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Stan Brown

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## **Oakwood to hold first public hearing Monday to set millage rate**

OAKWOOD—Members of the Oakwood City Council are set to hold their first public hearing Monday on the city's millage rate.

City Manager Stan Brown said in an email that they are recommending keeping the millage rate at 4.0 mills, the same as FY 2015.

"Based on the growth in the tax digest, our rollback would be 3.6 mills. Basically we've had about a 10 or 11% growth in the tax digest," said Brown.

He said the city has a debt service of around \$800,000 for Thurmond Tanner Parkway improvements and for some land the city purchased as part of their need to keep the rate the same, among other things.

The first of three public hearings is set for Monday, September 21 at 6:00 p.m. at Oakwood City Hall.

"The second one is October 5, and the third would be October 12," said Brown. The other two will also be at Oakwood City Hall at 6:00 p.m.

Under Georgia law, keeping the millage rate where it is represents a tax increase, even though it will not uniformly raise taxes.

Tax bills will only increase for property owners whose property value assessment increased for the year.

It is possible, should a homeowner's property go down in value, that their taxes could decrease.