

REGULAR AGENDA

AGENDA ITEM 24**Hold Public Hearing regarding the tax rate.**

Judge Doerfler announced the public hearing on the tax rate open at 10:02 a.m. on Tuesday, August 20, 2002.

The following persons addressed the court regarding the budget:

Charles Keeney of Georgetown
Jim Mollenkamp of Cedar Park
Deborah Hunt, Tax Assessor/Collector
Deanna Ramirez, rural resident of Precinct 2
Mark Trostle of Georgetown
Louis Repa of Granger
Dale Rye of Georgetown
Gene Taylor, County Attorney

Judge Doerfler announced the public hearing on the tax rate closed at 10:52 a.m. on Tuesday, August 20, 2002.

< Attachment >

The Bottom Line on Salaries

1. With a 2.5% cost of living adjustment, a 10% increase in the employee insurance contribution, no merit raises, and any reclassifications offset by new hires, what would be the increase in annual take-home pay for an average county employee? Since most county employees are also county taxpayers (either directly as owners or indirectly as renters), include the additional impact on an average family home of increasing county taxes to the 108% rollback level or 114% proposed level. Do not include increased school taxes or homeowners' insurance.

Assuming an average employee gross salary of \$32,000, a 2.5 *net* annual raise would be about \$536. A 10% increase in family health coverage would be about \$180 a year (bear in mind, however, that health care premiums cannot be determined prior to the adoption of the budget). According to the public notice, the average annual tax increase for a homeowner at 1.08 would be \$146 and at 1.14 would be \$173.

Average take-home increase after 1.08 tax increase and insurance hike = \$210
 Average take-home increase after 1.14 tax increase and insurance hike = **\$183**,
 or \$7.04 per pay period.

2. If the County were to fully fund the proposed new salary structure for the Sheriff's Department, what would the increase in annual take-home pay (less the increased insurance) be for an average member of that department?

Using the most recent version of the Sheriff's plan as of August 19:

Average take-home for S.O. Law Enforcement would increase by a *net* \$3692.
 Average take-home increase for after 1.08 tax increase and insurance hike = \$3366.
 Average take-home increase after 1.14 tax increase and insurance hike = **\$3339**.

Average take-home for S.O. Corrections would increase by a *net* \$2642.
 Average take-home increase after 1.08 tax increase and insurance hike = \$2316.
 Average take home increase after 1.14 tax increase and insurance hike = **\$2289**.

—0—

Obviously, all of the above are average figures. Some employees both within and outside the Sheriff's Department would receive substantially more and others substantially less.

Jane Tableriou

From: measley@tarrantcounty.com
Sent: Monday, August 19, 2002 7:53 PM
To: 'compct3@aol.com'
Cc: 'precinct3@williamson-county.org'; 'ccstein@swbell.net'; 'cityjudge@williamson-
Subject: Proposed Tax Increase

Commissioner,

I am a resident of Williamson County located in your precinct. I live on Logan Ranch Road just outside the city limits of Georgetown. I have been following the news of the proposed increase in the tax rate for our fair county. I am deeply concerned that this is occurring. My family and I lived in Berry Creek prior to the City's annexation. I was less than impressed with the management of the City. Upon learning of this annexation we made plans, sold our home and moved out of the city limits to our current residence.

I am not one to complain. In fact this is the first time in my 44 years that I have written a letter to a public official as a citizen. In May of 2001, I joined the county of Tarrant as the CIO. I understand the issues of doing more with less and the constraints within which we must all work. The honorable Judge and Commissioners of Tarrant County have requested that we hold the line on the budget and we have complied with this request doing whatever we need to do to make it work. I would encourage you, the Honorable Judge and your fellow Commissioners to do the same in Williamson County.

I feel very strongly about this issue and if it were not for the fact that I must be in Commissioners Court in Tarrant County at 10:00 am, I would be delivering this message in person, in public.

Regards,

Michael R. Easley
CIO - Tarrant County
100 E. Weatherford
Ft. Worth, Texas 76196
cio@tarrantcounty.com
(817) 884-2241 voice

08/20/2002

8/20/02

AGENDA ITEM 25

Announce date and time of record vote on tax rate.

Moved: **Judge Doerfler**

Seconded: **Commissioner Boatright**

Motion: To set the date and time of the record tax vote for August 27, 2002 at 10:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' Courtroom.

Vote: **5 – 0**

AGENDA ITEM 26

Discuss and take appropriate action on authorizing County Judge discretion on approving or disapproving late reimbursement requests.

Moved: **Commissioner Hays**

Seconded: **Commissioner Limmer**

Motion: To authorize the County Judge to approve or disapprove late reimbursement requests.

Vote: **4 – 0. Commissioner Boatright was absent from the dais.**

AGENDA ITEM 27

Consider approving a grant from the Task Force on Indigent Defense to provide improvements in indigent defense services in the county.

Moved: **Judge Doerfler**

Seconded: **Commissioner Heiligenstein**

Motion: To approve a grant from the Task Force on Indigent Defense to provide improvements in indigent defense services in the county.

Vote: **5 - 0**

< Attachment >