



**SPECIAL CALLED COUNCIL MEETING
4040 SOUTH BERKELEY LAKE ROAD
BERKELEY LAKE, GEORGIA 30096
FULL MINUTES
JULY 13, 2022**

ATTENDANCE

Mayor: Lois Salter

Council Members: Rodney Hammond, Scott Lee, Chip McDaniel, Bob Smith, Rebecca Spitler

City Officials: Leigh Threadgill - City Administrator, Rob Hiller – City Marshal, John Pendleton – City Treasurer, and Karen Thomas – Assistant City Attorney

Members of the Public: 5

Members of the Press: 0

WORK SESSION

The mayor and council reviewed the meeting agenda and materials with staff.

CALL TO ORDER

Salter called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM. A quorum of council members was in attendance.

AGENDA

Salter solicited motions regarding the agenda.

McDaniel made a motion to accept the agenda as submitted. Lee seconded the motion. All council members were in favor and the motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Salter noted the following as items on the consent agenda and solicited a motion:

- a) Minutes of June 13, 2022, Council Meeting
- b) Financial Statements of May 2022 – Unaudited
- c) 2021 Financial Statement – Audited
- d) VC3 Contract for IT Services

Smith made a motion to approve all items on the consent agenda. Spitler seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

a) R-22-02, Resolution to Adopt 2022 Millage Rate

Threadgill: You have before you a recommended millage rate of 1.455 mills for the year 2022. The recommended rate is equal to the rollback rate. As an example, for a home with a fair market value of \$661,113 in 2021, the city property tax was \$461.72. For a home of the same value in 2022, the tax will be \$384.77, which represents a 16.67% reduction in taxes year to year. The citizen Finance Committee unanimously supports the recommended rate.

Hammond made a motion to adopt R-22-02, a resolution to levy an ad valorem tax for the calendar year of 2022 at the rate of 1.455 mills on all property subject to taxation in the City of Berkeley Lake. McDaniel seconded the motion. All remaining council members were in favor and the motion passed.

b) Waste Collection Services Discussion

Salter noted that we have tonight as mentioned previously in the Mayor's Message the waste collection services discussion. This has been an important issue for our citizens and a difficulty for many cities. She acknowledged that the city's Waste Management and Latham Sanitation representatives were in attendance and noted that citizens were invited through the Mayor's Message to provide comments in preparation for this meeting regarding the waste management contract. She asked council to share any thoughts of their own or concerns they have heard from citizens.

Steve Edwards, 5153 Golden Oak Cove, Gainesville, GA with Waste Management recognized Rick Jarvis of Latham Home Sanitation, a local family company that collects recycling and yard waste for the city and has since the early 1980's, and stated that he has submitted a request for recovery related to mostly labor costs and inflation. This would change the rate to \$22 a month, \$66 a year more. It is within the range of other Gwinnett cities and other area cities. He noted that he has been our partner for a long time and is proud of what Waste Management and Latham Sanitation do.

Spitler noted that normally we would probably take this out to bid. It is an arduous process to put together a RFP but more importantly we are in an economic environment where everything is upside down and in flux. We have received great service from Waste Management and

Latham and would prefer to wait until the market settles down before considering putting waste collection services out to bid and delay that for at least another year.

Lee noted that costs have gone up across the board, and the cost recovery request seems justified. He further agrees with Spitler and opts for stability for the next year before making a change.

McDaniel noted that the new \$22 rate also means the suspension of a fuel surcharge for a year, which eliminates uncertainty and fluctuation with bills.

Salter also noted that Earth Day would continue and added that we have looked at numbers from other cities and Threadgill will continue to look at other cities, but at this point, there seems to be consensus to wait to begin a formal RFP process. Staff will do more exploration and see what else we can find.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

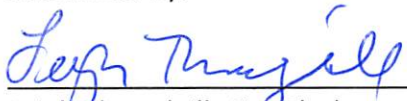
Cindy Murphy, 5597 Mountain Brook Court, Stone Mountain, stated that she appreciated Mayor and Council and all Berkeley Lake residents. She acknowledged the city's support of the Northside hospital staff over the past two years. She explained that there is an opportunity coming up in October to have the first in person 5k run in 2 years, Paint Gwinnett Pink. It will be at Coolray Field. She stated that she and Jennifer Griffin are trying to spread the word to garner community support and involvement and invited everyone out to support breast cancer efforts. There is a registration fee, this race is a qualifier for next year's Peachtree Road Race, but all the fees will stay in Gwinnett County and help cancer patients locally.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Lee moved to adjourn. Spitler seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Salter adjourned the meeting at 8:14 PM.

Submitted by:



Leigh Threadgill, City Clerk

