

BUDGET HEARING

SEPTEMBER 16, 1996

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held an advertised Public Hearing on Monday, September 16, 1996, at 6:00 P.M., in the Courtroom of the Walton County Courthouse.

The following Board members were present: Chairman Gordon Porter, Vice-Chairman Virginia D. Pridgen, Commissioner Charles C. Harris, and Commissioner Gerald Wilkerson. Commissioner Rosier Cuchens, Jr. was absent. The Board's Administrative Supervisor, Ronnie Bell, was also present.

Chairman Porter called the meeting to order and read the following statement. There is a 6.87% increase in millage over the rolled-back rate necessary to fund the proposed budget. The budget increases are in General Fund, 3% salary increase, Health Insurance, Fire Departments, Medical Examiner, Medicare, Road and Bridge, and Fine and Forfeiture.

Chairman Porter called for public comment.

Vincent Pasquarello, President of the Walton County Taxpayers Association, addressed the Board regarding several items concerning the proposed 1996-97 budget. Chairman Porter responded to the comments.

Several members of the audience spoke regarding the proposed budget and increases. Length discussion followed.

Motion by Vice-Chairman Pridgen, second by Commissioner Wilkerson, to close the public hearing. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Wilkerson Aye, Pridgen Aye, Harris Aye, Porter Aye.

Chairman Porter stepped down and made a motion to adopt a resolution adopting the millage rate of 6.706 for operations of the County Government, a millage rate of .144 to service the Voted Debt Service, Hospital Renovation Bond Issue, and a millage rate of .650 for operations of the North Walton Mosquito Control District for the tax year 1996-97. Motion died for lack of a second. Discussion followed.

Motion by Chairman Porter, second by Commissioner Wilkerson, to adopt the above stated resolution adopting the millage. Ayes 3, Nays 1. Wilkerson Aye, Pridgen Naye, Harris Aye, Porter Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Wilkerson, second by Chairman Porter, to adopt a resolution approving the Walton County Budget in the amount of \$31,053,405, Voted Debt Service Budget in the amount of \$273,590, and the North Walton Mosquito Control District Budget in the amount of \$234,263 for the fiscal

year 1996-97. Ayes 3, Nays 1. Wilkerson Aye, Pridgen Naye, Harris Aye, Porter Aye.

Chairman Porter adjourned the meeting.

APPROVED: _____

Gordon Porter, Chairman

ATTEST: _____

Catherine King, Clerk