

**COMMISSIONERS' COURT  
PUBLIC HEARING  
SEPTEMBER 18, 2017**

**[AGENDA](#)**

**[AUDIO](#)**

**[ATTESTATION](#)**

**SCROLL DOWN FOR MINUTES AND/OR ATTACHMENTS**

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**The Titus County Commissioners' Court, after notice posted in the manner, form and contents as required by law, met on Monday, September 18, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the Titus County Courtroom, Room 205, located at 100 West 1<sup>st</sup> Street with the following members present:**

Brian P. Lee	-	County Judge
Al Riddle	-	Commissioner Precinct 1
Mike Fields	-	Commissioner Precinct 2
Dana Applewhite	-	Commissioner Precinct 3
Jimmy Parker	-	Commissioner Precinct 4
Joan Newman	-	County Clerk
Sheryl Preddy	-	County Treasurer
Tim Ingram	-	County Sheriff
Carl Johnson	-	County Auditor

**PUBLIC ATTENDING**

Phillip Hoffman	Roger Ledbetter
Carolyn Norman	Jerry Clark
Larry McRae	John Dilmore

**INVOCATION:** Judge Brian Lee

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Judge Brian Lee

**1. PROPOSED 2017 TAX RATE (9:00 A.M.)**

Judge Lee opened the meeting by informing the Court that this is the first Budget hearing and the second of two meetings regarding the Proposed Tax Rate increase. The Commissioners' Court will vote on this on Monday at 9:00 a.m. on September 25, 2017.

The Proposed Tax Rate is 0.4790 per \$100 of taxable value which is a 4-1/2% increase over the current year of 0.4584, below the rollback rate and slightly over the effective rate. The tax rate on taxable property of Titus County for Maintenance and Operations purposes would be \$0.3582 per \$100 taxable value. The Interest and Sinking Fund would be \$0.1208 per \$100 taxable value.

Factors contributing to the rate increase are:

- Additional commitment to the City of \$360,000 for fire protection
- Implementing the Step Program for the Sheriff's office pay
- First full year of Road Engineer including purchase of additional equipment and extra position at the maintenance barn
- County employees raise of 2% except for Commissioners and Judge
- Increased costs of health insurance
- Increased cost of Retirement contributions
- Minor repairs to the courthouse and facilities

Judge Lee asked if any of the Commissioners had a comment and there were none. Judge Lee opened floor for public comment and there was none. Judge Lee brought the Proposed Tax Rate Hearing to a close.

**2. PROPOSED BUDGET (2017-2018)**

Judge Lee asked if anyone would like to comment of the proposed budget for 2017-2018. Carl Johnson stated there was one thing he needed to bring to the courts attention. On page 11 of the 2017-2018 Proposed Budget, this is the JP 1 Budget change. Since both of her deputies left this year it caused her to hire new employees at less than budgeted, but what we typically do on the salaries is leave the amount the same as the last fiscal year. This is in case she has an opportunity to hire a more experienced clerk during the year. If that should happen of course all raises would have to be approved by the Commissioners' Court. That is the only change and when the Commissioners' Court approves the budget next week this change will be included for the Court to vote on.

There were no more comments or questions.

**ADJOURN:**

Motion was made at 9:12 a.m. to adjourn by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite. Motion passed unanimously.