

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA
BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS
314 N 3rd St.
PUBLIC HEARING
September 14, 2023
5:05 PM**

The City Commission met on this date, September 14, 2023, at 5:05 P.M. at the Sr/Community Building located at 314 N 3rd St. in Wewahitchka, Florida.

Members Present

Mayor Phillip Gaskin
Commissioner Ralph Fisher
Commissioner Johnny Paul
Commissioner Brian Cox

City Manager

Michael Gortman
City Clerk
Rachel Jackson (Via Phone)

Finance Director

Brittney Proctor (Via Phone)
Finance Clerk
Misty Robbins

Public Present

Samantha Snow
Jared Snow

AGENDA:

1. TENTATIVE MILLAGE/BUDGET– Mayor Gaskin called the public hearing to order at 5:05 pm and stated that he had things on the budget to discuss. He discussed the contingency budget and how it should be shown in the budget worksheet moving forward. **City Manager Michael Gortman** explained that was the way it had been done since he started with the City, but we will change it as requested next time.

Mayor Gaskin asked about the code enforcement contingency from the 2022-2023 year and if there should be a line item in the 2023-2024 budget worksheet for it. **City Manager Michael Gortman** explained that it was not an anticipated expense last year so it was expensed through contingency, we did not know how that reimbursement would work through the tax roll and did not include a line item on the worksheet for it, however we can change it. **Mayor Gaskin** asked if it was too late to change it? **City Finance Director Brittney Proctor** explained that it was not too late to change it. As it would not be changing the bottom line, it would just be moving it from contingency to its own line item.

Mayor Gaskin stated he wanted to have the entire budget worksheet at the budget hearings. **City Manager Michael Gortman** stated that we have only had the budget summary at the budget hearings in the past, but we can have the entire worksheet available moving forward.

Mayor Gaskin read 2023-2024 Tentative Millage Resolution 2023-1201R in its entirety.

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2023-1201R

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE LEVY OF MILLAGE FOR AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 / 2024; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Wewahitchka, Gulf County, Florida, on the **14th** day of **September 2023**, held the first public hearing as required by Florida Statute 200.065; and

WHEREAS the gross taxable value for operating purposes not exempt from taxation within Gulf County, Florida, has been certified by the Gulf County Property Appraiser to the City of Wewahitchka as **\$80,956,714.00**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City of Wewahitchka, Gulf County, Florida, that:

1. The Fiscal Year **2023 / 2024** operating millage rate for Citywide is **6.1133 mills**, which is **more than** the rolled-back rate of **5.3760 mills** by **13.71%**
2. The Fiscal Year **2023 / 2024** operating millage rate of **6.1133 mills** as shown above is adopted by vote of the City Commission as evidenced by the signatures hereon following the first public hearing as required by Florida Statute 200.065.
3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED this **14th** day of **September 2023**

Following reading, **Mayor Gaskin** asked if there was any public input. **Samantha Snow and Jared Snow**, residents of the City of Wewahitchka, asked if this was adopting the budget. **Mayor Gaskin** explained that this was the first reading prior to adopting the budget.

Commissioner Fisher explained that the City has kept the same millage rate for years, however the property values have increased and that is what determines the property taxes. Any issues with the property tax values would need to be addressed with the Gulf County Property Appraiser.

Following discussion, at 5:21 pm, **Commissioner Fisher** made a motion to adopt 2023-2024 Tentative Millage Resolution 2023-1201R. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Gaskin read 2023-2024 Tentative Budget Resolution in its entirety.

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2023-1202R

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 / 2024; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Wewahitchka, Gulf County, Florida, on the **14th** day of **September 2023**, held the first public hearing as required by Florida Statute 200.065; and

WHEREAS, the City of Wewahitchka, Gulf County, Florida, set forth the total budgeted revenues and unappropriated reserves estimate for the Budget for Fiscal Year **2023 / 2024** in the amount of **\$19,296,615.00** including anticipated grants of **\$16,143,751.00**

PUBLIC HEARING

September 14, 2023 @ 5:05 pm

Page 3

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City of Wewahitchka, Gulf County, Florida, that:

1. The Fiscal Year **2023 / 2024** Tentative Budget be adopted, a summary of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A.
2. The Fiscal Year **2023 / 2024** tentative budget as shown above is adopted by vote of the City Commission as evidenced by the signatures hereon.
3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

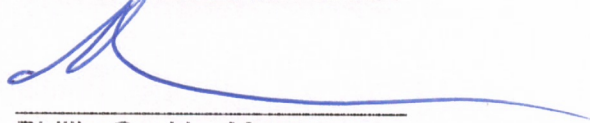
ADOPTED this **14th** day of **September 2023**

Following reading, at 5:23 pm, **Commissioner Cox** made a motion to approve 2023-2024 Tentative Budget Resolution 2023-1202R. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Meeting Adjournment

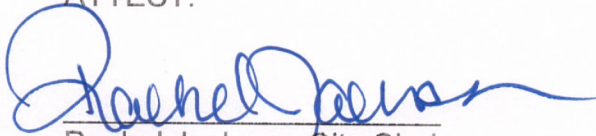
Commissioner Fisher made a motion to adjourn the public hearing at 5:24 PM. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA



Phillip Gaskin, Mayor

ATTEST:



Rachel Jackson, City Clerk

