

Hall County Commission Adopts FY2015 Budget

6/27/2014

This evening the Hall County Board of Commissioners adopted a balanced budget for the fiscal year that begins July 1, 2014, and ends June 30, 2015.

The General Fund millage rate, which is the property tax rate that supports daily operations, was rolled back from 6.25 mills to 5.989 mills. The Fire Fund millage rate, which supports Fire Services, remained the same for unincorporated residents at 2.4 mills and at 3.83 for incorporated residents.

'Hall County Government has continued to improve its financial outlook through conservative financial management by staff and elected officials. We're extremely optimistic about the fiscal future of Hall County and the increased level of service to our citizens throughout the fiscal year,' Hall County Chairman Richard Mecum said.

The General Fund budget is approximately \$90.2 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 for all funds is \$188.4 million. In addition, the County Commission has approved a 3% cost-of-living increase for full-time employees as a part of the budget adoption.

In the past 2 years, the County Commission has eliminated furlough days, restored the 4% retirement base contribution, and absorbed an increase in insurance premium at no cost to the employees. County employees have not received a cost-of-living increase since 2008. 'On behalf of county employees, I want to thank the Hall County Commission for its tangible appreciation and acknowledgment of county employees by virtue of their approval tonight of the 3% cost-of-living increase,' County Administrator Randy Knighton said.

Hall County held a Budget Open House on May 27 and public hearings on June 12, 23, and 26 prior to budget adoption. The budget is available at www.hallcounty.org/budget, where revenue and expenditure updates are posted monthly for citizen review.

Media Contacts:

Vickie Neikirk, Finance Director, 770-718-5724, vneikirk@hallcounty.org

Randy Knighton, County Administrator, 770-535-8288 ext. 1, rknighton@hallcounty.org