



STAFF REPORT

CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA

TO: Regular Session **MEETING DATE:** July 20, 2021
FROM: Marlena Guthrie, Finance Director
SUBJECT: Establish Tentative Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2021/2022.

BACKGROUND

The Form 420 provided by the Property Appraiser (copy attached) reflects an actual property tax valuation of \$556,461,965 for next year, an increase of \$29,432,393 from the prior year's final taxable value of \$527,029,572 which is an increase of 5.58%. The increase is reflected at 100% and has not been discounted to 97%.

The Administration has included a 3.8000 millage rate in the proposed budget which is the same millage rate for FY 2021. Three schedules are attached for your reference. One is titled Millage Dynamics, another Ad Valorem Revenue FY 2022, and the third Property Taxes FY 2022. They demonstrate among other things, the impact the ad valorem tax has on homeowners using various millage rates. In addition to Form 420, we included Form 420MM-P (Maximum Millage Levy Calculation-Preliminary Disclosure). The 3.8000 rate will require a two-thirds vote by Council and would generate \$2,114,555, but when discounted to 97% is \$2,051,119 as shown in the proposed budget released to Council on July 15, 2021. It must also be noted that the impact from the Council's decision to implement additional exemptions for seniors are included in these figures. The impact is minimal, but this does reflect in this year's exemptions.

The millage rate set at tonight's meeting will be certified to the respective parties and will be used on the TRIM notices that will be mailed to taxpayers in August, 2021 by the Clay County Property Appraiser's office notifying them of the proposed millage and the hearing dates. If Council sets a millage rate at the final budget hearing that is greater than the vote set at this meeting, then new TRIM notices will have to be mailed at the City's expense. Council may decrease the millage rate prior to the final hearing without having to send out notices. Council needs to set September 7 and September 21 as the tentative and final hearing dates to hear comments from the public on the proposed millage rates, operating budget and capital improvement plan and these are the dates that will be reported to the Property Appraiser and Department of Revenue. For Green Cove Springs, these dates fall on regular Council meeting dates. The City cannot hold its hearings the same dates as the School Board or the County. Their dates are set as July 27 and September 9 for the School Board and September 14 and September 28 for the County. In order to comply with advertising and other TRIM requirements, the City's first public hearing needs to be held on September 7 and the final hearing on September 21.

FISCAL IMPACT

N/A

RECOMMENDATION

- 1) **Council approval of _____ as the tentative millage rate for fiscal year 2021/2022.**
- 2) **Set September 7 at 7:00 pm as the first public hearing on the millage, budget, and CIP.**
- 3) **Set September 21 at 7:00 pm as the second and final hearing on the millage, budget and CIP.**