

The Brooks County Board of Commissioners met for a Special Called Meeting/FY2022-2023 Work Session on Friday, July 15, 2022, at 12:30 p.m., at the Brooks County Administration Building, in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, located at 610 South Highland Road, Quitman, GA. Commissioners present were: Mr. Patrick Folsom, Chairman; Mr. James Maxwell, Vice Chairman, Ms. Myra Exum, Mr. Willie Cody; and Mr. Lee Larko. Others present were Ms. Jessica McKinney, County Administrator; Ms. Patricia Williams; County Clerk; Ms. Kim Daniels, Human Resources, and James Burchett, County Attorney (via telephone); and various residents.

1. **Call to Order** – Vice Chairman called the meeting to order.

A. Prayer/Pledge – Mr. Larko led all in attendance in prayer and the pledge of allegiance.

B. FY2022-2023 Budget – Chairman asked County Administrator to provide budget information and alternatives of choices; she stated there is no change from the July 13th meeting. Essentially, it is how much the Board wants to fund. The proposed FY2022-2023 budget is \$13,158,872.80; the FY2021-2022 budget was 12,980,092.64. Capital requests from departments total \$1,134,100.00. General Fund projected expenditures if fully approve totals \$14,292,972.80. The overage/under of the budget to balance is \$268,460.16.

County Administrator stated that operations are costing more than the taxes being collected need to increase taxes, generate revenue, or cut operations; the increases are indicative of the market.

Administrator presented options: a ½ mill increase would generate \$583,500.00; and 2% increase would generate \$385,000.00; or can offset by transferring from reserves.

Discussion continued regarding reductions in capital requests from departments. The Alternative A reduction reducing the capital requests from departments would be \$583,500.00. Alternative B reduction of capital requests would be \$385,000.00.

Mrs. Exum and Mr. Larko were not in favor of raising taxes stating property value is up which cause an increase in taxes for citizens. Department heads should be accountable

The amount of \$1,134,100.00 is needed to fully fund the department requests. The overage/under of the budget to balance is \$268,460.16. Total amount needed to balance the FY202-2023 Budget is \$1,402,560.16. The millage rate will increase to 16.1067 for incorporated and 14.1526 for unincorporated.

After discussion, Mr. Maxwell made the motion to fund the FY2022-2023 budget as it stands, according to Administrator, without any reductions, in the amount of \$1,402,560.16, Mr. Cody seconded. Chairman called for the vote. Mrs. Exum and Mr. Larko opposed. Mr. Maxwell, Mr. Cody, and Mr. Folsom voted yes. The vote was 3 to 2.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION - NONE

3. Adjournment

On the motion by Mr. Larko, seconded by Mr. Cody, the Board adjourned the special called meeting/work session at 1:43 p.m.

Mr. Patrick Folsom, Chairman

Ms. Jessica McKinney, County Administrator

Ms. Patricia A. Williams, County Clerk