

Martin County Truth and Taxation Public Hearing
December 4, 2014
Martin County Courthouse-Board Room

Chairman Dan Schmidtke called the meeting of the 2014 Truth and Taxation Public Hearing to order at 6:00pm. Board members present were: Steve Flohrs, Elliot Belgard, Steve Donnelly, Steve Pierce, and James Forshee. Staff present was: Dan Whitman, County Assessor, Jessica Korte, Accountant, Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator. Also, present was Rod Halverson, KFMC/KSUM, Jodelle Greiner, Sentinel Reporter, and members of the public (3 in attendance as listed on the signup sheet). CY2015 Proposed Budget packets were provided to all in attendance.

Schmidtke opened the public hearing, reviewed the agenda, and stated the purpose of the meeting and that it was to review and obtain public input on the CY2015 proposed levy and budget, and not on property values. Schmidtke referred those who had questions regarding their property values to the County Assessor.

Whitman reviewed information he had put together regarding the Payable CY2015 Tax Base Analysis, stating that Agricultural land has seen a slight decrease compared to last year and taking on approximately 70.5% of the tax base, with residential at 13.2%, Commercial at 9.1%, and the remaining in multi-family and PU/RR/PP.

Forshee reviewed the proposed CY2015 budget stating that the total expenses are \$22,594,825, projected revenues (non- taxes) at \$9,587,112, and total proposed levy of \$12,992,806 with projected use of fund balance in the net amount of \$14,907. Forshee stated that the overall tax levy increase over CY2014 is 10.0579% which equates to \$1,187,382 increase in dollars. Overall increase in expenditures is -2.38%, (-\$551,836). Forshee went on to state that the tax levy provides the following services \$3,310,932, General Government, \$3,877,055 for Public Safety, \$2,569,108 for Road and Bridge, \$2,962,923 for Human Services, \$267,788 Debt Service and \$5,000 for Forfeited Land. Forshee further stated that the tax levy requested increase is due to a few reasons including no longer using large amounts of fund balances, reduction in projected interest rates on investments, increase in Human Services costs, including out of home placements, and adding health insurance to 30 hour per week employees.

Schmidtke thanked Forshee for the budget review and asked if there was any public input, with no further comments,

Motion by Pierce, seconded by Belgard, with no further input from the public regarding the proposed CY2015 budget and levy, to close the public hearing portion of the meeting. Carried unanimously.

Schmidtke asked for discussion from the Board. With no further discussion,

Motion by Belgard, seconded by Flohrs, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, set December 16, 2014 at 9:45am as the date for final consideration of the proposed Budget and Property taxes for CY2015. Carried unanimously

With no further business to wit,

Chairman Schmidtke declared the meeting adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 6:33pm.

Dan Schmidtke, Board Chairman

Attest: Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator