

**MINUTES OF FIRST MILLAGE RATE HEARING
CITY OF KENNESAW
Council Chambers
(2529 J.O. Stephenson Avenue, Kennesaw, GA 30144)**

**Livestream: www.kennesaw-ga.gov/publicmeetings/
July 28, 2025
6:00 PM**

Present	Mayor Derek Easterling Mayor Pro Tem Pat Ferris Councilmember Madelyn Orochena Councilmember Tracey Viars Councilmember Anthony Gutierrez City Clerk Lea Alvarez City Manager Jeff Drobney City Attorney Sam Hensley, Jr.
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Councilmember Antonio Jones participated via Zoom

1. Invocation

Mayor Easterling led the Invocation.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Easterling led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Call to Order

Mayor Easterling called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

4. Announcements

5. Presentations

6. Public Comment

This section is for comment on any item on the agenda.

6:00 p.m. Floor Open for Public Comments

No comments.

6:01 p.m. Floor Closed for Public Comments

7. Old Business

8. New Business

9. Committee and Board Reports

10. Public Hearing(s)

A. First Public Hearing: Maintenance and Operation (M&O) Millage Rate

Consideration to approve a Resolution adopting the Maintenance and Operation (M&O) Millage Rate.

Finance Director Jennifer Gordy introduced Property Tax Administrator Tom Jankowski, who presented a resolution to adopt the Maintenance and Operation (M&O) millage rate. Mr. Jankowski stated that the City of Kennesaw is proposing an M&O millage rate of 7.75 mills, which remains unchanged from the previous year. The public hearing dates, along with the Current 2025 Tax Digest and 5-Year History of Levy, were properly advertised in the Marietta Daily Journal on July 19, 2025. Additional required advertisements were published on both July 19 and July 26, 2025, in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 48-5-32. The second and third public hearings are scheduled for August 4, 2025, at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., respectively.

6:02 p.m. Floor Open for Public Comments

No comments.

6:03 p.m. Floor Closed for Public Comments

B. First Public Hearing: Bond Millage Rate

Consideration to approve a Resolution adopting the Bond Millage Rate.

Mr. Jankowski presented a resolution to adopt the Bond millage rate. He stated that the City of Kennesaw is proposing a Bond millage rate of 1.5 mills, which remains unchanged from the previous year. This rate is levied to fund the debt service on the \$15 million Recreation and Traffic Safety Bonds approved by voters on September 21, 2004. The public hearing dates, along with the Current 2025 Tax Digest and 5-Year History of Levy, were properly advertised in the Marietta Daily Journal on July 19, 2025. Additional required advertisements were published on both July 19 and July 26, 2025, in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 48-5-32. The second and third public hearings are scheduled for August 4, 2025, at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., respectively.

6:03 p.m. Floor Open for Public Comments

NORMAN DURAN [City Resident]: Mr. Duran commented that the City of Kennesaw is looking great, but expressed interest in gaining a better understanding of the millage rate and the related process. Staff provided clarification on the City Council's decision to opt out of House Bill 581, as well as an overview of upcoming projects that will be funded through property tax revenues.

6:10 p.m. Floor Closed for Public Comments

11. Consent Agenda

12. General and Administrative

13. Public Safety

14. Information Technology

15. Public Works and Building Maintenance

16. Recreation and Culture

17. Community Development

18. Public Comment

This section is for general comment.

6:11 p.m. Floor Open for Public Comments

No comments.

6:12 p.m. Floor Closed for Public Comments

19. City Manager's Report

A. Reports, Discussions, and Updates

20. Mayor's Report

A. Mayor and Council (re)appointments to Boards and Commissions. This item is for (re)appointments made by the Mayor to any Board, Committee, Authority, or Commission requiring an appointment to fill any vacancies, resignations, and to create or dissolve boards and commissions, as deemed necessary.

21. Council Reports & Discussions

22. Executive Session

Pursuant to the provisions of O.C.G.A 50-14-3, the City Council could, at any time during the meeting, vote to close the public meeting and move to executive session to discuss matters relating to litigation, legal actions and/or communications from the City Attorney; and/or personnel matters; and/or real estate matters.

23. Adjourn

Mayor Easterling adjourned the meeting at 6:12 p.m.

**Names and Addresses will be disclosed in the Permanent Minutes of the
City of Kennesaw**

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR NAME IS LEGIBLE AND CLEAR

City Council First Millage Rate Hearing

7/28/2025

Public Comment Sign-in

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