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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

City Plans Tax Increase for 2024

(Douglasville, GA) –August 5th, 2024- The City of Douglasville City Council announces its intention to increase the property taxes it will levy this year by 16.67% over the rollback millage rate.

Each year, the Douglas County Board of Tax Assessors is required to review the assessed value for property tax purposes of taxable property in the county. When the trends of prices on properties that have recently sold in the city indicate there has been an increase in the fair market value of any specific property, the board of tax assessors is required by law to redetermine the value of such property and increase the assessment. This is called a reassessment.

When the total digest of taxable property is prepared, Georgia Law requires that a rollback millage rate must be computed that will produce the same total revenue on the current year's new digest that last year's millage rate would have produced had no reassessments occurred.

In 2022, the City of Douglasville and Douglas County Governments completed renegotiations for the distribution of Local Option Sales Tax (Lost) funds. The final lost agreement significantly reduces the City's portions of these collected funds. These negotiations also resulted in major changes to the City/County Service Delivery Strategy and starting this fiscal year the city had to start paying higher rates to Douglas County for fire and animal control services.

The City has anticipated the need to raise the millage rate by 1.25 mills to cover both the loss in revenue and the increase in cost for County services.

If the millage rate that is adopted is higher than the rollback rate, Georgia law requires three public hearings to allow the public an opportunity to express their opinions on this increase.

The Douglasville City Council will hold the first of these three required public hearings on August 15 at 10 a.m. to discuss the city millage rate.

The proposed increase will result in a millage rate of 8.749 mills, an increase of 1.25 mills. Without this tentative tax increase, the millage rate will be no more than 7.499 mills. The

proposed tax increase for a home with a fair market value of \$350,000 is approximately \$175.00 annually and a \$14.58 monthly increase for M&O and the proposed tax increase for non-homestead property with a fair market value of \$300,000 is approximately \$150.00 annually and a \$12.50 monthly increase for M&O.

The first and second required public hearings will take place on August 15 at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. The final public hearing is at 5:00 p.m. on August 29, immediately followed by the Special Called Meeting to adopt the Millage Rate at 5:30 pm. All public hearings and special-called meetings will take place at the Douglasville Conference Center located at 6700 Church Street in downtown Douglasville.

For more information about the city's millage rate and financial documents, visit the city's website at www.DouglasvilleGA.gov.