

CITY OF CALHOUN
AD VALOREM TAX HEARING
OCTOBER 16, 2008
11:00 A.M.
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM

DRAFT

ATTENDANCE: James F. Palmer, Mayor
Eddie Peterson, City Administrator
George Crowley, Mayor Pro Tem
Al Edwards, Councilman
Ray Denmon, Councilman
Michele Taylor, School Superintendent
Don Hood, Calhoun City Schools CFO
Tony Swink, School Board Post 5
Heather Evans, Deputy City Clerk

1. Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.
2. Mayor Palmer stated Eddie Peterson, City Administrator, would give a power point presentation at this time.
3. Administrator Peterson introduced himself and explained the purpose of the meeting.
4. Administrator Peterson gave his power point presentation. (Attached)
 - Georgia Laws/Georgia Senate
 - Levy History
 - Roles of the County Tax Assessors
 - Budget
 - Homes taxed with no exemptions
 - Reviewed in percentages and dollars amounts based on a \$100,000 home
 - Homes taxed with exemptions
 - Reviewed in percentages and dollars amounts based on a \$100,000 home
 - Commercial taxes
 - Reviewed in percentages and dollar amounts
 - Industrial taxes
 - Reviewed in percentages and dollar amounts
 - Millage rates / Comparisons
5. Mayor Palmer asked if there were any questions.
 - Several owners / managers of local hotels asked questions and had concerns regarding appraisals decreasing and taxes increasing. The statement was made that they felt the incorrect comparisons had been given.

- Speakers involved with these questions listed as follows:
 1. Tony Patel
 2. Gordon Patel
 3. Bettye Gilbert
 4. Vikram Patel
 5. Kirit Akshar

 - Mayor Palmer stated he understood their concerns and explained the questions should be directed to the Gordon County Tax Assessors office.
 - Tim Egenes wished to speak and stated in his opinion the County should have called a meeting first so the public would have the knowledge of where the numbers come from. He stated he is also concerned with the same problems of having a lower appraisal value and more taxes.
 - Hudell West wished to speak and stated he has the same situation and is losing renters due to the economy. He stated he understands the Mayor and Council's hands are tied with some situations.
 - Mayor Palmer responded to the public and stated we had a public hearing again at 6:30 tonight and on October 27 at 6:30 pm. He recommended the public contact the tax assessor's office with questions about appraisal values, etc.
6. Administrator Peterson asked Michele Taylor, Calhoun City School Superintendent, to give the schools presentation at this time.
7. Superintendent Taylor gave her power point presentation. (attached)
- Board of Education
 - Strategic Planning for students success
 - Stewardship
 - Proposed Budget
 - Expenditures
 - Budget Impact Factors
 - Cut in State Funding
 - Additional Cuts
 - Millage Rate
 - Comparisons
 - Where the tax money applies
 - Enrollment
 - CHS 3rd in State
8. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley asked if there were any questions. There were none.
9. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley closed the public hearing.