

WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING HELD

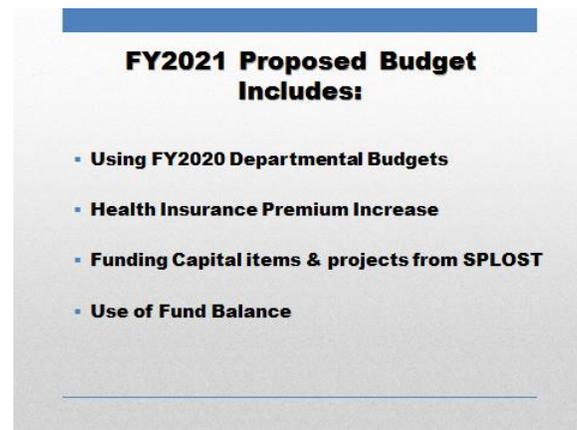
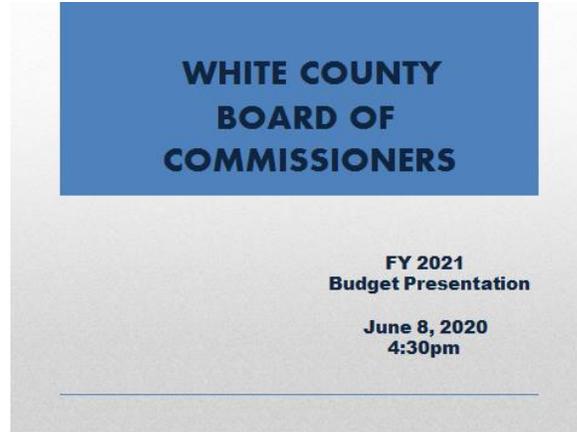
MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2020 AT 4:30 P.M.

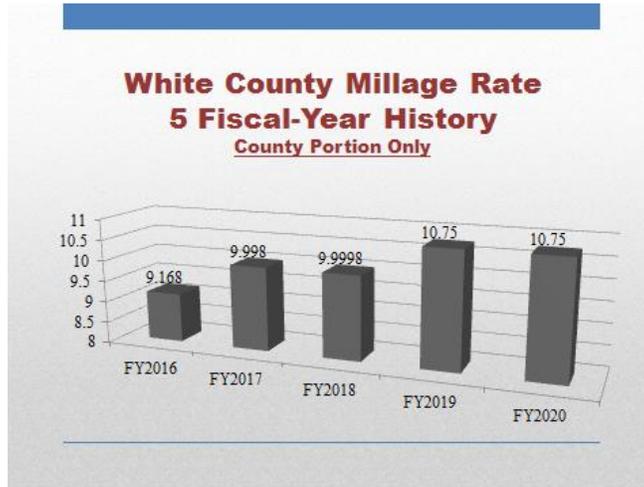
The White County Board of Commissioners held a Public Hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year 2020-2021 on Monday, June 8, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room at the White County Administration Building. Present for the meeting were: Chairman Travis Turner, Commissioner Terry Goodger, Commissioner Lyn Holcomb, Commissioner Craig Bryant, County Manager Jason Cobb, Finance Director Jodi Ligon, and County Clerk Shanda Murphy. Commissioner Edwin Nix was not in attendance.

Chairman Turner called the meeting to order. He expressed the Board's condolences to Commissioner Nix and his family in the passing of Commissioner Nix's father – Mr. Edsel Nix who had served our community in so many honorable ways.

Chairman Turner stated that the proposed budget being presented was a reproduction of the fiscal year 2019-2020 budget – due to the uncertainties surrounding the current conditions related to the COVID-19 pandemic the decision was made to implement the same budget for FY 2020-2021 as was previously adopted for FY 2019-2020, until such a time that any necessary amendments could be made in the future. He noted the spending freeze implemented by the Board in April as a precaution to any decreases in revenue resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic; however reported that he was pleased to acknowledge that the negative effect on revenues had not been as dramatic as expected.

