

**Houston County Commissioners Meeting
July 23, 2018
Warner Robins, Georgia**

The Houston County Board of Commissioners met in special called meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday July 23, 2018 at the Houston County Annex in Warner Robins, Georgia with Chairman Stalnaker presiding and Commissioners McMichael, Walker, Robinson, and Thomson present. Also present were County Attorney Tom Hall, Director of Administration Barry Holland, Director of Operations Robbie Dunbar, Chairman of the Board of Tax Assessors Bill Fowler, Walton and Becky Wood, and Ansel Peck.

County Attorney Tom Hall gave the invocation.

Director of Administration Barry Holland led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Stalnaker informed everyone that this was the second of three required public hearings held to inform the citizens that the Board of Commissioners will maintain the 2018 millage rate at 9.935 which funds the FY19 maintenance and operations of the general County government. He stressed that that proposed millage rate for 2018 remains the same as the 2017 millage rate. The total increase in revenues from tax for FY19 that the proposed millage rate will generate is \$578,305 which equates to a 1.54% increase. This increase requires the three public hearings advising the public that the County could rollback the millage by 0.17 percent or 17/100 of a mill. By not rolling back the millage to 9.918 mills the County will gain an additional \$65,157 to help fund the FY19 General Fund budget of \$57.3 million. This \$65,157 is anticipated income only since 100% of taxes would have to be collected to realize the additional revenue. The millage for Houston for 2016 tax year was 9.95, for 2017 it was 9.935, and for 2018 it is proposed again at 9.935. In 1990 the millage rate was 8.97 mills and 28 years later there has been less than a one mill increase. This is exceptional considering that the County has also operated under a tax cap since the early 1980's. He reiterated that 9.935 is the proposed millage rate for the 2018 tax year for General Fund operations. In closing the Chairman commented that since the millage is being maintained at last year's rate the only way you would actually see an increase on property taxes would be if your property had been reassessed at a higher value during the year due to construction of new improvements or additions to the property.

Chairman Stalnaker then closed the regular meeting and opened a public hearing on the proposed 2018 millage rate.

There being no public comments, Chairman Stalnaker closed the public hearing on the 2018 millage rate and reopened the regular meeting.

Mr. Walker commented that the County was very fortunate to be in good shape and he thanked the County employees for their contributions to its success.

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Chairman Stalnaker announced that the third public hearing required by law would be held on Monday, July 30th at 4:00 p.m. at the Commissioners Board Room of the County Annex Building in Warner Robins after which the Board will vote on the adoption of the 2018 millage rate.

Motion to Adjourn by Mr. Thomson, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all, meeting adjourned.

Barry Holland
Director of Administration

Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner