

PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing was held by the Spalding County Board of Commissioners in their office in the Courthouse Annex, Thursday, September 20, 2001 beginning at 11:30 o'clock a.m. with Commissioners, Michael Kendall, Martha McDaniel and Merrill Massengale. Commissioner Johnie McDaniel and Dick Morrow were absent. Also present were County Manager William Wilson, Assistant County Manager Michael Sabine and County Clerk Phyllis Doane.

Chairman Massengale called the meeting to order and welcomed the guest.

The purpose of the public hearing was to receive public comment on an increase in property taxes by 1.86 percent.

Chairman Massengale commented that the raise in the millage rate is a very minimal raise and stated that County Manager Wilson has worked very hard on this in keeping this as minimal as we could. He said that the raise is \$6.84 on a \$100,000 home. He said that the school board has decreased their millage and with their decrease and our slight increase a \$100,000 home would have a net decrease in advalorem taxes of \$17.10.

Chairman Massengale read the breakdown of Property Taxes: Maintenance and Operations of Spalding County, which makes up the 9.88 mills for county property taxes for 2001. It was noted that over half of the budget is for operation of the Court System, Sheriff's Department, County Coroner and Litigation (5.37 mills – 54.4%). Commissioner Martha McDaniel stated that a lot of this they have no control over as they are constitutional officers.

Mr. James Beville gave no address and just wanted to know where was the recycle centers budgeted in the budget. County Manager Wilson stated that it was in Solid Waste.

Mr. Scott Walraven gave his address as 1115 Fairview Road and stated that his family has owned their one piece of property (large tracts of land) for 150 years and asked when is enough enough with taxes. He said that he thought the SPLOST was enough to keep from raising property taxes. He wanted to know what the breakdown was on rental property vs. homeowners. He said that the few homeowners have to support this; however, if it were the SPLOST it would be different. He said that taxes should be countywide.

No one else desired to make comments and Chairman Massengale adjourned the meeting at 11:59 a.m.

_____	_____
County Clerk	Chairman
:.....:	

PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing was held by the Spalding County Board of Commissioners in their office in the Courthouse Annex, Thursday, September 20, 2001 beginning at 6:00 o'clock p.m. with Commissioners, Michael Kendall, Martha McDaniel, Merrill Massengale and Commissioner Johnie McDaniel present. Commissioner Dick Morrow was absent. Also present were County Manager William Wilson and County Clerk Phyllis Doane.

Chairman Massengale called the meeting to order and welcomed the guest.

The purpose of the public hearing was to receive public comment on an increase in property taxes by 1.86 percent.

Chairman Massengale commented that the raise in the millage rate is a very minimal raise and stated that County Manager Wilson has worked very hard on this in keeping this as minimal as we could. He said that the raise is \$6.84 on a \$100,000 home. We had to raise the millage rate to take care of approximately \$200,000 that the digest was short. He said that the school board has decreased their millage and with their decrease and our slight increase a \$100,000 home would have a net decrease in advalorem taxes of \$17.10 less than last year's tax bill.

There were only two individuals in the audience and they asked questions but did not want to approach the podium and give their name and address for the record.

The graph and breakdown of property taxes for maintenance and operations with details was handed out to these individuals.

The millage rate at some point has been as high as 14 mills and with the 1cents LOST, it generates approximately \$4,000,000 and that stands for 4 mills of tax. If we did not have the LOST we would not be able to keep all the level of services we have now. The SPLOST is equally as important. The LOST and SPLOST help us position ourselves in a wave for the future. We have slowly been able to become sophisticated in our government by obtaining better employees and retaining employees, which is very important to the citizens of our community.

Upon motion by Commissioner Johnie McDaniel, seconded by Commissioner Martha McDaniel the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 6:20 P.M.

County Clerk	Chairman