

# Oconee auditor to present millage recommendation at meeting tonight

## \$59K time use study on agenda

BY RILEY MORNINGSTAR  
THE JOURNAL

WALHALLA — Oconee County Council leader Matthew Durham is hopeful the results of a major internal employment study will return by next spring.



Durham

Council will meet tonight at 6 p.m. in chambers at 415 S. Pine St. with a straightforward agenda of business, which includes voting on a \$59,500 action item to pay for a classification, compensation and time use study. A request for proposals was opened by the county in July and it received



Hart

five total proposals by the end of August, according to the agenda. A firm out of Tallahassee, Fla., will be charged with providing

a "comprehensive understanding of how individuals are compensated for their work and how they allocate their time across different activities," the agenda said. The study will also focus on salaries, wages and benefits to better understand the job scope of each position.

"I'm glad it's on the agenda. Hopefully we can get the study rolling and have some information before next year's budget," Durham told The Journal on Monday morning.



Mize

Councilmen Glenn Hart and Don Mize joined Durham in turning down a three-year step-and-scale matrix that would've cost \$6 million earlier this year. The matrix would've provided a clear path for employees, based on position and experience, to receive annual raises.

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### AUDITOR TO MAKE PRESENTATION

Auditor Christy Hubbard is on the meeting docket to provide her annual millage presentation to council, which determines whether property taxes will hold, increase or decrease.

Millage is used to calculate the revenue needed to fund

the annual budget by total assessed value. It's based on assessed values for real estate, aircraft, boats, business personal property, manufacturing, vehicles and other items. A mill is equal to one one-thousandth of a dollar per \$1 of assessed property value and is a unit of monetary value. The current value of a mill is at \$602,982. Millage has been dropped by county council

each year since 2019-20. The county's millage dropped by 8.1 mills last fall to 217.9.

### SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

The death of a commercial junkyard ordinance that was deliberated by the Oconee County Planning Commission for three years should receive a metaphorical graveside goodbye late this afternoon. The Law Enforcement, Public Safe-

ty, Health and Welfare Committee will gavel into session at 4:30 p.m. Sheriff Mike Crenshaw will provide an update on an alternative to incarceration program while director of emergency services



Crenshaw

Scott Krein will brief on an agency update. The final item

of business is for the group, chaired by Mize, to discuss the junkyard ordinance that would've required affected between five and seven Oconee businesses. Council and the planning group couldn't agree on whether the existing businesses could be grandfathered into the proposed rules on fencing and setbacks.

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