Ms. Jodi Ligon made the following presentation of the proposed Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget:

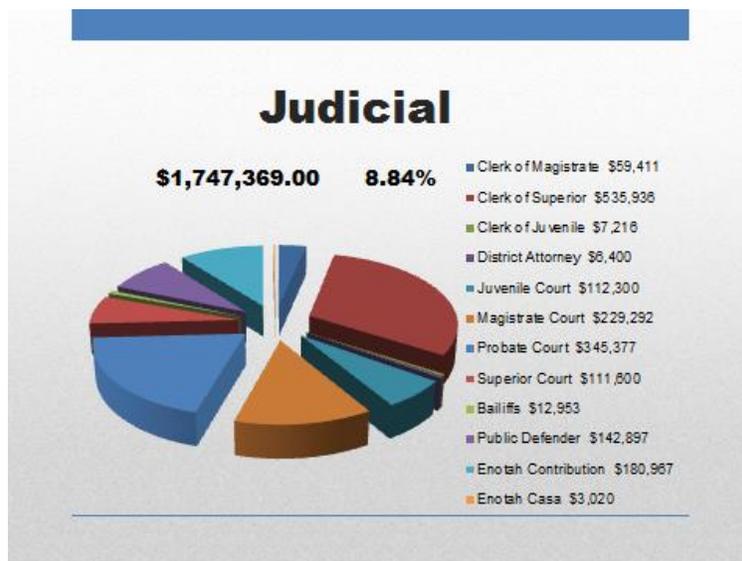
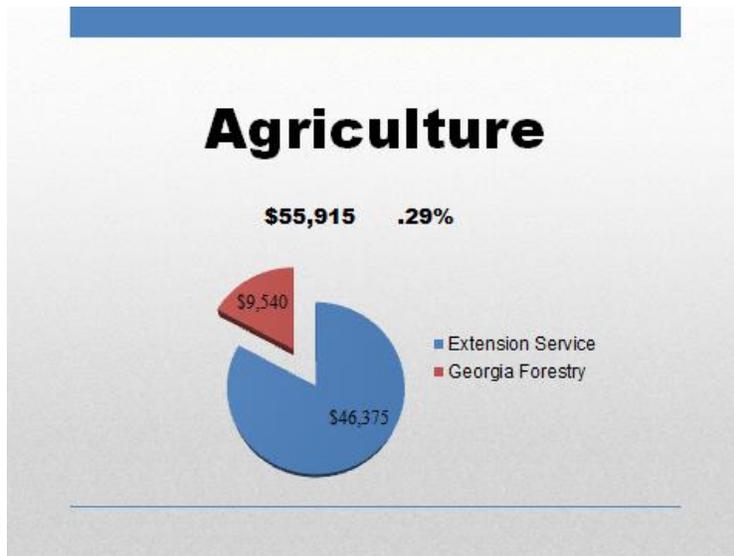
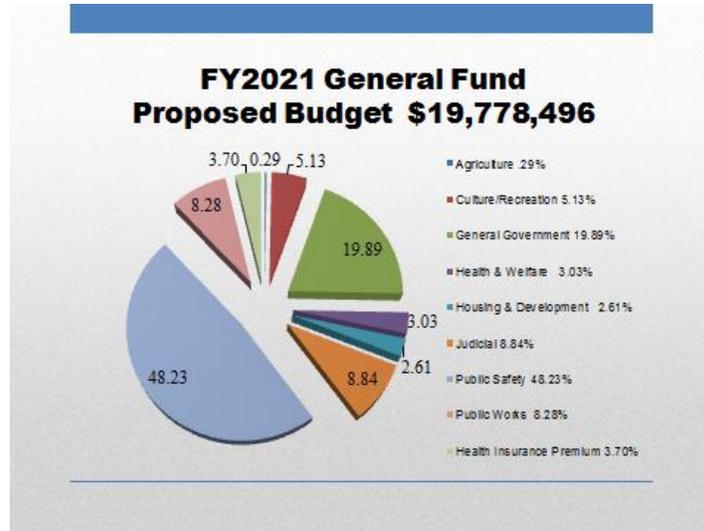




