

**CITY OF POMEROY**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**MINUTES**

**March 26, 2024**

**OPENING OF PUBLIC HEARING:** called to order at 5:30 P.M. by Mayor Cynthia Loots

**Roll Call:** B Hinners, B Thoma, D DeVore, C Charleston and M Becker. Absent: none.

**Public Hearing:** Proposed property tax levy.

**Public Comment:** Deb Garrett asked questions regarding the budget statement letter the was mailed to all property owners this year. City Clerk Juilfs reviewed the letter with D Garrett and showed her the levy rates from last year compared to this year. She also explained that the increase in levy rates is due partly to nuisance properties, ash tree removal, property and liability insurance and employee benefits.

**Closing of Public Hearing: 5:50 P.M.**

**CITY OF POMEROY**

**SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**March 26, 2024**

**SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING:**

**Call to Order:** called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Mayor Cynthia Loots.

**Roll Call:** B Hinners, B Thoma D DeVore, C Charleston and M Becker. Absent: none.

**Approval of Agenda:** Mayor Loots reported that D Koval had not received needed information from vendors to present to the council, so equipment request was removed from the agenda. A motion was made by C Charleston seconded by B Hinners to approve the agenda. Roll call: Ayes: B Hinners, B Thoma, C Charleston, D DeVore and M Becker. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

**Public Comment:** There was none.

A motion was made by D DeVore seconded by M Becker to set the public hearing for adopting the FY25 budget on April 8<sup>th</sup> at 6PM. Roll call: Ayes: B Hinners, B Thoma, C Charleston, D DeVore and M Becker. Nays: None. Motion Carried. Mayor Loots stated that the Request for Proposal for the Pomeroy School building received no inquiries by the March 15 deadline. She discussed this at the March 21 Calhoun County Economic Development meeting and Director Theresa Hildreth said she'd present it to her architect/developer contacts as well as with MIDAS. Mayor Loots said County Treasurer, Lori Erkenbrack updated her with the process the city must follow to ready the downtown Main Street nuisance properties for demolition. All buildings except for Byron's had taxes due and were bought on a tax sale. The taxes must be forgiven by the Supervisors and then a ninety-day notification process begins. If no one wants the properties at that time, legal paperwork to deed the properties to the city can begin. Mayor Loots presented a detailed update to the city council regarding steps taken as possible solutions to the downtown building issue. On March 16, Mayor Loots accompanied members of Byron's fundraising committee to view the Pomeroy State Bank building on Main St. It was immediately decided it was not an option. The group also toured another downtown building that day. On March 17 Mayor Loots and the group toured the Pomeroy School building. On Tuesday Mayor Loots and two other supporters of Byron's toured the school. One of them renovates old buildings, so he looked for specific details. On March 24, Mayor Loots presented an update on the downtown buildings and the school at Byron's fundraising group meeting. After the meeting they again toured the school building concentrating on the kitchen and cafeteria area. Mayor Loots compiled a list of strengths and weaknesses regarding the Pomeroy School building to update the council. A lengthy council discussion followed regarding the downtown businesses and the Pomeroy School building. A motion was made by D DeVore seconded by M Becker to give Mayor Loots and City Clerk Juilfs authorization to sign the lease for City Hall and Library with the corrections made to

the rent as presented by City Clerk Juilfs. Roll call: Ayes: B Hinners, B Thoma, C Charleston, D DeVore and M Becker. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 7:40 P.M.

\_\_\_\_\_ Cynthia Loots Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_ Sarah Juilfs City Clerk