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**Houston County Commissioners Meeting
July 27, 2021
Warner Robins, Georgia**

The Houston County Board of Commissioners met in Special Called session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday July 27, 2021, at the Houston County Annex in Warner Robins, Georgia, with Chairman Stalnaker presiding and Commissioners Byrd, Perdue, Walker and Robinson present. Also present were County Attorney Tom Hall, and Director of Administration Barry Holland.

County Attorney Tom Hall led the audience in the Invocation.

Director of Administration Barry Holland led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Stalnaker asked for a motion to add one item to the agenda as Item #4 concerning intergovernmental agreements on the 2018 SPLOST Natatorium Recreational project.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve adding one item to the agenda as Item #4 concerning intergovernmental agreements on the 2018 SPLOST Natatorium Recreational project.

Chairman Stalnaker closed the regular meeting and opened a public hearing.

Chairman Stalnaker announced that this was the first of three required public hearings held to inform the citizens that the Board of Commissioners will maintain the 2021 millage rate at 9.935 which funds the FY22 maintenance and operations budget of the general County government and the 2021 millage rate for Fire will remain at 1.177. He stressed that the proposed millage rate for 2021 remains the same as the 2020 millage rate. The total increase in revenues for FY22 that the proposed millage rate will generate is \$2,057,911. This increase requires the three public hearings advising the public that the County could rollback the millage by 0.465 of a mill. By not rolling back the millage to 9.47 mills the County will gain an additional \$2,057,911 to help fund the FY22 budget of \$67.86 million. This \$2,057,911 is projected income only since 100% of taxes would have to be collected to realize the additional revenue. Houston County does have a great success rate collecting taxes under Tax Commissioner Mark Kushinka. The millage in Houston County for the 2016 tax year was 9.95, for 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020 it was 9.935, and it is proposed again for the 2021 tax year at 9.935. In 1990 the millage rate was 8.97 mills and 31 years later there has been less than a one mill increase. Houston County operates under a tax cap and the County does not have the ability to raise additional tax dollars by raising the millage. He reiterated that 9.935 is the proposed millage rate for the 2021 tax year for General Fund operations and 1.177 for Fire.

Chairman Stalnaker then opened the floor to public comments.

There were no public comments.

Chairman Stalnaker announced that the second public hearing required by law would be held Tuesday August 3, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. in the Commissioner's Board Room at the Courthouse in Perry after the conclusion of the regularly scheduled Board meeting which begins at 9:00 a.m. The third public hearing will be Wednesday, August 11, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioner's Board Room at the County Annex building in Warner Robins after which the Board will vote on the adoption of the 2021 millage rate at 9:30 a.m.

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Chairman Stalnaker then closed the public hearing and reopened the regular meeting.

Mr. Byrd presented intergovernmental agreements on the 2018 SPLOST Natatorium Recreational project.

Motion by Mr. Byrd, second by Mr. Perdue and carried unanimously by all to approve Chairman Stalnaker signing the individual Intergovernmental Agreements on the 2018 SPLOST Natatorium Recreational project with the City of Centerville, the City of Perry, and the City of Warner Robins, whereby the three cities each agree to assign their 2018 County-Wide recreation appropriations to the Natatorium project.

Chairman Stalnaker closed the regular portion of the meeting and opened Commissioner's comments.

Mr. Byrd offered a word of encouragement and wished all the best to the administration, educators and other employees of the Houston County Board of Education who held their big annual kick-off event today for the new school year which begins next week.

Chairman Stalnaker offered condolences for the student athlete lost this week at Southwest High School in Macon-Bibb. He then reiterated that the next Board meeting would be at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday August 3rd at the courthouse in Perry followed by the second public hearing on the millage rate at 11:00 a.m.

Motion by Mr. Perdue, second by Mr. Byrd and carried unanimously by all to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned.

Barry Holland
Director of Administration

Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner