

MINUTES
CITY OF MCDONOUGH
CITY COUNCIL MEETING- BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING
CITY HALL – DECEMBER 14, 2010
7:00 PM

The Special Called Meeting of the City of McDonough Council to conduct a 2011 Budget Public Hearing was held on Tuesday, December 14, 2010 at 7:00 PM with the following members present:

Mayor:	Billy Copeland
Mayor Pro Tem:	Sandra Vincent
Councilmembers:	Rufus Amis
	Monta Brown
	Gail Notti
	Wayne Smith
	Rufus Stewart

Also present for this meeting was: City Administrator, Billy Beckett; City Clerk, Janis Price; Fire Chief, Steve Morgan; Police Chief, Preston Dorsey; Finance Director, Bonnie Kline; and Media Relations Casey Case.

Mayor Copeland called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Councilmember Smith led the Pledge to the Flag and Councilmember Stewart gave the invocation.

City Administrator, Mr. Billy Beckett, reviewed the proposed 2011 budget. The budget is \$2 million less than last year. The general fund budget is almost \$200,000 less than last year. There will not be a millage rate increase at this time. There is a 95% estimated collection rate for 2011; in 2010 it was a 93% rate. There are no new service levels at this time. There will be a couple of recommendations; such as a comprehensive analysis of fees being revised, and a recommendation of a water/ sewer rate increase. The City will be switching to a July 1st to June 30th fiscal year with new budget deliberations beginning in late February or early March. Mr. Beckett recommended scheduling a retreat and a visioning session for Mayor and Council. The millage rate was maintained even with a 12½ % overall decrease in the digest.

Mayor Copeland opened the Public Hearing and asked for any citizen to speak in favor or in opposition of the proposed 2011 Budget. Ms. Annette O'Banion spoke and expressed the following concerns:

- time element of distributing budget information to the public.
- differences in the 2010 Budget vs. 2011 Budget.
- taxes collected from residential vs. business community.
- tourism plan needed to increase revenue.
- benefits and retirement contributions for governing body vs. employees.
- suggestion of re-assessing the phone service.

Ms. O'Banion was the only person to speak at the Public Hearing. Mayor Copeland closed the Public Hearing.

Mayor Copeland asked for a motion to adjourn the Public Hearing Budget Meeting. Councilmember Stewart motioned and Councilmember Smith seconded. The vote was six in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Janis Price,
City Clerk