



Minutes of the March 31, 2025  
Proposed Property Taxation Public Hearing  
\*Unofficial meeting minutes until approved by Council\*

The meeting of the Robins City Council was called to order at 6:02p.m. on Monday, March 31st, 2025 at Robins City Hall, 265 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> St by Mayor Chuck Hinz. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was taken with the following members present: Councilor Leigh Cook, Councilor Mike Foley, Councilor Dave Franzman, Councilor Cary Smith and Councilor JD Smith. Also present were City Clerk Lisa Goodin, City Attorney Holly Corkery, Zoning Administrator Vance McKinnon, Police Chief Andy Humphrey, and Fire Chief Keith Feldkamp. Approximately 12 residents were in attendance. J. Smith moved to approve the agenda, Franzman seconded and all voted aye.

PUBLIC HEARING: A Public Hearing to hear comments and concerns relating to the proposed property tax levy for Fiscal Year 2026 was opened at 6:03pm. The following residents appeared before Council:

- Sherry Hess, 275 Gypsy Lane – Mrs. Hess questioned how many more new levies the City planned to add to residents' property tax burden. Goodin provided that the current levies were not new levies and that the Special Election on March 4<sup>th</sup> was to increase the existing Combined City General Fund Levy (CGFL).
- Ruth Hallquist, 8550 Leslie Ln – Mrs. Hallquist asked which of the current levies were new. Clerk Goodin replied that none of the current levies were new for FY 26. The City has always levied for Debt Service, Liability Insurance and Employee Benefits but that legislation which went into effect for FY25 required the City to levy for those items separately from the CGFL, whereas previously they were part of the general levy.
- John Skarphol, 300 W. Main St. – Mr. Skarphol requested a side-by-side comparison of the levy rates for the past 10 years. As only data for FY25 & FY26 were available due to the restructuring of the levies, those charts were shared with those in attendance. Mr. Skarphol further questioned the 50% proposed increase in the total tax levy. The response was provided that the voted increase in the CGFL from \$4.49 in FY25 to \$6.57 for FY26 accounted for the majority of the increase, while typical increases in the levies for City liability insurance and employee benefits accounted for the rest.
- Marissa Phillips, 1040 Morrison Dr. – Mrs. Phillips questioned why the breakdown of the City levies was not provided on the County Auditor's letter. As the City does not produce these letters, no answer was available. Mrs. Phillips further questioned why more clarification regarding the total City levy was not shared at the Special Election open house events. Goodin shared a chart from the City website which explained the total levy, which had also been available on a poster at both open house events and shared via the Robins News newsletter.

ADJOURN: The Public Hearing was closed and the meeting adjourned at 6:29 pm.

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JD Smith, Mayor Pro-Tem

ATTEST:

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Lisa Goodin, City Clerk/Treasurer