

MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Rachel Bembry, Assistant Finance Director

Date: June 24, 2014

Subject: **Second Read and Adoption of the 2014 Millage Rate**

ITEM DESCRIPTION

The proposed millage rate is a levy of 2.74 mills or \$2.74 for every \$1,000 of the assessed value of property (about 40% of the fair market value.) This rate applies to both real property and personal property for businesses.

Three public hearings, two advertisements in the Crier, a press release, and posting to our website are all required to adopt the proposed millage rate. Staff has addressed each of these required steps.

Collection of the ad valorem taxes will contribute to General Fund revenues for the general operations of the City including police, public works, community development, and administration; as well as capital projects.

The digest presented includes increases in residential and commercial property valuations as determined by the DeKalb Tax Assessor. It also includes new construction. However, revisions due to appeals have not been factored in yet and will lower the total digest from the advertised levels. Even before the appeals, the digest is still below the level as of December 1, 2008.

BACKGROUND

RECOMMENDED ACTION

It is respectfully requested Council adopt the millage rate for 2014 Ad Valorem Taxes

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
DUNWOODY, GEORGIA TO FIX THE AD VALOREM TAX RATE OF THE
CITY OF DUNWOODY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014 AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES**

WHEREAS, the City of Dunwoody is charged with operating and maintaining City Government and pursuant to the Charter of the City of Dunwoody to provide for the assessment of ad valorem property taxes on all real and personal property subject to ad valorem taxation; and

WHEREAS, the millage rate set by the City of Dunwoody for fiscal year 2013 was 2.74 mills; and

WHEREAS, the City of Dunwoody has approved a contract with the Tax Commissioner of DeKalb County, Georgia to serve as Tax Collector for the City for the collection of ad valorem taxes; and

WHEREAS, due to the increase in the Tax Digest for properties within the boundaries of the City of Dunwoody, the City's anticipated millage rate will result in a tax increase; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has properly given notice, and held public hearings, in accordance with the law of the State of Georgia, on June 9, 2014 at 6 p.m., June 9, 2014 at 7 p.m., June 18, 2014 at 12:00 p.m. and June 24, 2014 at 7 p.m. for the purpose of receiving relevant evidence, testimony, and public comment concerning the proposed millage rate for ad valorem property taxes; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council, after hearing and after duly considering all such relevant evidence, testimony and public comment, has determined that it is in the best interest of, and necessary to meet the expenses and obligations of, the City of Dunwoody to set a levy in the amount of 2.74 mills on each \$1,000.00 of taxable value for all property subject to ad valorem taxation by the City.

THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DUNWOODY, GEORGIA, HEREBY ORDAINS, as follows:

SECTION 1: The ad valorem tax at the rate for the City of Dunwoody, Georgia for the 2014 fiscal year on property subject to ad valorem taxation by the City, is hereby fixed at 2.74 mills on each \$1,000.00 of taxable value or any part thereof of the value of all real and personal property which under the Laws of this State is subject to taxation within the corporate limits of the City for this purpose. Said millage rate is hereby levied for general government purposes.

SECTION 2: Pursuant to the approved contract with the Tax Commissioner of DeKalb County the billing date and due date for ad valorem taxes for the City shall be the same as those for DeKalb County.

**STATE OF GEORGIA
CITY OF DUNWOODY**

ORDINANCE 2014-06-XX

SECTION 3: The Tax Commissioner of DeKalb County or other designated tax collector is hereby authorized to bill and collect ad valorem taxes for the City of Dunwoody for fiscal year 2014 based on the millage rate set herein and to take, on behalf of the City, such actions authorized by the approved contract with the Tax Commissioner and State of Georgia law as may be necessary for this process.

SECTION 4: The City Manager is hereby authorized to execute the Millage Rate Rollback Calculation Worksheet based upon the millage rate hereby adopted by the Mayor and Council and submit same to the Tax Commissioner of DeKalb County.

SECTION 5: This ordinance hereby repeals any and all conflicted ordinances.

SECTION 6: This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its adoption by the City Council.

SO ORDAINED, this 24th day of June, 2014.

Approved:

Michael G. Davis, Mayor

ATTEST:

Approved as to Form and Content:

Sharon Lowery, City Clerk
(Seal)

City Attorney