



Spalding County
online

Board of Commissioners

PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing was held by the Spalding County Board of Commissioners in their office in the Courthouse Annex, Wednesday, September 25, 2002 beginning at 5:00 o'clock p.m. with Commissioners Johnie McDaniel, Dick Morrow, Michael Kendall, Martha McDaniel and Merrill Massengale present. Also present were County Manager William Wilson, Assistant County Manager Michael Sabine, Finance Director Jinna Garrison and County Clerk Phyllis Doane.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Johnie McDaniel.

The purpose of the meeting was to receive public comment on a increase in property taxes by 41.75% in the General Fund and 18.94% in the Fire District Fund over the rollback millage rate.

1. Mr. Ed Johnson gave his 600 Hamil Road and stated he had read in the newspaper about the property tax increase. He gave some comparison in millage rates with some of the surrounding counties of which Spalding County is higher.
2. Mr. Robert Morgan, Orchard Hill, GA stated the tax increase is not so much he is worried about but maybe taking a look at some other options. He said the courts, sheriff's, inmates, coroners and litigation in Spalding County is 10 to 14% higher than our surrounding counties. He wanted to know if the money was being spent wisely in these areas. He asked for the Commissioners to look for alternative ways of revenue to support the funding needed for the County. He commented that people cannot afford higher tax bills.
3. Mr. Searcy Smith gave his address as 550 S. Sixth Street stated he owned property in the County and the City. He said people are tired of these higher taxes and need relief. He said people are not working regular and there has to be a stop to raising taxes.
4. Ms. Maria Johnson gave her address as 600 Hamil Road. She said she had a question as that is why are the judges and the Sheriff not present for the public hearing when it is their budgets that have caused the negative impact on the budget and was disappointed in this. She said that she has heard that the judges and Sheriff are doing what the people want but they are not here to hear what the people here tonight have to say.

Commissioner Martha McDaniel commented to Ms. Johnson that Sheriff Stewart was at the other two public hearings.

5. Mr. Jerry Walker gave his address as 410 Audubon Circle. He said that the fiscal year of July 1 thru June 30 is causing problems with the flow of funds. He said maybe changing the fiscal year would help with the revenue of taxes. He said that the School Board has had a problem with cash flow because of the way the fiscal year runs.

There being no further comments to be made, motion made by Commissioner Morrow, seconded by Commissioner Martha McDaniel and unanimously approved to adjourn the public hearing.

County Clerk

Chairman

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SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

The Board of Commissioners of Spalding County, Georgia, held a Special Called meeting on Wednesday, September 25, 2002 in their office in the Courthouse Annex in the City of Griffin, Spalding County, Georgia, beginning at 6:00 o'clock p.m. with Commissioners Martha McDaniel, Merrill Massengale, Dick Morrow, Johnie McDaniel and Michael Kendall present. Also present were County Manager William Wilson, Assistant County Manager Michael Sabine, Finance Director Jinna Garrison and County Clerk Phyllis Doane.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Johnie McDaniel.

The purpose of this meeting was as follows:

1. Consider adoption of the 2002 Spalding County Tax Levy.

Upon motion by Commissioner Johnie McDaniel, seconded by Commissioner Massengale the following Spalding County Tax Levy was unanimously approved by a vote of 5-0.

2002 SPALDING COUNTY TAX LEVY

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Spalding County, Georgia, and it is hereby resolved by said authority, that there be levied on all property located and situated in said County on the first day of January 2002 whether said property be real, or personal, or mixed, the following rates of taxation for the purposes herein named and that the same be collected by the Tax Commissioner of said County at the same time and in the same manner as the tax levied by the State of Georgia, is collected, and when collected that the same shall be deposited by the Tax Commissioner with the treasurer of Spalding County, and that the treasurer's official receipt be taken therefor; to-wit:

1. To pay the expenses of administration of the county government; 1.42 mills or **\$1.42** per \$1,000.00 of taxable property.

