

City Council Meeting Minutes

City of Sylvester
Public Hearing
City Hall Council Chambers
Tuesday, January 28, 2025
Call to Order 10:00 a.m.

Attendees: Mayor Harold Proctor, Jr.
Councilman Isaac Jackson, Jr., Ward 2
Councilman Mark Giddens, Ward 3
City Manager Chris Davis
Assistant City Manager Richie Childers
Assistant City Manager Tanita Norris
City Clerk Markesha Bivens

Absent: Councilman Melvin Powell, Ward 1
Mayor Pro-Tem Earnest Carter, Jr., Ward 4
City Attorney Lester Castellow

Call to Order: Mayor Harold Proctor, Jr.

Invocation/Pledge: Mayor Harold Proctor, Jr.

With proper notice of date and time advised, and public notice requirements satisfied, Mayor Proctor thanked everyone for their attendance. The purpose of this Special Called Meeting is to inform the public about House Bill 581.

City Manager Chris Davis, informed that prior to this meeting, the Mayor and City Manager discussed options and next steps, in a joint workshop with the Worth County Board of Commission, Board of Education and the municipalities, Poulan, Sumner, and Warwick.

This new floating homestead exemption is in addition to and not in the place of and not replacing any existing homestead exemptions. Staff recommends the City of Sylvester opt out of the homestead exemption, as the other Worth County entities unanimously agreed, with the ability to opt in, in the future.

Georgia law requires three (3) public hearings to inform the public and answer questions accordingly. Following a similar schedule to the mileage rate increase, the three (3) public hearings for the City of Sylvester will take place, with the first, held on January 21, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. and two (2) on January 28, 2025, at 10 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., (rescheduled from January 27, 2025 due to inclement weather).

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Remarks

Councilman Jackson mentioned during the Cities United Summit there was discussion of HB581 and regulation of how to opt out and opt in at a later date. More information is forthcoming.

Announcements

There were no announcements.

Adjournment

With all agenda items covered, Councilman Giddens motioned to adjourn the Public Hearing, with a second by Councilman Jackson. Voting yes were Mayor Proctor, Councilmen Giddens, and Jackson. The vote passed 3-0.

Mayor Proctor duly adjourned the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

CITY COUNCIL
SYLVESTER, GEORGIA

HAROLD PROCTOR, JR., MAYOR

ATTEST:

MARKESHA BIVENS, CITY CLERK