

Press Release

Thursday, September 19, 2024

## The McIntosh County Board of Commissioners Announces a Proposed Property Tax Revenue Increase

The McIntosh County Board of Commissioners today announces its intention to increase the 2024 property taxes it will levy this year by 19.38% over the rollback millage rate.

Each year, the Board of Tax Assessors is required to review the assessed value for property tax purposes of taxable property in the county. When the trend of prices on properties that have recently sold in the county indicate there has been an increase in the fair market value of any specific property, the Board of Tax Assessors is required by law to re-determine the value of such property and adjust the assessment. This is called a reassessment.

When the total digest of taxable property is prepared, Georgia law requires a rollback millage rate be computed that will produce the same total revenue on the current year's digest that last year's millage rate would have produced had no reassessment occurred.

The budget tentatively adopted by the McIntosh County Board of Commissioners requires a millage rate higher than the rollback millage rate; therefore, before the McIntosh County Board of Commissioners may finalize the tentative budget and set a final millage rate, Georgia law requires three public hearings to be held to allow the public an opportunity to express their opinions on the increase.

Many factors influenced the Board's decision to raise the millage rate. Some of these factors include salary adjustments to keep qualified staff county-wide, the annual increase in health insurance costs and other costs related to employees (a 10-15% increase in employee healthcare insurance costs is anticipated), inflation, and the fact that there has been no increase in the county's millage rate in over 15 years. The rollback millage rate would not generate sufficient revenues to meet our anticipated budget for Fiscal Year 2025.

All concerned citizens are invited to the public hearings on this tax revenue increase to be held at Darien City Hall in the David Bluestein Meeting Room located at 106 Washington Street, Darien, Georgia on September 26, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. and on October 7, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.