General Fund Approved Budget 5 Year History

Fiscal Year	Approved Budgets	Amended Budgets
FY2020	\$19,190,827	\$19,190,827
FY2019	\$18,925,734	\$18,768,424
FY2018	\$16,938,774	\$16,938,774
FY2017	\$16,299,730	\$16,324,730
FY2016	\$15,867,394	\$15,867,394

Function	Expenditures	% of Proposed Budget
Agriculture	\$55,915	.29
Judicial	\$1,747,369	8.84
Culture/Recreation	\$1,015,506	5.13
Housing & Development	\$517,681	2.61
General Government	\$3,933,658	19.89
Health & Welfare	\$600,643	3.03
Public Safety	\$9,538,610	48.23
Public Works	\$1,635,619	8.28
Health Insurance Premium	\$733,495	3.70
Total Expenditures	\$19,778,496	100%



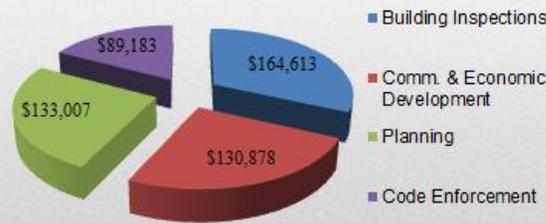
Culture & Recreation

\$1,015,506 5.13%



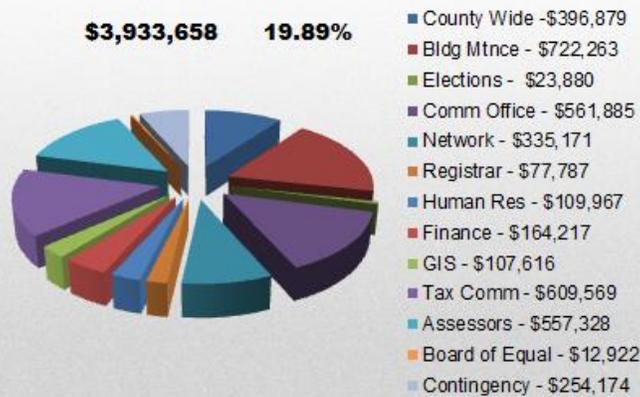
Housing & Development

\$517,681 2.61%



General Government

\$3,933,658 19.89%



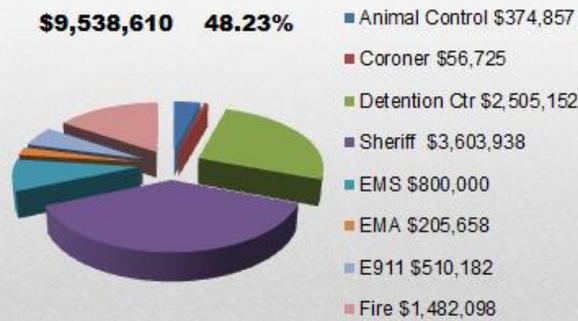
Health & Welfare

\$600,643 3.03%



Public Safety

\$9,538,610 48.23%



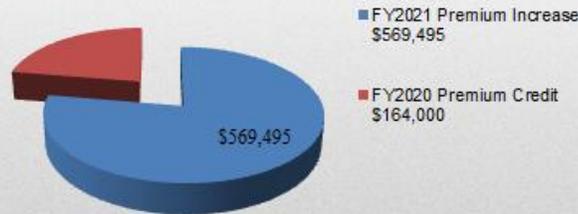
Public Works

\$1,635,619 8.28%



Health Insurance Premium

\$733,495 3.70%



Separate Funds

Fund #	Fund Name	FY2021 Proposed Request
101	Sheriff Phone Commissions	\$33,000
222	Jail Fund	\$ 29,000
224	Drug Education	\$ 65,000
225	Drug Task Force	\$ 847,682
250	Grants	\$ 20,000
275	Hotel/Motel	\$ 890,900
540	Solid Waste	\$ 104,211
570	E911	\$1,098,800
710	Enotah Judicial Circuit	\$ 790,850
205	Law Library	\$ 20,000
230	Juvenile Supervision	\$ 300
223	Inmate Welfare	\$ 20,555
210	Confiscated Assets	\$ 2,000
430	Debt Service (SPLOST)	\$1,043,227
TOTALS		\$ 4,965,525

