

The City Council of the City of Eminence, Kentucky met in a special called session on Monday, August 27, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. at the Eminence City Hall with Mayor Drane Stephens and the following members present: Polly Troxell, Tom Shroyer, Treva Browning, Danny Meadows, Lee Ann Armstrong and Leo Mason. Absent was none. Also in attendance were Attorney William Brammell, City Clerk Sandra Doane, Police Chief Carey Duncan, Citizen Gene Mendenhall, Foresite Group Representative Brian Morris, and Henry County Local Representative Brad Bowman.

Mayor Stephens called the public hearing to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of allegiance held.

Mayor Stephens explained that this was a special meeting to discuss and have a second reading of the ordinance closing a public way and to discuss the property tax rates proposed and have a first reading of the ad valorem tax ordinance. No other business can be discussed.

Subject: Closing of a Public Way – Attorney Brammell held the second reading of an ordinance closing a public way pursuant to KRS 82.405. Motion made by Member Meadows and seconded by Member Mason to adopt Ordinance No. 2012-008 Closing a Public Way Pursuant to KRS 82.405 as read. Member Shroyer inquired about the status of the other part of the public way. Mayor Stephens stated it would be handled at another time. On a call for vote by Clerk Doane, all members present voted “Yea”.

Subject: Subject: 2012 Property Tax Rate Discussion – Mayor Stephens reported he had received a call from Citizen Gene Mendenhall to discuss his taxes and that he invited him to attend our meeting tonight. Mr. Mendenhall stated he appreciated the invitation and explained that his escrow account has been reevaluated with his monthly house payment going up by \$131.59 per month and that due to several catastrophes in his life recently including his wife having taken ill and requiring out of home nursing assistance that he cannot afford for his taxes to go up. His wife’s illness early on has drained them of their savings. Mr. Mendenhall stated he hopes the council can try and get the resources needed to help run the City some other way than raising taxes. Attorney Brammell assured Mr. Mendenhall that the City’s rates being considered could not account for that much of an increase and speculated that even the County and City together would not come near that much. Attorney Brammell suggested that perhaps his escrow account was miscalculated at his closing.

Mayor Stephens reviewed the 2012 scenarios he had Clerk Doane do including the allowed 4% rate, the compensating rate, and a rate between these two. Each rate was compared with the budget.

The budget committee's recommendation after meeting and review is to adopt the same rate as last year for real property, the corresponding calculated rate for personal property, and the same rate as last year for motor vehicles and watercrafts.

Mayor Stephens stated he is not trying to influence the vote either way but would like to mention a couple of points to consider. Not taking at least the compensating rate could negatively affect grants and we have two pending at this time and not taking at least the compensating rate would not allow the City to grow. It was discussed that both schools are raising their rates this year and that most cities in the County are not taking an increase.

Member Meadows stated that the recommended rates allow for approximately \$15,000.00 over the budgeted amount. Member Shroyer stated that with the estimated income over the present budgeted amount that he felt this was the best way to proceed. Mayor Stephens took a consensus on the committee's proposed rates with all in agreement to proceed with a first reading. The rate on real property would be .301 per \$100.00 assessment. The corresponding personal rate using the .301 rate on real property would be .4471 per \$100.00 assessment and the motor vehicle and watercraft rate would be .266 per \$100.00 assessment.

Subject: Ad Valorem Property Tax Ordinance - Attorney Brammell held the first reading of the ad valorem property tax rate ordinance setting the rate for 2012/2013 at .301 per \$100.00 assessment for real property, .4471 per \$100.00 assessment for personal property and .266 per \$100.00 assessment for motor vehicles and watercrafts.

With no further business to be discussed, motion made by Member Meadows and seconded by Member Troxell to adjourn. All members present voted "Yea". Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

DRANE STEPHENS, MAYOR
CITY OF EMINENCE, KENTUCKY

ATTEST: _____
SANDRA A. DOANE, CITY CLERK
CITY OF EMINENCE, KENTUCKY