



**BOARD OF MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION
JUNE 14TH, 2023
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING REGULAR MEETING**

MINUTES

Members Present: Brian Fisher, Mayor Pro Tem
Lisa Shortell, Commissioner
Lionel Laratte, Commissioner
Dee Merriam, Commissioner
Member Absent: Jonathan Elmore, Mayor
Staff Present: Patrick Bryant, City Manager
Shannon Powell, Asst. City Manager
Ellen Powell, Communications Manager
Gina Hill, City Clerk
Brittany Marmol, Finance Dir.
Harry Hess, Police Chief
Helen Menefee, Admin Asst.
Lori Leland, Permitting Coord.
Tammy Martinez, Communications

Item #1 Meeting Called to Order

Item #2 Adoption of Agenda
Commissioner Shortell motioned to adopt. Commissioner Laratte seconded. All ayes.

Item #3 **Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) Opening**
There are three applicants for one open position. The BOMC will discuss and pose questions to the applicants in attendance.

Mayor Pro Tem Fisher called Luis Suazo to the podium and members of the BOMC asked him questions about the role he would potentially have on the HPC as well as the HPC's role in the community. Dustin Gilliland followed and answered many of the same questions. Mr. Fisher said the other applicant is out of the country and they would interview her before making any decisions.

Item #4 **Variance Request for 14 Dartmouth Avenue**
The application is to rebuild and expand a nonconforming accessory structure by increasing the height from 12.25 feet to 16.5 feet with a reduced side setback from 12 feet to 1.7 feet in the rear yard of a single-family residence, zoned R-12. This application will go before the Planning Architecture and Zoning Board Monday, June 12th.

Assistant City Manager Powell explained staff's evaluation of the request. Staff advises against approval as it does not comply to zoning and does not display a hardship. Members of the BOMC discussed the case and asked questions of Ms. Powell. Mayor Pro Tem Fisher listed reasons the request could be approved. Commissioner Laratte felt that project made sense aesthetically. Commissioners Merriam and Shortell cited the work, input and reasons that have gone into the new zoning code. Discussion continued. City Manager Bryant said there would be a public hearing on this matter in two weeks.

Item #5

Introduction to 2023 Draft Tax Digest

Staff will provide a primer for millage rate hearings by introducing the BOMC to the 2023 Draft Tax Digest.

City Manager Bryant explained the process of setting the millage rate. He wanted to present the information received thus far by the county ahead of this process. Mr. Bryant explained how the digest can change during the millage process and it's role in the annual budget planning. He added that a senior tax credit is also being evaluated. While tax collection will be less than projected, he said, there are other areas of revenue that will make up some of that.

Item #6

Special Called Meeting to Set Millage Rate

A special called meeting is set for Thursday, June 29th to vote on the 2023 millage rate immediately after the third public hearing on the matter. A resolution is required for the purpose of scheduling the meeting.

City Manager Bryant explained the need for this item. The date and time of the special called meeting was announced. Mayor Pro Tem Fisher asked the audience to spread the word about the millage rate process.

Item #7

Public Comment

Bill Hover had a question about the date of the variance at 14 Dartmouth Avenue. Stacey Bearden asked that staff publish information about the millage rate and taxes that includes scenarios with various levels of sanitation included and its financial impact. Jan Hover spoke in support of adhering to the zoning code. John Mizell asked when quarterly financials would be posted on the website again.

Item #8

Adjournment

Commissioner Laratte moved to adjourn. Commissioner Merriam seconded. All ayes.

APPROVED JULY 12TH, 2023



Gina Hill, City Clerk