

City Council Meeting Minutes

City of Sylvester
Public Hearing
City Hall Council Chambers
Thursday, November 20, 2025
Call to Order 10:00 a.m.

Attendees: Mayor Harold Proctor, Jr.
Councilman Isaac Jackson, Jr., Ward 2 (via phone)
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: City Manager Chris Davis

With proper notice of the date and time provided and all public notice requirements satisfied, Mayor Proctor called the Public Hearing to order and thanked those in attendance. The purpose of the meeting was to receive public comments regarding the proposed millage rate.

City Manager Chris Davis reported that, prior to this meeting, the City Staff, joint workshop with the Worth County Administrator, Tax Commissioner and Assessor, Board of Education, Economic Development, and representatives from the municipalities of Poulan, Sumner, and Warwick.

Mr. Davis also mentioned an informational video posted on social media discussing the property value reevaluation process, applicable federal and state mandates, and the tax digest information provided by the Worth County Tax Assessor's Office that supports calculation of the proposed millage rate. He stated that the proposed millage rate reflects a 66.28% increase and includes the largest rollback in the City's history.

Staff recommended a proposed millage rate of 6.177. If approved, adoption of this rate would allow the City to proceed on the same billing timeline as other municipalities and Worth County entities.

Public Comment

Mr. Glenn Parkman, a City of Sylvester resident and business owner, stated that if the proposed millage rate does not align with the final property tax appeal totals, the City will have the ability to review and reset the millage rate next year. City staff agreed with this comment.

Mr. Parkman also commended the City on the addition of the Pickleball Courts, noting they are a positive improvement for the community.

Remarks

Mayor Proctor noted the importance of spreading the information regarding the appeals process if residents disagree with the reevaluation of their property.

Announcements

Three (3) public hearings are required to provide an opportunity for questions and comments regarding the proposed millage rate. This meeting served as the first public hearing. The second and third public hearings are scheduled for December 1, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., with the vote on adoption at the regularly scheduled City Council Meeting

Adjournment

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

Mayor Proctor duly adjourned the meeting at 10:24 a.m.

CITY COUNCIL
SYLVESTER, GEORGIA

HAROLD PROCTOR, JR., MAYOR

ATTEST:

MARKESHA BIVENS, CITY CLERK