

Board Approves FY 12 Budget

Cuts Two Cents Off Property Tax Rate

After months of work and careful deliberations, the 59th Board of Carroll County Commissioners approved their FY12 operating budget and community investment plan.

The highlights of the FY 12 budget include: a two cent property tax rate decrease, a ten percent reduction in bonded debt by FY17, a restriction of growth of the operating budget, and a reduction in planned capital spending.

The Board has also established a new approach toward education funding. The Board announced it will consider both operating expenses and debt service together in order to promote additional accountability and austerity in school construction projects.

The results of their labor became official on May 24, 2011 when they voted 4 to 1 on a budget which will underscore several significant achievements. For the first time since FY87, Carroll Countians will benefit from a decrease in their property tax rate. The two cent decrease will change the rate from \$1.048 to \$1.028. Capital projects were eliminated and planned projects were reduced to meet the Boards' goal of reducing outstanding debt 10% by FY17.

Additionally, total funding for education consisting of debt service and operating revenues was essentially flat when compared to last year. This still represented a level of funding nearly one million dollars above the minimum levels required by the state for Maintenance of Effort.

Other Highlights realized during the FY12 budget process include:

The total budget for all funds is 14% lower than in FY 09.

A \$50 million reduction in capital budget decisions by Commissioners to achieve a more affordable funding level.

Commissioner action to move from the Maryland State Police Resident Trooper Program to the Sheriff as the County's primary law enforcement will save millions per year after full implementation of the transition.

The Commissioners sustained funding to all eight municipalities.

The Commissioners increased funding to the Volunteer Emergency Services Association (VESA) to address pressure on Emergency Medical Services (EMS).

The Commissioners funded a replacement Mt. Airy Middle School, but at a reduced level.

Commissioners' workforce remains at 1990's level despite increased service requirements associated with prior population growth.

The five member Commissioners Office is operating at a lower annual cost than the previous three Commissioner Board.



MEETINGS

Wednesday, June 1

1:30 p.m. - Briefing from MDE on Total Daily Maximum Loads (TMDL's) for the Liberty Reservoir Watershed and Double Pipe Creek in Carroll County - Room 003

2:30 p.m. Water Resources Coordination Council Meeting - Room 003

7:00 p.m. Monocacy Scenic River Citizens Advisory Board - under the pavilion of the Ceresville Mansion, 8529 Liberty Road, Frederick

Tuesday, June 7

10:00 a.m. Board of County Commissioners ~ Work Session - Room 311

Wednesday, June 8

7:30 a.m. Economic Development Commission Executive Committee Meeting - Room 105

9:00 a.m. Board of License Commissioners (Liquor Board) - Room 003

10:00 a.m. Commission on Aging Meeting - 125 Stoner Avenue, Westminster

6:30 a.m. Historic Preservation Commission - Room 003

Thursday, June 9

10:00 a.m. Board of County Commissioners ~ Open Session - Room 311

Monday, June 13

1:00 a.m. Carroll County Farm Museum, Board of Governors' Meeting - George Grier Memorial Meeting Room

Tuesday, June 14

8:30 a.m. Circle of Caring Committee Meeting (a group of community and non-profit agencies) - Human Services Conference Room, 10 Distillery Drive Westminster MD

10:00 a.m. Board of County Commissioners ~ Work Session - Room 311

Thursday, June 16

10:00 a.m. Board of County Commissioners ~ Open Session - Room 311

Tuesday, June 21

8:00 a.m. Department of Social Services Board of Directors Meeting - 1232 Tech Court, Westminster, MD 21157

Meetings cont.

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Meetings cont.

