

# Property values in the county up \$115 million (7%)

## COUNTY BUDGET Continued from page 1

September. It is expected to be higher than the current \$140 charged to most dwellings in order to raise enough funds to cover increased expenses in the county's solid waste department, which has experienced budget deficits for several years.

Meanwhile, the recent boom in the local real estate market will once again have a positive impact on the commission's tax revenues, as the county's total assessed property values are projected to jump \$115 million or 7%.

This will equate to an additional \$833,000 in new tax revenue in the county's general fund and \$111,000 more in the MSTU fund should the commission elect to keep its property tax millage rates the same as the current year. (The MSTU fund includes services provided by the commission that are duplicated by the City of Perry -- such as fire protection -- and is funded through a separate tax levied on properties outside the city limits.)

At the start of the first

budget workshop, the general fund had a projected \$370,000 deficit.

However, during the course of the session, Sheriff Wayne Padgett announced he had trimmed \$322,000 from his original request for a \$1.084 million budget increase by eliminating a new correctional officer position and removing his sworn officers from the \$1 raise because they will be receiving a separate raise thanks to legislation passed by the Florida Legislature this past spring.

Taylor County Sheriff's Office (TCSO) officials also indicated there was flexibility in the department's proposed fuel budget that could help bring the general fund closer to being balanced.

At the second workshop, County Administrator LaWanda Pemberton said TCSO had found an additional \$50,000 in cuts, bringing the general fund within \$2,000 of being balanced.

During the course of the workshop, the commission rejected a request from the Taylor County Development Authority (TCDA) to increase its annual allocation

from \$100,000 to \$118,000.

That change brought the general fund to an approximately \$16,000 positive balance. The board instructed Pemberton to reduce the TCSO's cuts so the fund was even.

Another deficit facing the commission was in the county's MSTU fund, where spending was also up, with the majority of that increase coming from several major proposed capital purchases in Taylor County Fire-Rescue's budget, including a new fire engine, radios and a fuel trailer.

Fire-Rescue's requested budget for 2022-23 is \$2,327,000, an increase of \$539,000 (30%) over the current year.

Another capital purchase included in the MSTU budget is a new truck for animal control. These purchases would be paid for through revenues generated by the county's local option 1-cent sales tax.

In the proposed budget, the MSTU fund has a \$23,000 shortfall between recurring revenues and

recurring expenses. Although the commission discussed various options to reduce the deficit, the board was opposed to cutting Fire-Rescue's budget. Instead, they decided to take the difference from the MSTU reserves, which currently have \$120,000 for contingency and \$974,000 for capital outlay.

By far the biggest deficit in the budget is in the county's road and bridge fund, which has a more than \$1 million deficit in the proposed budget. According to the budget, the road and bridge fund is expected to have \$1.89 million in revenues, of which \$1.65 million are from gas and fuel taxes. However, expenses in the department total \$2.93 million, resulting in a \$1,043,000 deficit between recurring revenue and recurring expenses.

In order to balance the fund, the commission agreed to utilize \$982,000 in revenue that would have otherwise gone to the county's secondary road

paving fund next year, which is everything that would have gone into that account except for \$32,500 for half of one of the county's inmate work squads.

This still left a \$60,000 hole, which will be taken from the countywide "common" account in the secondary road paving fund, which will be reduced to \$989,000.

Because of this, no new funding will be added either to the county's common account or the five district accounts next year. The district accounts currently total: District 1 (\$223,000); District 2 (\$210,000); District 3 (\$220,000); District 4 (\$181,000) and District 5 (\$210,000).

The only option available to the commission to increase revenues in the road and bridge fund would be to increase the local gas tax, which all five commissioners were opposed to.

One of the final decisions made by the commission during the workshop was to extend its commitment of 25% of the revenue from the

county's 1-cent sales tax to Doctors' Memorial Hospital for one additional year.

The sales tax produces approximately \$2.2 million per year for the county, and the commission committed 25% (\$550,000) to DMH for three years, which was set to end this fiscal year. The county also committed 25% to TCSO for a period of time, and that allocation is set to end next fiscal year.

During the discussion, the board talked about not making such multi-year commitments in the future and instead considering individual requests for capital purchases. In the meantime, however, the board agreed to a one-year extension for DMH.

During a special meeting held Thursday, July 28, the board approved its proposed millage rates for both the general fund and the MSTU, keeping them at the same level as the current year.

The tentative and final millage rates, as well as the final budget, will be approved at a pair of public hearings in September.

## LEGALS

(Continued from page 10)

Parental Rights under oath has been filed in this court regarding the above-referenced child(ren). You are to appear before Judge Gregory S. Parker on September 20, 2022, at 9:30 am via Zoom, for a TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS ADVISORY HEARING. You must appear on the date and at the time specified. YOU MUST PROVIDE AN EMAIL ADDRESS TO THE CLERK OF TAYLOR COUNTY (AT LEAST 7 DAYS IN ADVANCE OF THE HEARING IN ORDER TO RECEIVE THE ZOOM LINK), OR YOU MAY APPEAR IN PERSON.

