

# WAYNESBORO, VIRGINIA

## CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES



Council for the City of Waynesboro, Virginia held a Special Called Meeting on Wednesday, September 28, 2022 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 503 W. Main Street, Waynesboro, Virginia, Mayor Henderson presiding and calling the meeting to order. This meeting was also viewable by accessing the City's YouTube Channel.

PRESENT: Council Members: Bobby Henderson, Mayor  
Lana Williams, Vice Mayor  
Sam Hostetter, Council member  
Terry Short, Jr., Council member

City Staff: Michael Hamp, City Manager  
Todd Wood, Assistant City Manager - Operations  
Michael Wilhelm Assistant City Manager – Public Safety  
Cameron McCormick, Assistant City Manager – Finance  
Julia Bortle, Clerk of the Council  
Sabrina von Schilling, Commissioner of the Revenue

Counsel: Melisa Michelsen, Esq., Litten & Sipe, LLC

ABSENT: Bruce Allen, Council member

### **BUDGET UPDATE – MOTOR VEHICLE TAX ASSESSMENT**

Mayor Henderson called the meeting to order and asked Council member Hostetter to lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. He stated the purpose of the Special Called Meeting was to address the most recent vehicle tax assessment update.

The city manager stated that this issue required a special called meeting to allow adequate time to communicate about the issue and collaborate with council and staff. He thanked the Commissioner of the Revenue for working with the Assistant City Manager of Finance to ensure Council's objectives are met.

The Assistant City Manager/Finance made a presentation (*attachment 47-50*) that included options to continue with the \$2.75 rate or introduce an ordinance that adopts a different rate.

Adhering to the original budget would mean the rate would be \$2.52. Options included an adjusted rate to \$2.65 or \$2.55 that would extend additional relief to taxpayers while realizing new capacity within the budget to accomplish projects. Employee compensation could be addressed prior to the next budget season.

Councilman Hostetter said he is comfortable with introducing a rate of \$2.65 and then discuss the impact. Councilman Short asked about different scenarios on age, make and model of different vehicles around the city. He is concerned about the regressive nature of the taxing tool versus a more progressive tax on real estate rates.