, June 25, 2021 @ 11:00 AM**

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**I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

The Public Hearing Virtual Meeting was called to order at 11:06 am by Mayor Shameka S. Reynolds. A roll call was taken, and the following City Council Members were present: Diane Howard, Darold Honore, Amelia Inman, and Ric Dodd. Vanneriah Wynn later joined the call.

**II. Discussion**

**a. Establishing 2021 Millage Rate**

Councilman Dodd motioned to establish the 2021 millage rate for 2021 for discussion, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Howard, and approved by a vote of 4-0.

City Administrator Sands indicated that by accepting the rollback rate of 10.021 the revenue will increase by \$70,227.17 based on an exemption decrease, previous rate was 11.0810, the lowest rate in 5 years. Councilwoman Howard had no questions or concerns. Councilwoman Inman asked if annexation would have an effect, Mayor Reynolds responded there will be no change until the following year. Councilman Dodd stated that with the Granite Crossing abatement there may be some issues collecting the taxes.

Ms. Doreen Carter (resident) indicated that she is showing a property tax increase and asked if any consideration will be given to the residents based on the surplus by adjusting the rate proposed for taxes, and where in the budget will the surplus be allocated, requesting a follow up response after the meeting and suggested a town hall or special called meeting take place before adoption to meet the July 1 deadline with time in between for research. Mayor Reynolds indicated the budget meetings will be held during the month of July.

Councilwoman Inman motioned to have another meeting once the breakdown is provided, the motion was seconded by Councilman Dodd.

City Administrator indicated the deadline to approve is July 1 with not enough time to advertise for another public hearing. For questions regarding the abatement, City Administrator Sands contacted Mr. David Bateman with DeKalb County to join the call and provide clarity. Councilwoman Inman rescinded her motion.

Mr. Bateman joined the call and stated the 2020 consolidation sheet shows the \$5 ML coming from a ground fill and not an abatement, and was removed in 2021, overall increasing the value of the digest. Furthermore, making it clear that an ad must post for 7-days if research is performed prior to adoption.

Councilman Honore concluded that going forward to plan the budget and millage rate meetings in concert in consideration of the deadline, as a suggestion.

**III. Action Item**

**a. Adoption of 2021 Millage Rate**

Councilwoman Howard motioned to adopt the 2021 Millage Rate at 10.021, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Inman; and approved by a vote of 5-0.

**IV. Adjournment**

Councilwoman Howard motioned to adjourn the meeting, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn; the motion was approved by a vote of 5-0, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:59 am.