

**Baldwin County Commissioners
Public Hearing and Regular Meeting
June 5, 2007
6:00 p.m.**

The Public Hearing for Fiscal Year 2008 Proposed Budget and the Regular Meeting of the Baldwin County Commissioners were held Tuesday, June 5, 2007 at 6:00 p.m., Baldwin County Courthouse, Suite 319, 121 North Wilkinson Street, Milledgeville, Georgia, with Chairman Dale Epps presiding.

Members Present: Collins P. Lee
Bobby Blizzard
Geneva Davis
Dale Epps, Sr.
Bubba Williams

Also Present: Joan G. Minton
David Waddell
Cindy Cunningham
Ralph McMullen
Linda Zarkowsky
Smokey Veal

Call to Order

Chairman Dale Epps called the June 5, 2007 Fiscal Year 2008 Budget Hearing to order at 6:05 p.m.

Budget Hearing for Fiscal Year 2008 Proposed Budget

County Manager Joan Minton, Finance Director Linda Zarkowsky and Assistant Finance Director Dawn Hudson presented the proposed budget for fiscal year 2008 for the period beginning July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2008.

County Manager Minton discussed the budget calendar and stated the budget will be presented for adoption at the June 19, 2007 meeting which begins at 6:30 p.m.

Finance Director Linda Zarkowsky discussed the proposed budget summary by fund, estimated revenues and expenditures. She also discussed major budget costs including over \$300,000 to meet the law for State mandated Courthouse security; increases in fuel, utilities and asphalt; and additional maintenance at the track / soccer complex. Assistant Finance Director Dawn Hudson further discussed major budget costs and the impact of fuel prices on the proposed budget.

Ms. Zarkowsky presented the following funding requests for special items proposed in the budget: Oconee River Greenway Authority operating budget, interest for the spec building, and an increase in the amount to the hospital for indigent care.

Ms. Zarkowsky discussed the closing of the Landfill and the costs for solid waste management. She discussed the five year history of millage rates and the 2007 rate which will remain the same at 8.80 mills. Thus, no tax increase for 2007.

County Manager Minton discussed the construction of the regional water treatment facility, Airport improvement projects, \$500,000 in CDBG funds for Phase II of the drainage improvements project in the Harrisburg area, SPLOST projects, Public Works projects including the traffic light at Meriweather Road and 441 North and road resurfacing projects, water and sewer projects and the new jail and public safety facility. At the conclusion of the budget presentation, the floor was opened for public comments on the proposed FY 2008 budget.

The following individuals made public comments regarding the Fiscal Year 2008 proposed budget: Mr. James Hammock, Mr. Pierce Nunn and Mr. Richard Brookins.

There being no further public comments, the Public Hearing was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Call to Order

Chairman Dale Epps called the June 5, 2007 Regular Meeting to order at 6:25 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Vice Chairman Collins P. Lee made a motion that the minutes of the May 15, 2007, Regular Meeting be approved as submitted. The motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Bids for Equipment for Fire Department

Finance Director Linda Zarkowsky reported that in February the Board accepted the Assistance to Firefighters grant in the \$45,000 and approved a local match of \$5,000 for equipment for the Fire Department. She stated a bid opening was held May 21, 2007, and one bid was received in the amount of \$44,810 from FireLine, Inc. for ten breathing apparatus units and ten extra cylinders. She reported at the unit price of \$4,481 eleven (11) units could be purchased with the grant.

Commissioner Bobby Blizzard made a motion to accept the bid for fire equipment at the per unit price of \$4,481 from FireLine as presented. The motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Amendment to Hotel / Motel Tax Ordinance

County Attorney David Waddell presented an amendment to the Hotel / Motel Excise Tax Ordinance. He stated currently there are no facilities in the unincorporated areas of the County for tax collections. The ordinance codification process is being finalized, and we want to ensure compliance with current legislation regarding the collection of an excise tax for hotels / motels.

Commissioner Bobby Blizzard made a motion to approve the Amendment to the Hotel / Motel Excise Tax Ordinance as presented. The motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

A copy of the Ordinance is herewith attached and made an official part of the minutes at pages _____ and _____.

Accounts Payable List Dated June 5, 2007

Commissioner Bubba Williams made a motion to approve the accounts payable list dated June 5, 2007. The motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Vice Chairman Collins P. Lee made a motion that the Board of Commissioners meeting be adjourned at 6:50 p.m. The motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Dale Epps, Sr.
Chairman

Cynthia K. Cunningham
County Clerk