

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court
Special Session
Monday, August 31, 2009
9:00 A.M.

Hamilton County Commissioners court met in Special Session on Monday, August 31, 2009 at 9:00 A.M. with the following members present: County Judge Randy Mills, Commissioners Jim Boatwright, Mike Lewis, Jon Bonner and Dickie Clary.

The meeting was called to order and Judge Mills opened with prayer.

Judge Mills opened the public hearing on the proposed Hamilton County Budget for Fiscal Year 2010.

Damon Chumney stated that he was opposed to a tax increase due to a number of reasons:

1. We owe \$385,000 on the courthouse annex –we were not expecting a tax Increase – public did not have a vote in the purchase of the building
2. Page 2 Tax Notes-\$686,000 what is this number composed of
3. Page 42 – Totals over \$4 million
4. Cupola \$160,000 - \$170,000 no one wants it anyway – money wasted
5. Page 8 County Auditor – Salary supplement \$3,000.00 thought we weren't giving salary increase
6. Page 6-Hamilton County Appraisal District-increase their amount \$20,307.00
7. Page 6-Water shed Protection Planning-new item-what is this for
8. Page 9-Salary increase for the janitor
9. Page 9- New item \$2700 service contract
10. Page 9- \$27,500 Maintenance and repairs-an increase
11. Page 13-Health Care
12. Page 14 –Big item sticks out-unit system money not spent last year –where did the money go-that should be sufficient to pay the \$150,000.00 on the courthouse annex

13. Page 1 –Budget spending – what are we getting now that we didn't get 20 years ago-look at the tax rate-roads not much better now than then

This is why Mr. Chumney opposes the tax increase.

Judge Mills responded:

Tax Notes-that is the county's matching funds for Phase I and Phase II of the Courthouse Restoration

Cupola-is a dead issue

Auditor-District Judge sets her salary-budget; because of the courthouse restoration causing auditor extra work; the court told her that if she can pull it out of her budget she can have a supplement-which she did

Appraisal District-increase is due to high dollar computer system which cost is being shared by other entities.

Custodian-It is a pay raise, I will have to stand on that. We need to pay him so that he can make a living; his capabilities and work ethic is super.

Twenty years-5 times the cost of health care
Law enforcement is larger
Utilities have increase

Clary responded:

Water Shed Protection gives the county latitude to provide additional sampling to protect our local property owners property rights

Unit System funds were never taxed for; they are resting in precinct reserve funds; money we didn't spend

Lewis added:

Indigent Health Care Legislation mandates us as well as the appraisal district computer system, mandates.

Being no further comments Judge Mills closed the public hearing.

The court reviewed the changes by Commissioner's Court in the Proposed County

Budget for Fiscal Year 2010 that it considers warranted by the facts and law and required by the interest of the taxpayers. The court recessed to allow County Auditor Marliessa Clark to make changes.

Reconvening a motion was made by Bonner and seconded by Clary to approve the changes by the Commissioner’s Court in the proposed Hamilton County Budget for Fiscal Year 2010 that it considers warranted by the facts and law and required by the interest of the taxpayers. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Lewis and seconded by Bonner to approve the adoption of the Proposed Hamilton County Budget for Fiscal Year 2010 that it considers warranted by the facts and law and required by the interest of the taxpayers. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Bonner and seconded by Lewis to approve the adoption of Hamilton County Budget for Fiscal Year 2010. The motion carried unanimously. (Recorded in Commissioner’s Court Papers Book 34 Page 133)

A motion was made by Lewis and seconded by Bonner to adopt the maintenance and operations tax rate for Hamilton County 2009 as follows:

General Fund.....	4116
Precinct 1.....	0293
Precinct 2.....	0293
Precinct 3.....	0293
Precinct 4.....	0293

The motion carried unanimously. (Recorded in Commissioner’s Court Papers Book 34 Page 132)

A motion was made by Lewis and seconded by Boatwright to adopt a debt service tax rate for Hamilton County 2009 as .0367. The motion carried unanimously.

The total tax rate for Hamilton County for 2009 is .5655.

A motion was made by Lewis and seconded by Boatwright to adjourn. The motion carried.

County Judge

Attest: _____
County Clerk