September 30, 2026

The Eastman City Council met in a called meeting on the above date at 10:00 a.m. The following council members were present: Graham Snyder, John Battle, Debra Sheffield, and Mark Peacock. Others present were City Manager Spencer Barron, City Clerk April Sheffield, and Police Chief Billy Cooper.

The meeting was called to order by Councilor Snyder.

Councilor Peacock gave the invocation.

APPROVE AGENDA:
The agenda was approved on a motion from Councilor Peacock and seconded by Councilor Battle.

NEW BUSINESS:
THIRD AND FINAL PUBLIC HEARING ON 2026 MILLAGE RATE:
Chairman Snyder opened up the public hearing at 10:07 AM. No one from the public was in attendance to ask questions or speak about their concerns. Council members discussed surrounding areas and their millage rate along with ideas on how to increase revenue in the upcoming years. Chairman Snyder closed the hearing at 10:25 AM.

APPROVE 2026 MILLAGE RATE:
With no other discussion, Councilor Peacock made a motion to approve the 2026 millage rate for 9.550, and Councilor Battle offered a second. A vote was taken and the 2026 millage rate was unanimously approved.

OTHER COMMENTS:
Chairman Snyder wanted to let the rest of the council know that Pam McCranie had asked to meet with he and Councilor Peacock. They were unaware until they arrived that the meeting included members of the Leave it Better organization, members of the Downtown Development Authority, and some others in the community. Some grant money has been received by the Coach John M. Peacock Foundation and now Pam would like to reapproach the Alleyway project with the city. She is willing to go through the permitting process and abide by all state laws and codes. Neither Snyder nor Peacock volunteered any money on behalf of the city. Snyder did share a letter that Pam had provided on her current wishes of how to proceed with the project. Battle questions what would happen if the city steps away and wants no part of the project. Snyder says part of the problem is that the city has admitted to owning the alley where the work is being done. Discussion took place that things were not initiated correctly to begin with and a lot of work was done without standards and by code. Sheffield is still concerned about the liability issue. That problem has not gone away. Who will be responsible for the area in years to come? The council is not against doing projects or anyone else doing the projects, But everything must be handled fairly and the same for each group and situation.

On a motion from Councilor Peacock, a second from Councilor Sheffield, and a unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned.

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CHAIRMAN **CITY CLERK**