

Commissioners
Brad Fields– Chairman
Susan Blizzard – Vice Chairman
Bennie Heath
Jerry Jones
James T. Shackelford, Jr.

County Manager
Kyle DeHaven

Finance Officer
Landon Price



GREENE COUNTY

A Place To Grow. The Way To Live.

Home of the North Carolina Sweet Potato Festival

Memo To: Greene County Board of Commissioners

From: Kyle J. DeHaven, County Manager

Re: 2016/2017 Budget Message

Date: June 6, 2016

Today we are providing you a copy of the proposed 2016/2017 budget for your review and consideration. The highlights of the budget are as follows:

1. The tax rate remains the same at \$.786 per \$100 valuation.
2. The estimated valuation for real and personal taxes is estimated at \$900,274,346.00.
3. The collection rate is estimated at 98.13% which generates an estimated tax revenue of \$7,297,611.73.
4. A one cent (\$.01) fire tax increase is proposed for the Rainbow fire district.
5. A proposed \$2 increase in solid waste fees, representing a \$1 dollar per year availability fee per residential unit and a \$1 user fee per residential unit per year only to unincorporated areas in Greene County and those incorporated municipalities that do not provide a system of solid waste collection.
6. A 5% increase for water and sewer rates is proposed for all County water sales.
7. A 5% salary increase is proposed for County employees.
8. The County has taken action to address the issue of low wages among its employees with the COLA increase, but low wages continue to be an issue in all departments.
9. Funding for the Greene County Schools and Lenoir Community College will remain the same as the FY 15/16 budget year. I have budgeted for the payment of two (2), \$10,000 payments to the Regional Library System and kept their annual appropriation at last year's level of \$121,000.
10. There is no major capital outlay proposed in the budget. Vehicles and equipment throughout County departments will be replaced due to age and condition.
11. The newly legislated Sales and Use Expansion monies will fund the school debt payment and have been placed in Capital Reserves which have been built into this budget to save for the future purchase of an ambulance, elections voting equipment, a health and wellness facility, and building renovations/retrofitting.
12. A Microsoft Office Open Value Subscription for small to medium sized companies is being purchased. This subscription allows for a high level of flexibility regarding Office licenses needed within the County Departments.

229 Kingold Blvd., Suite D • Snow Hill, NC 28580 • (252) 747-3446 • FAX (252) 747-3884
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This proposed budget was less difficult to prepare than previous due to sound fiscal management and oversight. Revenue projections have increased due to state legislation expanding the sales and use tax. Expenditures decreased due to a new health insurance policy for employees. Proposed budget surplus is being reinvested in human capital, capital outlay, and capital reserve. A 5% raise for employees was entered in the budget, their first Cost of Living Increase in nine (9) years. This will aid in the retention of existing employees, although there is still much work to do to make salaries more competitive with surrounding jurisdictions. This budget continues on a conservative path designed to improve the County's overall financial health.

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