

The Budget Public Hearing of the Oconee County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the Commission Chambers of the Oconee County Courthouse.

Members Present: Chairman John Daniell  
Commissioner Mark Thomas  
Commissioner Chuck Horton  
Commissioner W. E. "Bubber" Wilkes  
Commissioner Mark Saxon

Staff Present: Justin Kirouac, County Administrator  
Kathy Hayes, County Clerk  
Daniel Haygood, County Attorney  
Tracye Bailey, Deputy Clerk  
Wes Geddings, Finance Director  
Donna Norton, Budget Officer  
Paula Nedza, Information Technology Director  
Alex Newell, Internal Services Director  
Alex Perschka, Tourism Director  
Jody Woodall, Public Works Director  
Tim Durham, Water Resources Director  
Lisa Davol, Parks & Recreation Director

Chairman John Daniell began the Public Hearing at 5:30 p.m.

Wes Geddings, Finance Director, presented the proposed Fiscal Year 2020 Budget. The proposed FY20 General Fund Budget is \$30,507,038.00 with a total proposed budget of \$52,112,905.00 (SPLOST, General Fund, Special Revenue and Enterprise Fund). Sales tax continues to provide the County with a low millage rate of 6.686.

The proposed General Fund Revenues are \$30,507,038.00, which is \$1.3 million or 4.48% higher than the FY19 Budget, and total revenues are proposed at \$52,348,278.00.

The FY19 Budget included 260 full-time employees. In FY20, there will be 257 full-time employees with no additional personnel added. Included in the FY20 budget is a step-pay increase and Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA).

County Administrator Justin Kirouac stated that health care costs will increase approximately 5% with the County absorbing the increase for those employees enrolled in the Wellness Program. Mr. Kirouac thanked the Human Resources Department, Sherry Seila and Jill Faulkner, for their hard work regarding the health care costs. Two health care plans will be available for employees in the FY20 Budget Year.

In addition to Personnel costs/benefits, other Goal-Based expenditures include: Fleet Phase Replacement Program, Strategic Maintenance of Facilities, Sewer Network Maintenance, Transportation Improvements, Fire Equipment and Courthouse Expansion.

Mr. Geddings stated that a summary of the FY20 Budget will be available in the Commissioners Office, Library and posted on the County's website. The Budget is scheduled to be adopted on June 4, 2019.

Chairman Daniell opened the Public Comment period.

William Mayberry, Cedar Drive, stated that Mr. Kirouac did an excellent job with obtaining building permit for the courthouse expansion during the Watkinsville City Council Meeting. He asked that the Board consider funding the reopening of the front door of the courthouse. He also asked that unused SPLOST funds be returned to the citizens in order to reduce taxes.

Chairman Daniell closed the Public Comment period.

There being no further business, the Public Hearing was adjourned at 5:57 p.m.

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John Daniell, Chairman

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Kathy Hayes, County Clerk

Date: \_\_\_\_\_