

**Martin County Truth and Taxation Public Hearing
December 3, 2015
Martin County Courthouse-Board Room**

Chairman Steve Flohrs called the meeting of the 2015 Truth and Taxation Public Hearing to order at 6:00pm. Board members present were: Elliot Belgard, Dan Schmidtke, and Tom Mahoney. Staff Present were: James Forshee, Auditor/Treasurer, Dan Whitman, County Assessor, Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator, and Sheriff Jeff Markquart. Also, present was Rod Halverson, KFMC/KSUM, and one members of the public CY2016 Proposed Budget packets were provided to all in attendance.

Flohers 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 CY2016 proposed levy and budget, and not on property values.

Whitman reviewed information he had put together regarding the Payable CY2016 Tax Base Analysis, stating that Agricultural land has seen a slight decrease compared to last year and taking on approximately 68.1% of the tax base, with residential up slightly at 14.2%, Commercial up slightly at 10.5%, and the remaining in multi-family and PU/RR/PP at 6.5%.

Forshee reviewed the proposed CY2016 budget stating that the total expenses are \$22,029,463, projected revenues (non-levy) at \$9,121,375, and total proposed levy of \$13,908,088 with projected increase in fund balance in the net amount of \$77,667. Forshee stated that the overall tax levy increase over CY2015 is 7.6423% which equates to \$992,949 increase in dollars. Overall increase in expenditures is 1.92%, (\$434,638). Forshee went on to state that the tax levy provides the following services \$3,748,969, General Government, \$4,157,809 for Public Safety, \$2,549,644 for Road and Bridge, \$3,170,328 for Human Services, \$254,005 Debt Service and \$5,000 for Forfeited Land. Forshee further stated that the tax levy requested increase is due to a few reasons including loss of intergovernmental revenue by going to True County Assessment (\$126,000), increase in Human Services costs \$148,146, plus an additional \$59,259 to build back reserves, two new Deputy positions (\$185,996), adding full time position for Extension, Martin County EDA increase of \$26,006 for consultant services, and overall salary and health benefit increases.

Flohers thanked Forshee for the budget review and asked if there was any public input. One person spoke and stated that the budget looked good and appears to be reasonable and stated appreciation the work of the board. Flohrs asked if there was any further public input. There were no further comments,

Motion by Belgard, seconded by Mahoney, with no further input from the public regarding the proposed CY2016 budget and levy, to close the public hearing portion of the meeting. Carried unanimously.

Flohers asked for discussion from the Board. There was discussion on the proposed two new Sheriff Deputy positions. It was asked of the Sheriff if one new Deputy position was approved, whether it is for Court Security or a road deputy, which he would prefer the position to be. Markquart responded that he would prefer to place new position as a court security deputy and civil service. With no further discussion,

Motion by Mahoney, seconded by Schmidtke, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, set December 15, 2015 at 9:40am as the date for final consideration of the proposed Budget and Property taxes for CY2016. Carried unanimously

With no further business to wit,

Chairman Flohrs declared the meeting adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 6:38pm.

Steve Flohrs, Board Chairman

Attest: Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator