

**Martin County Truth and Taxation Public Hearing
December 6, 2018
Martin County Courthouse-Board Room**

Chairman Tom Mahoney called the meeting of the 2018 Truth and Taxation Public Hearing to order at 6:02pm. Board members present were: Dan Schmidtke, Steve Flohrs, Kathy, Smith and Elliot Belgard. Staff Present were: James Forshee, Auditor/Treasurer, Dan Whitman, County Assessor, Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator, Julie Walters, Administrative Assistant, Jessica Korte, Accountant, Dan Whitman, County Assessor, Mike Sheplee, Deputy Assessor. Also, present was Lee Smith, Fairmont Sentinel, and four (4) members of the public. CY2019 Proposed Budget packets were provided to all in attendance.

Mahoney 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 CY2019 proposed levy and budget, and not on property values.

Sheplee gave a power point presentation on the better understanding the valuation notices and proposed taxes notice and property tax statements. Sheplee reviewed the correlation between levy changes and an individual property owners proposed taxes. Sheplee informed the Board that also included in the agenda packets is information pertaining to the CY2018 Tax Base Analysis.

Forshee reviewed the proposed CY2019 budget stating that the total expenses are \$27,303,597, projected revenues (non- levy) at \$11,885,398, and total proposed levy of \$16,310,856 with projected increase in fund balance in the net amount of \$892,657. Forshee stated that the overall tax levy increase over CY2018 of 2.94%, which equates to \$465,843 increase over CY2018. Overall increase in expenditures is -3.60%, (-\$1,019,544). Forshee went on to state that the tax levy provides the following major Funds: General Government-\$4,611,309; Public Safety-\$4,907,565; for Road and Bridge-\$2,307,954; Human Services-\$3,621,246; Debt Service - \$360,597; and Capital Improvement Fund-\$497,185. Forshee further stated that the tax levy requested increase is due to a few major reasons including added two new full time positions- Correctional Officer and HR Generalist, Capital Projects, Health Insurance Costs,

Mahoney thanked Forshee for the budget review and opened the hearing to the public.

Wayne Hanson stated his concern for increased estimated market value on his property.

A second member of public stated the need to keep taxes down with a lower budget.

There were no further comments,

Motion by Belgard, seconded by Flohrs with no further input from the public regarding the proposed CY2019 budget and levy, to close the public hearing portion of the meeting. Carried unanimously.

Mahoney asked for discussion regarding the proposed CY21019 Budget from the Board.

Schmidtke stated that we have worked hard on this budget to get it down to the 2.94% levy.

Flohrs stated that this the lowest proposed levy since I have been on the Board.

With no further discussion,

Motion by Flohrs, seconded by Schmidtke to set final consideration and adoption of the proposed CY2019 Budget and Property Taxes for December 18, 2018 regular board meeting. Carried unanimously

With no further business to wit,

Chairman Mahoney declared the meeting adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 6:54pm.

Tom Mahoney, Board Chairman

Attest: Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator