



Newnan Special Called City Council Meeting

AUGUST 20, 2020

Newnan City Hall
Richard A. Bolin Council Chambers
25 LaGrange Street
11:00 AM

CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- [A.](#) 2nd and Final Reading- Ordinance to Adopt the 2020 Millage Rate for Property tax billing
- [B.](#) 2nd and Final Reading- Ordinance to Re-Establish Farmer Street Cemetery Commission

MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

- [C.](#) Motion to Enter into Executive Session

ADJOURNMENT



**City of Newnan, Georgia
Mayor and Council**

Date: August 11, 2020

Agenda Item: Ordinance to set millage rate for 2020 Property Taxes

Prepared By: Katrina Cline, Finance Director

Presented By: Cleatus Phillips, City Manager

Purpose: To adopt an ordinance to set the millage rate for real and personal property taxes for the City's 2020 assessment cycle.

Background: The 2020 tax digest was received from the Coweta County Tax Commissioner on July 20, 2020. The current 2020 tax digest and 5-year history of the levy has been advertised, as required.

Funding: N/A.

Recommendation: Staff recommends that Council approve the ordinance as submitted, resulting in a millage rate for 2020 of 3.643 mills, which is the rollback rate calculated by the Coweta County Tax Commissioner for 2020.

Options:

1. Approve the ordinance as submitted.
2. Other action as directed by Council.

Attachments: Current 2020 Tax Digest and 5-Year History of Levy (as advertised).

Previous Discussion with Council: N/A.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Newnan City Governing Authority does hereby announce that the 2020 millage rate will be set at a meeting to be held at Newnan City Hall on August 11, 2020 at 2:30 PM, and pursuant to the requirements of O.C.G.A. 48-5-32, does hereby publish the following presentment 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 of Newnan CURRENT 2020 TAX DIGEST AND 5-YEAR HISTORY OF LEVY

City of Newnan	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020*
Real and Personal	\$1,175,236,951	\$1,204,536,961	\$1,322,596,403	\$1,419,667,563	\$1,475,094,477	\$1,694,291,927
Motor Vehicles	39,862,510	28,360,230	20,606,520	15,045,190	11,991,020	9,516,854
Mobile Homes	0	0	0	0	0	0
Timber - 100%	0	0	0	0	0	0
Heavy Duty Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gross Digest	\$1,215,099,461	\$1,232,897,191	\$1,343,202,923	\$1,434,712,753	\$1,487,085,497	\$1,703,808,781
Less M & O Exemptions	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net M & O Digest	\$1,215,099,461	\$1,232,897,191	\$1,343,202,923	\$1,434,712,753	\$1,487,085,497	\$1,703,808,781
State of Georgia Forest Land Assistance Grant Value	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Adjusted Net M & O Digest	\$1,215,099,461	\$1,232,897,191	\$1,343,202,923	\$1,434,712,753	\$1,487,085,497	\$1,703,808,781
Gross M & O Millage	8.988	9.241	8.709	8.707	8.905	8.304
Less Rollback	4.938	5.191	4.839	4.707	4.916	4.661
Net M & O Millage	4.050	4.050	3.870	4.000	3.989	3.643
Net Taxes Levied	\$4,921,153	\$4,993,234	\$5,198,195	\$5,738,851	\$5,931,984	\$6,206,975
Net Tax \$ Increase/(Decrease)	\$196,005	\$72,081	\$204,962	\$540,656	\$193,133	\$274,991
Net Tax % Increase/(Decrease)	4.15%	1.46%	4.10%	10.40%	3.37%	4.64%

* Proposed Millage Rate. Actual Millage Rate will be determined by Council at the August 11, 2020 meeting.

ORDINANCE IMPOSING TAXES FOR CORPORATE PURPOSES FOR THE YEAR 2020

BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of the City of Newnan, Georgia:

SECTION I. That for the purpose of paying its expenses of operation and maintenance from the 1st day of January, 2020 to the 31st day of December, 2020, the City of Newnan, Georgia, a body politic, does hereby impose and levy the following taxes:

On each one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars of the assessed value of all real estate and all personal property in the City of Newnan, Georgia and in like proportion on less than one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars in assessed value a tax, in the following amount:

For the general operations of the City of Newnan, the tax rate of eight and three hundred four (8.304) mills is hereby levied upon the real and personal property located within the corporate limits of the City of Newnan. This rate will produce approximately \$14,147,826 in ad valorem taxes. In compliance with the original laws regulating local option sales tax, the sum of \$7,940,851 is hereby deducted from the total levy, leaving a balance to be collected of approximately \$6,206,975, or a reduction in the ad valorem tax levy of four and six hundred sixty one (4.661) mills. The effective rate of taxation is three and six hundred forty three (3.643) mills, which is for the general operations of the City of Newnan.

SECTION II. That all taxes imposed or levied by this ordinance shall be due and payable at the office of the Coweta County Tax Commissioner approximately forty-five days after billing.

If any tax is not paid on or before the last business day of the month following the billing, interest in the amount of 0.542% per month shall be added and collected by the Tax Commissioner. Additionally, a penalty of 5% shall be added after 120 days, with an additional 5% assessed after each successive 120 days, up to a maximum of 20% of the principle amount due. If the taxes are not paid by the 31st day of March 2021, the Tax Commissioner may issue a tax execution for the tax, penalty, interest, and execution fee of twelve dollars (\$12.00) against the property of the defaulting taxpayer, directed to the police chief or any other officer or person designated by the City Council for that purpose, who shall proceed to collect the same according to law.

SECTION III. Any taxpayer whose property is under appeal with the Coweta County Tax Assessor shall make a partial payment reflecting the tax on the undisputed portion of the appraisal. Taxpayers with pending appeals who make full payment will receive a refund for any reduction in the property valuation resulting from the appeals process. Taxpayers who make partial payments will be liable for penalties on any additional tax due following resolution of the appeals process.

SECTION IV. Any ordinance or parts of ordinances in conflict with or inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

**ORDINANCE IMPOSING TAXES FOR
CORPORATE PURPOSES FOR THE YEAR 2020**

DONE, RATIFIED AND PASSED in regular session, on this the _____ day of _____, 2020.

ATTEST:

Della Hill, City Clerk

L. Keith Brady, Mayor

REVIEWED AS TO FORM:

C. Bradford Sears, Jr., City Attorney

George M. Alexander, Mayor Pro-Tem

Cleatus Phillips, City Manager

Cynthia E. Jenkins, Councilmember

Raymond F. DuBose, Councilmember

Rhodes H. Shell, Councilmember

Dustin Koritko, Councilmember

Paul Guillaume, Councilmember



City of Newnan, Georgia - Mayor and Council

Date: August 11, 2020

Agenda Item: Re-Establishment of Farmer Street Cemetery Commission

Prepared By: Cleatus Phillips. City Manager

Purpose: An Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Newnan by adopting an amended ordinance re-establishing the City of Newnan Farmer Street Cemetery Commission for the protection, preservation, promotion, maintenance, and improvement of the Farmer Street Cemetery.

Background: In 2000, the Mayor and Council approved the creation of the Farmer Street Cemetery Commission. The purpose of the commission was to plan for the protection and preservation of and recommending placement of the improvements and structures within, including, but not limited to, fencing along the perimeter of the cemetery, establishing a recommended schedule for the maintenance of the cemetery; and to generally protect and preserve the cemetery. Through a series of meetings, public input, and the use of consultants, the Commission prepared its findings and made a final presentation to Council on July 8, 2003.

At that time the Commission's work was considered complete. Since that time, there has been conversation to restart the Commission. The purpose of the Commission would essentially be the same as the original purpose with specific language added to support the overall 'promotion' of the Cemetery. Also, the newly formed Commission would not have an ending date nor ending task as did the original Commission.

If adopted each Council member will appoint one member to the Commission.

Funding: N/A

Recommendation: Re-establish Farmer Street Cemetery Commission

Previous Discussion with Council: None

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES
OF THE CITY OF NEWNAN BY ADOPTING AN AMENDED ORDINANCE RE-
ESTABLISHING THE CITY OF NEWNAN FARMER STREET CEMETERY
COMMISSION FOR THE PROTECTION, PRESERVATION, PROMOTION,
MAINTENANCE, AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE FARMER STREET CEMETERY**

WHEREAS, the City has previously adopted Ordinance No. 00-04 creating the City of Newnan Farmer Street Cemetery Commission for the protection, preservation, promotion, maintenance and improvement of the Farmer Street Cemetery as part of its Code of Ordinances; and