FY2021 Proposed Budget

General Fund - \$19,778,496

Other Funds - \$4,965,525

**Total FY2021 Budget -
\$24,744,021**

Comparison

FY2020 APPROVED BUDGET	FY2021 PROPOSED BUDGET
GEN. FUND - \$19,190,827	GEN. FUND - \$19,778,496
<u>SEP. FUND - \$ 4,965,525</u>	<u>SEP. FUND - \$ 4,965,525</u>
TOTAL \$24,156,352	TOTAL \$24,744,021
	2.43% Increase from FY2020

Summary

FY2021 Proposed Expenditures - \$19,778,496
FY2021 Proposed Revenues - \$18,813,774

Proposed Fund Balance Use - \$964,722

Current Fund Balance Available: \$3,946,540

1.81 Month Reserve as Proposed (Pre-Audit)

Discussion

During the presentation, Ms. Ligon explained that the normal budget preparation process was not followed this year due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. She stated that the proposed budget was a mirror image of the FY 2019-2020 approved budget – except there had been some revenue adjustments and the contingency had been reduced from \$400,000.00 to \$254,174.00 in order to cover the increased expense of employee health insurance – which totaled \$733,495.00. She advised that the county would be covering the total increase in the cost of health insurance and this would not be passed along to the employees. She further explained that the increase in employee health insurance was equal to an approximate 6% salary increase for employees. In noting that all capital projects would be funded through SPLOST (no capital projects were reflected in the budget presented) Ms. Ligon stated that the White County Detention Center / Sheriff's Office construction bonds issued in 2010 would be paid in full by January 1, 2021.

Chairman Turner opened the floor for public comment on the proposed Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget.

Mr. Ridley Kinsey, 284 Forked Leaf Drive Cleveland, GA – Mr. Kinsey asked if there had been a noticeable reduction in revenues during the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Ligon responded that hotel / motel tax revenue was down 65%, SPLOST was down 5%, and LOST was down 3.5%. Chairman Turner stated the drop in revenue was not as significant as projected. Commissioner Goodger mentioned that many of the revenue line items were already significantly over the annual projected income for the entire year prior to the COVID-19. Mr. Kinsey also asked about what contingency plan the Board had if there was another unforeseen decrease in revenues. Chairman Turner explained the Board's options as being – continue with a spending freeze, utilizing the budgeted contingency fund, and – as a last resort – use of the county's fund balance.

Sheriff Neal Walden encouraged the Board to consider an amendment to the budget for employee salary increases. Chairman Turner stated that the Board planned to look at amendments in August / September.

With there being no additional public comments, Chairman Turner closed the floor. He stated that a second public hearing would be held Monday, June 15, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. and that following the public hearing the Board would consider adoption of the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Holcomb, seconded by Commissioner Goodger there was a unanimous vote to enter into Executive Session in order to discuss matters of personnel.

-See The Following Closed Meeting Affidavit-

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Goodger, seconded by Commissioner Holcomb there was a unanimous vote to exit Executive Session.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Holcomb, seconded by Chairman Turner there was a unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting.

June 8, 2020 – Public Hearing Minutes (continued)

The minutes of the June 8, 2020 Public Hearing are hereby approved as stated this 15th day of June, 2020.

WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

S/Travis C. Turner

Travis C. Turner, Chairman

s/Terry D. Goodger

Terry D. Goodger, District 1

s/Lyn Holcomb

Lyn Holcomb, District 2

s/Edwin Nix

Edwin Nix, District 3

s/Craig Bryant

Craig Bryant, District 4

s/Shanda Murphy

Shanda Murphy, County Clerk