



**BLAKELY CITY COUNCIL
2018 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING**

December 13, 2017

City Hall

5:30 P.M.

I) Call to Order, Roll Call, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance

Councilman Al Hutchins called the Public Hearing to order. Let the record show that the Mayor, Anthony Howard, Councilman Al Hutchins, Councilman Frank Thornton and Councilman Charles Middleton were present. Councilman James Crozier were not present. Tony Thompson gave the invocation. Councilman Hutchins led the Council and public in the Pledge of Allegiance. Also let the record show that the City Clerk, Melinda Crook and the Department Heads were also present.

**II) Public Hearing
2018 Proposed Budget**

The City Clerk stated that this is the public hearing for the 2018 budget. She went through changes from last year's budget to this year's budget. She pointed out that the TAVT revenue, in the General Fund, had been removed due to the current issues. She then went over the other items that had changes and operating transfers in SPLOST. Councilman Hutchins questioned the number of radio frequencies. There was some discussion between the Mayor, Councilman Hutchins and Jim Copp regarding the new digital frequency. The Clerk then went on through the expenditures stating that additional line items has been added for the Building Maintenance personnel. The Clerk stated that the Council increases were incorporated in salaries. Jim Copp went over the City Marshal/Building Official budget, being newly appointed, and spoke of any changes from last year's budget. The Clerk then went through the rest of the General Fund departments discussing any major changes. The Mayor asked if anyone had discussed the Fire Department budget with anyone from the County and suggested that Ray Jarrett be contacted to do so. The Clerk went over the notes added in the General Funds budgets for equipment requests. Matt Hromalik went through the E-911 budget discussing any major changes such as the phone expense. The Clerk went through the balance of the departments budgets again going through any major changes in budgets from 2017. Matt Hammond went through the Fiber/Technology budget discussing new employee possibilities, infrastructure and other areas with changes. The Clerk reviewed the Special Funds budget, which incorporated the SPLOST, CDBG and USDA budgets. There were brief discussions between the Council and department Heads regarding equipment requests as each individual budget was discussed. When discussing the Water/Sewer revenue the Clerk informed the Council that a .15 per tier increase was added and when discussing revenue in Sanitation a .50 per month increase on garbage.

After going through all the budgets/changes the Mayor requested that increases to the Fiber revenue Residential and Commercial (40% of the current revenue) be added. The Mayor asked that equipment requests be incorporated into the SPLOST budget.

There was discussion about a sewer project on the square by Village Pizza and the road beside Sears that needs repairs.

The public hearing was closed at 7:00pm

III) Adjournment

A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Thornton to adjourn the December 13th Special Called Public Hearing for the 2018 proposed Operating and Special Funds Budgets. The motion carried unanimously by the Council members present.

Anthony Howard, Mayor