

**CITY OF SHEPHERDSVILLE  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2013**

Mayor Ellis called the meeting to order at 9:00 p.m.

Council members present: Jose' Cubero, Dana Bischoff James, Clinton Kline, Faith Portman and Gloria Taft.

Mayor Ellis stated the purpose of the meeting was for the second reading and comment on Ordinances to set Personal and Real tax rates.

City Clerk Tammy Richmond had second reading of Ordinance 013-(number to be assigned) levying Personal Property and Property of Public Service Companies ad valorem taxes and providing assessment, equalization and collection pursuant to the provisions of KRS 92.280 et seq. Mayor Ellis opened the floor for discussion. Jose' Cubero: The discussion we had yesterday was between the 14.8 and 14.1 was like \$7.00 in the difference of the rates. It's not going to be a substantial amount. Obviously we are always looking for ways to save money for the citizens and taxpayers but I don't think this is significantly going to do anything either way. My opinion is we leave it at 14.8 and move forward. I'll make that a motion. Clinton Kline 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 5-0-1 absent.

City Clerk Tammy Richmond had second reading and comment on Ordinance 013-(number to be assigned) establishing the Real Property ad valorem taxes and providing assessment, equalization and collection pursuant to the provisions of KRS 92.280 et seq. Mayor Ellis opened the floor for any discussion or questions from the Council. Jose' Cubero: The only question I have do we show any impact of, just always entertaining of what we can do, at this point because we have larger issues that we're looking at, occupational tax and other things like that down the road, do we want to do anything different now. My question would be to this, did Bob have anything significant that would show if we did lower this. This is substantially more we're talking about. As you made the comment yesterday, we have a lot of \$100,000 homes. Did he give any numbers if we lower it? Mayor Ellis: I've got a worksheet here from him that says "It appears that the Council can approve a reduction in the tax rate (.148 to .141) and not lose revenue. Billed 2012: \$1,355,203 (.148); collected \$1,461,770; Bill 2013 at .141: \$1,531,512." It goes up over and above what was billed and collected somewhat with the .141. Dana Bischoff James: I think if it is not going to impact the budgets significantly we try to drop it down to the .141 because at that point it doesn't impact it, we have new revenue coming in in local businesses and other things are getting ready to drop off. In my opinion in looking at this it's not a significant enough amount. Faith Portman: What difference is this going to make per household? Mayor Ellis: About \$70 on a \$100,000 home. Gloria Taft: But if we lose the revenue from the occupational tax, that half a percent, are we going to slit our throat despite our face? Jose' Cubero: The tangibles are the growth of the City and even more. I know we're going to have these discussions about are we fully staffed in each of these departments. There is talk about the fire department and what they need to do to stay compliant. Those things are out there which are dollar amounts that we are going to need and we'll be able to do that later. We do have new businesses coming; we can look at this again in January where we are going to be able to see what the first half of the year looks like. We're going to be able to make some adjustments. I just don't see this as being to impactive to lower it and it might be a nice gesture to show folks that we really want to do something. Say, we know if may not seem like a lot but we're still always thinking that \$70 could be something. Mayor Ellis: I can see that \$70 is going to be a good gesture considering what has happened in the past with previous administrations. With that being said I'm in agreement with that. I think we need to do that. Clinton Kline made motion to drop real property tax rate to .141. Jose' Cubero 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 5-0-1 absent.

Dana Bischoff James made motion to adjourn. Jose' Cubero 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 5-0-1 absent. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

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R. Scott Ellis III, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tammy Richmond, City Clerk