

**Minutes
City of Folkston
Regular Monthly Meeting
February 15, 2021**

The Mayor and Council of the City of Folkston met in regular session on February 15, 2021 at City Hall.

Mayor Gowen called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm. He gave the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance.

Members Present: Lee Gowen, Mayor
 Ruby Baker
 Marion Davis, Jr.
 Rob Roberson
 Bruce Young

Members Absent:

Also Present: Leonard H. Lloyd, City Manager
 Hali Coffey, Deputy Clerk
 Wesley Green, Chief of Police
 Patrick Brooks, City Attorney

Visitors: Elaine Bailey, Pastor Terrance Pender, Gloria Brown, Antwon Nixon, Chamber Director Dana O'Quinn, and Marla Ogletree with Charlton County Herald.

AGENDA

Mayor Gowen stated the agenda will need to be amended by adding an executive session.

Mrs. Baker made a motion to approve the amended agenda as presented.

Mr. Young seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

MINUTES

The council was presented the minutes from the January 11, 2021 Regular Meeting.

Mr. Young made a motion to approve the minutes as presented.

Mr. Davis seconded motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

APPROVE INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENTS

The income and expense statements for December 2020 and January 2021 were presented.

Mrs. Baker made a motion to approve the income and expense statements as presented.

Mr. Young seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Green stated the police department filed 40 incident reports, investigated 9 accidents and answered 1262 calls during the month of January 2021. The police department collected 9,721.00; the city's portion is \$7,486.13.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Lloyd informed the council the Tower Street project has begun. They are already working on the dirt road side. This should improve the drainage in this area.

Election Superintendent, Brenda Hodges has made a proposal to the county to combine three precincts into one. The city, the fire department and the American Legion voting sites would be moved to the county annex building auditorium. Mayor Gowen stated this would eliminate a few pole workers and make setting up the machines easier for Mrs. Hodges. The council stated they had no problems with the proposed change.

APPROVE 2021 BUDGET

Mr. Young made a motion to approve the 2021 Budget as presented. Mrs. Baker seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

APPROVE 2020 MILLAGE RATE

Mayor Gowen stated the millage rate of 7.397 is a 0.01% decrease from 2019.

Mrs. Baker made a motion to approve the millage rate of 7.397 for tax year 2020 as presented. Mr. Davis seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

APPROVE FNB RESOLUTION / SIGNATURES

Mayor Gowen stated the bank signatures for FNB Bank and Southeastern Bank needed to be updated to include Hali Coffey and to remove Mr. Stanley Golaszewski.

**Mr. Davis made a motion to approve FNB Bank Resolution #2103-01 as presented.
Mr. Roberson seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.**

APPROVE SOUTHEASTERN RESOLUTION / SIGNATURES

Mr. Davis made a motion to approve Southeastern Bank Resolution #2103-02 as presented. Mr. Roberson seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

APPROVE TO RESCHEDULE MARCH REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Gowen informed the council that the March 15, 2021 regular meeting will need to be rescheduled for March 8th at 6:30 pm. There will be no work session for the 8th. The city is requesting to refinance the older debt to allow for a lower interest rate. The council will need to approve a resolution at the March 8, 2021 regular meeting.

**Mr. Davis made a motion to reschedule the March 15, 2021 regular meeting to March 8, 2021 at 6:30 pm and to cancel the work session for March 8.
Mr. Young seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.**

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Antwon Nixon requested the council consider speed bumps for Laura Street. Mayor Gowen stated the council would need to have further discussion regarding this request.

APPROVE EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Gowen requested an executive session to discuss personnel.

Mr. Young made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss personnel.

Mr. Davis seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

The executive session began at 7:00.

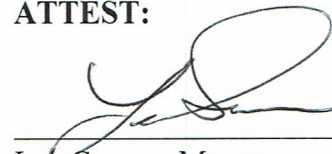
Mayor Gowen declared the meeting back in session at 7:15.

No action was taken.

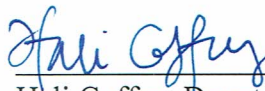
ADJOURN

Mr. Young made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Roberson seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

ATTEST:



Lee Gowen, Mayor



Hali Coffey, Deputy Clerk

City of Folkston

Regular Meeting

February 15, 2021

Please Sign In

Please Print

Lorraine Pender

Marla Ogletree

Elaine Bailey

Gloria Brown

Dana O'Quinn

Answer Question

CITY OF FOLKSTON
ANTICIPATED BUDGET FOR 2021
GENERAL

ANTICIPATED RECEIPTS AND BEGINNING BALANCES

PROPERTY TAXES	542,900
ALL OTHER TAXES	592,000
LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX	337,397
T-SPLOST	50,000
SPLOST	200,000
LICENSES & PERMITS	42,100
FINES & FORFEITURES	140,000
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	235,040
OTHER REVENUE-NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED	23,750
FEDERAL/STATE GRANTS	52,127
FUND BALANCE AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	205,000
TOTAL INCOME	2,420,314

ANTICIPATED EXPENSES AND ENDING BALANCES

SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT	314,636
PARKS AND BEAUTIFICATION	66,558
STREETS	492,502
GENERAL OPERATIONS	498,860
POLICE DEPARTMENT	804,601
ADMINISTRATION	243,157
TOTAL EXPENSES	2,420,314

WATER

ANTICIPATED RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES

WATER REVENUES	887,300
WATER EXPENSES	887,300

WASTEWATER

ANTICIPATED RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES

WASTEWATER REVENUES	836,184
WASTEWATER EXPENSES	836,184

A Copy of the entire budget is available at City Hall for review.

The MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FOLKSTON, do hereby announce that the millage rate will be set at a meeting to be held at CITY HALL on February 15, 2021 at 6:30 PM. Pursuant to the requirements of O.C.G.A. Sec. 48-5-32 the Mayor and Council do hereby publish the following presentation of the current year's tax digest and levy along with the history of the tax digest and levy for the past five years.

City	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Utilities	4,455,795	4,624,335	3,890,533	4,043,139	4,043,139	4,466,043
Real and Personal	74,129,708	68,606,390	67,274,196	68,105,567	69,173,106	69,239,897
Motor Vehicles	2,063,150	1,568,890	1,170,570	914,280	783,844	666,660
Mobile Homes	610,740	610,540	635,636	645,280	722,567	762,136
Timber - 100%	0	0	0	0	0	0
Heavy Duty Equip	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gross Digest	76,803,598	75,410,155	72,970,935	73,708,266	74,722,656	75,134,736
Less M&O exemptions	2,024,173	3,702,367	2,200,649	1,995,066	1,715,317	1,744,351
Net M&O Digest	74,779,425	71,707,788	70,770,286	71,713,200	73,007,339	73,390,385
Gross M&O Millage	10.79	11.64	11.81	14.78	11.97	12.22
Less Rollbacks	4.05	4.22	4.39	7.44	4.64	4.82
Net M&O Millage	6.74	7.42	7.42	7.34	7.33	7.40
Net Taxes Levied	504,013	532,072	525,328	526,078	535,449	542,900
Net Taxes \$ Increase	-384	28,058	-6,744	750	9,371	7,451
Net Taxes % Increase	-0.08%	5.57%	-1.27%	0.14%	1.78%	1.39%