

**AUGUST 19, 2011
CITY OF SENOIA
PUBLIC HEARING
505 HOWARD ROAD
SET MILLAGE RATE
9:00 AM**

VISITORS: Don Rehman and Chief Edens

FULL COUNCIL PRESENT

1. CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME VISITORS

Mayor Belisle called the meeting to order and welcomed all.

2. PURPOSE OF PUBLIC HEARING

To Set Millage Rate

3. COMMENTS FROM CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Ferry reviewed the 5-year Digest and stated that we have been able to carry a 6.11 millage rate each year from 06 thru 2011 and even with the current economy will be able to maintain 6.11 again but added with no growth in the digest or a turn around in the economy, Mr. Ferry can't guarantee we can repeat the number in 2012. Mr. Ferry also stated that revenues and expenditures this past year were relatively equal and the amount available to allocate towards reserves is very minimal due to unbudgeted item that were approved for purchase. Mayor Belisle stated that without the discretionary spending on the paving equipment the amount towards reserves would have been much more.

4. COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC

Don Rehman of Heritage Pointe stated that he has difficulty understanding the millage rate process and would like to know what the "roll back" rate is. The process was explained and Mr. Ferry added that the millage rate is based on property values and LOST (local option sales tax) and the roll back is required as the dollars received from LOST are collected from sales tax and not property. From the Digest, Mr. Ferry added that the Net Tax Levied is what we expect to receive from property tax collected. Mr. Rehman then asked if the City has a specific figure that it allocates to reserves each year and was told by Mayor Belisle "no, as this figure varies from year to year and we have not gotten to a point that we can put a line item in".

5. COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

Mayor Belisle asked what percentage of the operating budget is reserve & was told 50%. The Mayor then stated despite the economy the City is in good financial shape and has made it his goal that the rate will remain the same next year. C. Owens stated that had we not purchased the unbudgeted items those dollars would have gone back into the general fund. Mr. Ferry informed all that if

the paving equipment would not have been purchased the City would have spent significant more as the roads needed to be repaved and we would have had to contract the work out. Mayor Belisle and C. Owens both thanked Mr. Ferry for his good work and dedication.

6. ADJOURN

Mayor Belisle made motion to adjourn the August 19, 2011 Public Hearing and was 2nd by C. Fisher. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert K. Belisle, Mayor

Debra J. Volk, City Clerk