

2013 Budget Improves Services to Citizens

June 28, 2012

On June 22, the Hall County Board of Commissioners adopted a balanced budget for the fiscal year that begins July 1, 2012, and ends June 30, 2013. The budget reduces 9 out of 12 furlough days that have been in place since 2008, increasing the level of service to residents without raising taxes.

The General Fund millage rate, which is the property tax rate that supports daily operations, remained at 6.25 mills. This was achieved primarily through \$2.2 million in department cuts, an increase in sales tax revenue, and a decline in property tax revenue that was less than expected. The Fire Fund millage rate, which supports Fire Services, also remained steady at 1.65 for unincorporated residents and 3.08 for incorporated residents.

“Through conservative fiscal management, Hall County Government is expected to come in under budget when this fiscal year ends on June 30. Our staff has done an outstanding job of controlling expenses, which combined with increased revenue projections will allow us to increase the level of service to our citizens in 2013,” County Administrator Randy Knighton said.

The General Fund budget is \$89.1 million and includes major functions of the government, including law enforcement, public safety, courts, road maintenance, parks, libraries, development services, tax assessment and collection, and government administration. In addition to the General and Fire Funds, the total county budget includes other operational funds that are self-supported by user fees and other revenue sources. The total county budget is \$190.8 million.

Hall County held a Budget Open House on May 1 and a public hearing on June 14 prior to budget adoption. The budget is available at [here](#), where revenue and expenditure updates are posted monthly for citizen review.