WHEREAS, the City has determined that it is in the best interest of the residents of the City and the protection, preservation, promotion, maintenance and improvement of the Farmer Street cemetery to update said ordinances in order to re-establish the City of Newnan Farmer Street Cemetery Commission to provide for the protection, maintenance and preservation of said Cemetery;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Newnan and it is hereby ordained by the authority of same that Article III of Chapter 7, Cemeteries, of the Code of Ordinances be deleted in its entirety and a new Article III of Chapter 7, Cemeteries, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Newnan re-establishing the City of Newnan Farmer Street Cemetery Commission be and is hereby adopted to read as follows:

**ARTICLE III. THE CITY OF NEWNAN FARMER STREET CEMETERY
COMMISSION**

SECTION I: Sec. 7-69. ESTABLISHMENT; PURPOSE.

There is hereby created a commission to be known and designated as the City of Newnan Farmer Street Cemetery Commission and to be referred to in this article as the “commission” for the purposes of planning the protection, preservation, promotion, maintenance and improvement of the above named cemetery. The parcel of land referred to as the Farmer Street Cemetery for the purposes of this article is that parcel of land located on Farmer Street between East Washington Street and Glenn Street within the city of Newnan further identified as an “Old Abandoned Cemetery” on Tax map N15 Block 5 on the city tax map.

Sec. 7-70. COMPOSITION; TERMS; COMPENSATION.

(a) The commission shall consist of nine members as follows: one member shall be appointed by each of the seven council members, one member shall be appointed from the Tree Commission, by its members, and one member shall be appointed from the Parks Commission by its members. Each member shall be a resident of Coweta County during his or her term of office. The members shall serve until such time as the commission shall be dissolved as decided by the council. Vacancies in office during the term of any appointment shall be filled in the same manner as the person was appointed whose office has become vacant.

(b) The members of the commission shall serve without compensation. However, they shall be entitled to be reimbursed for any actual expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duties.

Sec. 7-71. DUTY; RESPONSIBILITY; AUTHORITY.

The commission created in this article shall have the duty, responsibility and authority:

(1) To study, develop plans, and establish goals, for the establishment, development, care, preservation, promotion, maintenance, and placement of improvements and structures in or around the perimeter of the Farmer Street Cemetery.

(2) To assist and coordinate its activities with the city tree commission which has the responsibility and duty to provide for and preserve the trees and shrubs within the city and the city parks commission which has the duty of recommending improvements and structures within the city parks, if the commission finds such assistance and coordination to be necessary and appropriate to its activities.

(3) To assist the proper officials and make available to the general public news and information regarding the protection, preservation, promotion, improvement, use and maintenance of said cemetery; to recommend from time to time as necessary ordinances and other programs that will be beneficial to protect, preserve, promote, improve and maintain said cemetery.

(4) To make an annual report to the council, including any budget requests, on or before October 1 of each calendar year.

Sec. 7-72. OFFICERS' MEETINGS.

Upon appointment of the initial commission by the mayor and council, the commission shall meet and elect one of its members as chairman and one of its members as secretary. The commission shall then provide for the rules and procedure for the holding of regular and special meetings of the commission as deemed advisable and necessary.

SECTION II: All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict or inconsistent with this Ordinance hereby are repealed.

SECTION III: This Ordinance shall be effective upon adoption.

Adopted in regular session assembled, this ____ day of _____, 2020.

ATTEST:

Della Hill, City Clerk

L. Keith Brady, Mayor

REVIEWED AS TO FORM:

C. Bradford Sears, Jr., City Attorney

George M. Alexander, Mayor Pro-Tem

Cleatus Phillips, City Manager

Cynthia E. Jenkins, Councilmember

Raymond F. DuBose, Councilmember

Rhodes H. Shell, Councilmember

Dustin Koritko, Councilmember

Paul Guillaume, Councilmember

Motion to Enter into Executive Session

I move that we now enter into closed session as allowed by O.C.G.A. §50-14-4 and pursuant to advice by the City Attorney, for the purpose of discussing

And that we, in open session, adopt a resolution authorizing and directing the Mayor or presiding officer to execute an affidavit in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-14-4, and that this body ratify the actions of the Council taken in closed session and confirm that the subject matters of the closed session were within exceptions permitted by the open meetings law.

Motion to Adopt Resolution after Adjourning Back into Regular Session

I move that we adopt the resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute the affidavit stating that the subject matter of the closed portion of the council meeting was within the exceptions provided by O.C.G.A. §50-14-4(b).