

Regular Council Meeting

September 2, 2025

Meeting called to order by Mayor J. Micheal Evans at 6pm.

Invocation given by Pastor Joel Davis from Growing Together Ministries, Warner Robins

Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Robert D. Bird, Jr.

Welcome Extended by Mayor J. Micheal Evans to all present and on social media; recognized in attendance were former Mayor Harley, as well as, a couple of candidates running for council.

Present were Mayor J. Micheal Evans, Councilman Robert D. Bird, Jr., Councilman Edward Armijo, City Administrator Krista Bedingfield, and City Attorney Rebecca Tydings.

Mayor's Moment

Recognition of Councilman Armijo: District 6 Council for Georgia Municipal Association (GMA), currently 2nd Vice President; slated to be 1st Vice President next year. Reappointed to GMA's Community and Workplace Culture Advisory Council for 2025–2026 by Executive Director Larry Hanson.

Public Comments

No public comments.

Adoption of Minutes

1. August 5, 2025: Regular Council Meeting
2. August 15, 2025: Council Work Session Meeting

Motion to approve minutes as written given by Councilman Robert D. Bird, Jr.; seconded by Councilman Edward Armijo. Motion Carried. Unanimous

Old Business

None.

New Business

Discussion 2025 Millage Rate Option (2025 Property Tax Rate): City Accountant Carol Harrison and Mayor J. Micheal Evans acknowledged that this is an annual requirement. The millage rate (property tax rate) must be set annually to determine city tax revenue for operational expenses (payroll, equipment, street paving, cleanliness, fire services, etc.). The current millage rate is 9.5 mills, the calculated rollback rate is 8.367 mills, and the middle-ground rate proposed is 8.90 mills. City Accountant Harrison explained that anything above the roll-back rate would have additional requirements, such as advertising and holding public hearings. Mrs. Harrison provided an overview and examples of how the Floating Homestead Exemption would affect the local homeowner, which came about through House bill 581. This an exemption for owner-occupied homes (up to 5 acres), excluding businesses and rental properties.

Motion and Vote: 1st motion by Councilman Bird motioned to adopt a millage rate of 8.9 mills for the current tax year; 2nd motion by Councilman Armijo; Unanimously approved after clarifying requirements for ad publication and public hearings.

Comments from Council

Post 1- Councilman Robert D. Bird, Jr.: Thanks expressed to city staff and City Accountant Harrison for helping make this complex processes understandable.

Post 2: Vacant

Post3: Vacant

Post 4-Councilman Edward Armijo: Announced that the Rolling Thunder Georgia 3 POW Flag Initiative. An organization to raise POW flags at every school in Houston County, beginning September 3, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. at Thompson Middle School and Centerville Elementary School. Each flag is dedicated to a specific POW with accompanying ceremonies and stories. - Citizens and media encouraged to attend and support.

Mayor J. Micheal Evans: Special appreciation given to Pastor Davis for his opening words of wisdom. Expressed appreciate to Councilman Armijo for mentioning the Rolling Thunder and POW event.

Mayor adjourned meeting at 6:36pm

Mayor J. Micheal Evans

Attest by City Clerk Lee Siefert

Date