2. To pay principal and interest of any debt of the county and to provide sinking fund therefor; 0.40 mills or **\$0.40** per \$1,000.00 of taxable property.
4. To build and repair public buildings and bridges; 0.60 mills or **\$0.60** per \$1,000.00 of taxable property.
5. To pay the expenses of courts, the maintenance and support of inmates and to pay sheriffs and coroners and for litigation; 6.77 mills or **\$6.77** per \$1,000.00 of taxable property.
6. To build and maintain a system of county roads; 1.03 mills or **\$1.03** per \$1,000.00 of taxable property.
7. For public health purposes in said county, and for the collection and preservation of records of vital statistics; 0.74 mills or **\$0.74** per \$1,000.00 of taxable property.
8. To pay county police; **NO LEVY**
9. To support indigent individuals; **NO LEVY**
10. To pay agricultural and home demonstration agents; 0.03 mills or **\$0.03** per \$1,000.00 of taxable property.
11. To provide for payment of old-age assistance to aged persons in need, and for the payment of assistance to needy blind, and to dependent children and other welfare benefits, all as provided by the constitution and laws of Georgia; 0.03 mills or **\$0.03** per \$1,000.00 of taxable property.
12. To provide for fire protection for forest lands and for the further conservation of natural resources; 0.01 mills or **\$0.01** per \$1,000.00 of taxable property.
13. To provide medical or other care, and hospitalization, for the indigent sick people of the County; **NO LEVY**
14. To acquire, improve and maintain airports, public parks, and public libraries; 0.84 mills or **\$0.84** per \$1,000.00 of taxable property.
15. To provide for worker's compensation and retirement of pension funds for officers and employees; 0.04 mills or **\$0.04** per \$1,000.00 or taxable property.
16. To provide reasonable reserves for public improvements as may be fixed by law; **NO LEVY**
17. To pay pensions and other benefits and costs under a teacher retirement system or systems; **NO LEVY**

19. To provide for ambulance services within the county; **NO LEVY**
20. To provide for financial assistance to county or joint county and municipal development authorities for the purpose of developing trade, commerce, industry, and employment opportunities; **NO LEVY**
25. To provide services and systems for fire protection for Fire Protection District "A"; 3.09 mills or **\$3.09** per \$1,000.00 upon the taxable property in such fire district.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that on recommendation of the Board of Education of Griffin-Spalding County School System, the following rates of taxation be likewise levied and collected, and when collected that the same be paid to the Board of Education of said County, as provided by law, to-wit:

3. For education purposes, as provided by the Constitution and laws of Georgia; 18.55 mills or **\$18.55** per \$1,000.00 of taxable property.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this order be spread upon the minutes and that the same be advertised and posted in accordance with Section 48-5-232 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated (1982) and the pertinent laws of Georgia.

This the 25th day of September 2002.

(L.S.) Johnie A. McDaniel, Chairman
 (L.S.) M. Michael Kendall, Commissioner
 (L.S.) H. Merrill Massengale, Commissioner
 (L.S.) Martha W. McDaniel, Commissioner
 (L.S.) Dick Morrow, Commissioner

Chairman McDaniel called for a five minute recess to allow tax levy papers to be executed.

Chairman McDaniel called the Special Called Meeting back to order to discuss the second item of business.

2. Discuss the City Board of Commissioners' proposal for distribution of the L.O.S.T. (Local Option Sales Tax).

After a lengthy discussion of distribution formulas, Chairman McDaniel called for a motion to accept the graduating formula proposal from the City.

County	City	
62%	38%	for years 2003 and 2004
60%	40%	for years 2005 and 2006
58%	42%	for years 2007 and 2008
56%	44%	for years 2009 thru 2012

Commissioner Kendall made the motion to accept the City's proposal. Commissioner Johnie McDaniel seconded the motion. The question was called. The motion passed by a vote of 3-2 with Commissioners Morrow and Massengale voting against the motion.

A motion was made by Commissioner Martha McDaniel to reconsider. Commissioner Dick Morrow seconded the motion and motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 5-0.

Motion made by Commissioner Martha McDaniel to offer a counter proposal to the City of 62%-38% for the next five years and renegotiate after five years. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion and motion passed by a vote of 3-2 with Commissioner Johnie McDaniel and Kendall voting against the motion.

The City will be notified of the County's decision and the counter proposal of 62/38 and renegotiate in five years.

Staff is to provide the Department of Community Affairs list of mediators for the Commissioners to review and will notify the City that the County would like to choose another set of mediators instead of Gallis & Burgess.

Upon motion by Commissioner Martha McDaniel, seconded by Commissioner Morrow the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

County Clerk

Chairman

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