MILLAGE RATE PUBLIC HEARING
OCTOBER 12, 2026 – 6:30 PM
109 SOUTH KING STREET
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM

MINUTES

PRESENT: **James F. Palmer, Mayor**
Al Edwards, Councilmember
Bruce Potts, Councilmember

ALSO: Paul Worley, City Administrator; Kyle Ellis Utilities Administrator; Steve Kish, Police Chief; and Sharon Nelson, City Clerk.

1. **Call to order and welcome – Mayor Palmer**
   A. Mayor Palmer called the millage rate public hearing to order at 6:30 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

2. **Public Hearing**
   A. Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing of the proposed millage rate of 2.25 for FY 2026-2027.

3. **Report on Legal Requirements**
   A. The required advertising and legal requirements for consideration of the proposed millage rate were reviewed. The City noted that, although the proposed rate represents a reduction from the 2025 millage rate, Georgia law requires the proposal to be advertised as a property tax increase because the proposed rate exceeds the calculated rollback rate.

4. **Millage Rate Presentation**

ADA Accommodation Notice: In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Calhoun provides reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with disabilities. Anyone needing an accommodation to participate in this meeting should contact the City Clerk at (706) 602-5501 or SNelson@calhounga.gov as soon as possible, preferably at least 48 hours before the meeting.

This meeting is open to the public. Members of the public are encouraged to attend.

A. Information was presented regarding the proposed 2.25-millage rate, the rollback rate, and property tax relief available to City taxpayers. The presentation included discussion of the Floating Local Option Sales Tax (FLOST), including the five months of 2026 collections available for tax relief, and the $18,000 Homeowner Tax Relief Grant (HTRG) for qualifying homestead properties. Discussion also addressed the effect of sales tax collections from retail activity, including purchases by individuals who live outside the city, and the use of City revenues to support services such as police, fire, and recreation.

5. **Public comments**
   A. Mayor Palmer opened the floor for comments

6. **Close public hearing**
   A. There being none, Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing.

7. **Next millage rate public hearing**
   A. Mayor Palmer announced that the vote regarding the proposed millage rate would be held October 12, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at the same location.

8. **Motion to adjourn:**
   A. Councilmember Potts made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Edwards gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved. The meeting adjourned at 6:42 pm.

Approved:

James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:

Sharon Nelson, City Clerk