

City Council Meeting Minutes

City of Sylvester

City Council Special Called Meeting

City Hall Council Chambers

Monday, June 15, 2026

10:00 a.m.

Call to Order

Mayor Harold Proctor, Jr. called the meeting to order.

Attendees

Mayor Harold Proctor, Jr.

Councilman Isaac Jackson, Jr., Ward 2

Councilman Nykemius J. Hamilton, Sr., Ward 4

City Manager Chris Davis

Assistant City Manager Richie Childers

Assistant City Manager Tanita Norris

City Clerk Markesha Bivens

Absent

Councilman Melvin Powell, Ward 1

Councilman J. Mark Giddens, Ward 3

City Attorney Lester Castellow

Invocation/Pledge

Mayor Harold Proctor, Jr.

Agenda

Upon motion by Councilman Jackson, seconded by Councilman Hamilton, the Special Called Meeting Agenda was approved. Voting in favor were Mayor Proctor and Councilmen Hamilton and Jackson. The motion carried, 3-0.

2026-2027 Fiscal Year Budget

A. Work Session

Mrs. Karen Slaton-Dixon presented the proposed Fiscal Year 2026–2027 balanced budget of over \$30-million-dollars to the Mayor and Council. During her presentation, she reviewed revenue and expenditures, noting that revenue streams and salaries are consistent with prior-year's information. She also highlighted that property tax numbers will be adjusted in October, which is a standard practice when contracting for property tax collection.

City Manager Chris Davis additionally reported total spending has been cut back to achieve a 1.5-million-dollar reduction. He explained that large, necessary capital items, like updating outdated equipment, purchasing a bucket truck for the Utilities Department, and the recent fire truck purchase, highlight the importance in monitoring city spending.

The recent property reassessments throughout Worth County and the potential impact on the City's budget were mentioned, and with further review, the Council may consider an increase in the millage rate by one-half mill or one mill. The Council also discussed rising utility operating costs, general service expenses, and a proposed three percent cost-of-living increase for city employees.

Mr. Davis stated that the fuel station is operational at the Sylvester Municipal Airport, and the installation of extra rental hangars will also generate income and allow the city to seek future grant opportunities.

B. Public Hearing

All advertising and public notice requirements were met for the Fiscal Year 2026 - 2027 Budget Public Hearing.

There were no comments from the public.

Mayor and Council Reports/Remarks

Mayor Proctor emphasized the importance of maintaining essential city operations within a tighter budget while ensuring that services to citizens are not interrupted.

Adjournment

Upon motion by Councilman Jackson, seconded by Councilman Hamilton, the Special Called Meeting was adjourned. Voting in favor were Mayor Proctor and Councilmen Hamilton and Jackson. The motion carried, 3-0.

Mayor Proctor duly adjourned the meeting at 10:22 a.m.

CITY COUNCIL
SYLVESTER, GEORGIA

HAROLD PROCTOR, JR., MAYOR

ATTEST:

MARKESHA BIVENS, CITY CLERK