FAILURE TO PERSONALLY APPEAR AT THIS ADVISORY HEARING CONSTITUTES CONSENT TO THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THIS CHILD (THESE CHILDREN). IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR ON THE DATE AND TIME SPECIFIED YOU MAY LOSE ALL LEGAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD (OR CHILDREN) WHOSE INITIALS APPEAR ABOVE. If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact Court Administration, 173 NE Hernando Avenue, Room

408, Lake City, Florida 32055; (386)758-2163 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days. If you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711. Witness my hand and seal of this court at Perry, Florida on 2nd day of August, 2022.  
CLERK OF COURT  
BY: Marti Lee  
DEPUTY CLERK

### NOTICE OF NEW CELL OPENING AT AUCILLA AREA SOLID WASTE FACILITY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Aucilla Area Solid Waste Facility is having an Open House for the New Cell Opening at the Facility on August 20, 2022 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Aucilla Area Solid Waste Facility is located at 1313 S.W. Greenville Hills Road, Greenville, Florida. This will be considered a Special Meeting of the County Commissioners who are on the Aucilla Area Solid Waste Administration. The meeting will consist of a tour of the Facility. If you have any question please contact 850-948-4875. This Notice is given pursuant to Chapter 286.0105 Florida Statutes.



### Prevention-Recovery-Treatment

If you or a loved one needs help with substance use, there is assistance in the community waiting to help.

Please contact Taylor Co. Human Services at 850-223-1003 or go to 1012 S. Jefferson Street for assistance or information.



## CDBG PROGRAM PUBLIC NOTICE

### HOUSING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FOR INDIVIDUALS

TAYLOR COUNTY DOES HEREBY ANNOUNCE THAT FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE FOR HOUSING REHABILITATION/REPLACEMENT THROUGH THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM.

THE COUNTY IS NOW SOLICITING APPLICATIONS FROM VERY LOW, LOW AND MODERATE INCOME (LMI) HOUSEHOLDS FOR THE REHABILITATION OF HOMES WITHIN THE COUNTY LIMITS.

#### Program Details

Taylor County is providing housing assistance to owner-occupied households through the CDBG program in order to complete a HUD national objective through the revitalization of conditions in low to moderate income areas.

Assistance will be provided in the form of a no interest deferred-payment loan. Assistance for mobile or manufactured housing will be included in the program but will be restricted to replacement of said structure with a site-built home, unless prohibited by local or state regulations or infeasible due to applicant or site conditions. The County has been awarded \$687,500.00 (including temporary relocation as applicable) and is required to assist a minimum of 11 Households. The average allocation per house is up to but not exceeding \$80,000. Below is general information on the application process.

Applications will be available for pick up in the lobby of the Taylor County Administrative Complex located at 201 E. Green Street, Perry, FL 32347 or by calling Jami Evans at the Taylor County Grants Department at 850-838-3553 or the Taylor County CDBG consultant, Guardian CRM, Inc by calling 1-888-428-7393.

APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL SEPTEMBER 30, 2022 AT THE TAYLOR COUNTY GRANTS DEPARTMENT, 401 INDUSTRIAL PARK DRIVE, PERRY, FL 32348 ON WEDNESDAYS FROM 9:00 AM TO 4:00 PM and time and date stamped to ensure compliance with the application acceptance period. Final application ranking shall be determined by the required guidelines set forth in the Taylor County CDBG Housing Assistance Plan (HAP).

All projects must benefit very low (VLI), low (LI), and low to moderate income (LMI) households. To qualify for the program, the property must be within the legal County Limits; and must not exceed 80% of the Median Family Income (MFI) for the area, as determined by the 2022 Adjusted HOME Income Limits determined by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

MFI=\$55,800	30% MFI	50% MFI	*80% MFI
	VLI	LI	LMI
1 person	\$13,590	\$21,250	\$34,000
2 persons	\$18,310	\$24,300	\$38,850
3 persons	\$23,030	\$27,350	\$43,700
4 persons	<b>\$27,750</b>	<b>\$30,350</b>	<b>\$48,550</b>
5 persons	\$32,470	\$32,800	\$52,450
6 persons	\$35,250	\$35,250	\$56,350
7 persons	\$37,650	\$37,250	\$60,250
8 persons	\$40,100	\$40,100	\$64,100



\*Annual Household Income must not exceed this amount (80% MFI) to be eligible for the program

For More Information, contact Antonio Jenkins with Guardian CRM: 1-888-428-7393  
Taylor County is a Fair Housing Community and an Equal Opportunity employer.



# Are you spending too much of your monthly income on housing costs?

## HUD rental assistance may be able to help.



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