9:00 a.m. Carroll County Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting - Room 003

10:00 a.m. Board of County Commissioners ~ Work Session - Room 311

Wednesday, June 22

9:30 a.m. Board of Zoning Appeals - Room 003

7:30 p.m. Recreation & Parks Advisory Board Meeting - Room 003/004

Thursday, June 23

8:00 a.m. Economic Development Commission Executive Committee Meeting - Room 105

9:30 a.m. Board of Zoning Appeals - Room 003

10:00 a.m. Board of County Commissioners ~ Open Session - Room 311

Monday, June 27

9:00 a.m. Technical Review Committee - Rooms 003 and 004

6:30 p.m. Carroll County Planning and Zoning Commission Evening Meeting - 003

Tuesday, June 28

10:00 a.m. Board of County Commissioners ~ Work Session - Room 311

the Bureau of Planning to expand by 251.68 acres the existing Mineral Resource designation on properties comprising its New Windsor quarry.

Bid Approval. Voted 5 - 0 to award the bid for inlet replacement at ten (10) locations to Easy-Dig Excavating, Inc. of Millers, MD in the amount of \$39,845.00. This amount is within the allotted budget and no additional funds will be necessary.

May 26

Economic Relief Plan. Voted 5 - 0 to amend Manuals to implement code changes Adopted in the Economic Relief Plan.

Grant Award. Agreed 5 - 0 to approve submitting an application for a grant in the amount of \$54,078 from the Housing and Urban Development for the FY11 Housing Choice Voucher Family Self-Sufficiency Program. No county match is required.

Bid Award. Decided 5 - 0 to award a bid to West Recreation Inc. to supply and install a 40' x 60' Laminated Wood Gable Pavilion at Piney Run Park in the amount of \$54,744.00. This will be replacing the existing rental pavilion and is within budget with no additional funds necessary.

May 31

Drug Court. Decided 5 - 0 to approve the application for the Carroll County Adult Drug Court Bryne Justice Assistance Grant (BJAG) for FFY 2011 in the amount of \$34,488 to fill gaps in program funding for drug testing material and supportive services to Carroll County Adult Drug Court (CCADC) participants. No county funds are needed to match the grant.

Liberty Reservoir. Voted 5 - 0 to approve submitting an application to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) to request funding through The Chesapeake Bay Small Watershed Grant Program to cover the costs associated with hiring a contractor to plant and maintain stream buffers throughout the Liberty Reservoir Watershed for a three (3) year period. The Grant request of \$190,000 requires a 25% non-federal match. The County will provide \$63,333 in-kind match in the way of outreach, meetings with landowners to discuss planting options, coordination between contractor and landowner, and establishing easements on the planting sites.

Hampstead Annexation. Agreed 5 - 0 to sign a letter of comment to the Town of Hampstead regarding a petition for Hampstead Annexation No. 36 - Harrell Property into the Town of Hampstead. The area is 4.266 acres of land, located roughly 300 feet east of Main Street (MD 30) and 300 feet north of Fairmount Road. A public hearing is scheduled for June 14, 2011.



May 3

Recordation Tax. Decided 5 - 0 to send to public hearing the discussion of a proposal to change the Code of Public Local Laws & Ordinances of Carroll County, Maryland - Chapter 209 to exempt the Carroll County Industrial Development Authority from recordation tax.

Bid approval. Voted 5 - 0 to award the bid to purchase a new one-ton truck with dump body to Lindsay Ford in the amount of \$58,200 for the Bureau of Fleet Management.

May 12

Housing Grant. Decided 5 - 0 to approve the Home Initiatives Grant from the MD Dept of Housing & Community Development. The Dept of Citizen Services was awarded \$150,000 in housing subsidy & administrative funds for up to two years for up to 18 households. There is a County and HSP funded in-kind services of \$117,414 for program oversight.

Child Advocacy. Agreed 5 - 0 to approve an application for a grant to the Governors Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP) to fund training for the Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) of the Carroll County Advocacy and Investigation Center in the amount of \$7545.00 with no county funds required.

May 17

Lehigh. Agreed to 5-0 to Proceed to Public Hearing regarding a petition package submitted by Lehigh Cement Company to

Contact Your Commissioners

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