

Hall County Commission Adopts FY 2014 Budget

June 28, 2013

Today the Hall County Board of Commissioners adopted a balanced budget for the fiscal year that begins July 1, 2013, and ends June 30, 2014. The budget maintains the elimination of furlough days and 4 percent employee retirement contributions that were restored by the commission in December without a General Fund tax increase or roll-up.

The General Fund millage rate, which is the property tax rate that supports daily operations, remained at 6.25 mills. The Fire Fund millage rate, which supports Fire Services, saw an increase of .75 mills, bringing the millage rate for unincorporated residents to 2.4 and resulting in a millage rate of 3.83 for incorporated residents. The increase in the Fire Fund millage rate was needed to support the staffing and operation of a new fire station, which will greatly enhance the safety and well-being of citizens in the area.

"Hall County Government has continued to improve its financial outlook through conservative fiscal management by staff and elected officials. Every effort has been made to maximize taxpayer dollars, and we're extremely optimistic about the fiscal future of Hall County and the increased level of service to our citizens in 2014," County Administrator Randy Knighton said.

The General Fund budget is approximately \$87 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 \$186.1 million.

Hall County held a Budget Open House on May 16 and a public hearing on June 13 prior to budget adoption. The budget is available at www.hallcounty.org/budget, where revenue and expenditure updates are posted monthly for citizen review.