

TOWN OF BOWLING GREEN
SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

June 18, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor David Storke, Mary Frances Coleman, Jean Davis, Matt Rowe, Jason Satterwhite, and Otis Wright.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Daniel Webb and Vice-Mayor Glenn McDearmon

OTHERS PRESENT: Town Manager Stephen Manster, Clerk Melissa Lewis, and Town Attorney Andrea Erard.

AUDIENCE: Greg Glassner

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

PUBLIC HEARING:

O-2015-010 Proposed Personal Property Tax Rate Decrease - Fiscal Year 2016, Proposed Amendments to Water and Sewer rates, and Proposed Amendments to Trash Collection schedule and rates – At 7:31 P.M. the Mayor opened the Public Hearing and read the notice published in the Caroline Progress on May 28 and June 4 2015. He called for comments from the public on the proposed personal property tax rate reduction, amendment to water and sewer rates, and amendment of residential trash collection schedule and reduction of trash rates as stated in the proposed Ordinance. The Mayor called a second and third time for comments. Hearing none, he closed the Public Hearing at 7:32 P.M.

Mr. Manster told Council that he recommended Waste Management's proposal for service as outlined in the letter from Waste Management placed in front of Council. He said that after much negotiation with both County Waste and Waste Management, Waste Management was able to best meet the Town's needs and offer the best price. Mr. Manster referred to paragraph three of the letter and suggested that if enough residents requested a second weekly pick-up, this could be scheduled for those residents and the cost be passed on to those residents. He noted that some residents would like to be able to opt out of trash service altogether and asked that Council consider the idea. Mr. Rowe asked if County Waste was given the opportunity to counter Waste Management's current offer. Mr. Manster said that County Waste was given the opportunity and could not return a better offer. Mr. Manster answered questions from Council on the number of customers receiving trash collection and the course of action if there were to be a mass exodus of customers due to trash collection opt outs. The Town Attorney mentioned that the Town Code would have to be changed in order to freely allow residents to opt out of trash service, because the current restrictions only allow few residents to opt out based on stated criteria. Mr. Manster confirmed that very few people meet the restrictions for opt out as stated in the Town Code.

NEW BUSINESS:

R-2015-002 Adoption of Fiscal Year 2016 Budget - Mr. Manster present a draft of the Resolution and asked Council how they would like to proceed.

Upon Motion by Ms. Davis, with a second by Mr. Satterwhite, Council voted to adopt R-2015-002, a Resolution to approve FY 2015-16 Budget, as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Wright	Aye	Rowe	Aye
Satterwhite	Aye	McDearmon	Absent
Coleman	Aye	Webb	Absent
Davis	Aye		

O-2015-010 Proposed Personal Property Tax Rate Decrease - Fiscal Year 2016, Proposed Amendments to Water and Sewer rates, and Proposed Amendments to Trash Collection schedule and rates – Mr. Manster asked Council how they would like to proceed with O-2015-010, on which a Public Hearing was held earlier in the meeting. He noted that the rate advertised in the Public Hearing Notice in the Caroline Progress was \$31.90 bi-monthly but that with Waste Management’s current proposal customers would only be charged \$30.00 bi-monthly.

On motion by Ms. Davis, with a second by Mr. Satterwhite, council voted to adopt O-2015-010 an ordinance to amend the Bowling Green Town Code chapter 7, “taxation,” article III, “personal property tax” by adding section 7-300.1, “tax rate;”, amending Chapter 5, “Public Facilities,” Article I, “public utilities,” section 5-177, “rates for service within the town” and section 5-178, “rates for service outside town limits” to increase rates for water and sewer fees by five percent (5%) beginning July 1, 2015, and amending Chapter 5, “Public Facilities,” Article III “Garbage, Rubbish and Refuse,” Division 1, “Section Prohibited Disposal; Maintenance of Premises,” section 5-311, “Collection Schedule,” and section 5-319, “Fees for collection” to change residential trash collection schedule to once a week collection with curbside recycling and decrease monthly rates from \$17.44 per month to \$15.00 per month, amended from the \$15.95 advertised (billed bimonthly) effective July 1, 2015.

Roll Call Vote:

Wright	Aye	Rowe	Aye
Satterwhite	Aye	McDearmon	Absent
Coleman	Aye	Webb	Absent
Davis	Aye		

Mr. Manster informed Council that he would send out a letter to residential trash customers notifying them of the change in collection schedule and addition of curbside recycling. He asked Council what else they would like in the letter. The Mayor asked if Waste Management would be providing literature on recycling. Mr. Manster said that they would. Mr. Rowe suggested that a line be added informing customers to contact the Town Manager if they are interested in retaining twice a week trash collection. Mr. Manster said he would get the letters out in a timely manner as to inform customers before the change in schedule takes place.

ADJOURNMENT:

There was a motion made by Mr. Satterwhite and seconded by Ms. Davis to adjourn at 7:49 P.M. Voting Aye: Wright, Satterwhite, Davis, Coleman, and Rowe.