

Habersham County, Georgia



Fiscal Year 2009
Proposed Budget



HABERSHAM COUNTY

Office of County Commissioners

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May 29, 2007

Chairman Butterworth and Members of the Commission:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 81 (Budgets and Audits) of Title 36 of the O.C.G.A., I have prepared for your review and consideration the proposed budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009.

The totals of all budgeted Funds are:

General Fund	\$16,641,889
E-911 Special Fund	\$ 1,344,194
Drug Task Force Fund	\$ 175,354
Development Authority Fund	\$ 37,000
Jail Special Fund	\$ 65,220
Law Library Special Fund	\$ 20,400
Hotel Motel Tax Special Fund	\$ 25,100
Drug Abuse Treatment and Education Special Fund	\$ 131,000
Inmate Welfare Special Fund	\$ 101,500
Total Special Revenue Funds	\$ 1,899,768
Water Enterprise Fund	\$ 709,656
Landfill Enterprise Fund	\$ 2,803,035
Public Transit Special Fund	\$ 49,433
Total Enterprise Funds	\$ 3,562,124
Capital Improvements Fund	\$ 412,572
SPLOST 2	\$ 53,000
SPLOST 3	\$ -0-
SPLOST 4	\$ 5,853,155
Total Capital Funds	\$ 6,318,727

The proposed General Fund budget would increase by \$600,104 or 3.7 % over the amount approved last June, 2007. However, the proposed General Fund budget is a decrease of \$31,636 or (0.2%) of the amended FY 08 budget.

This proposed budget represents the Board's continuing commitment to provide needed services while being mindful of the current economic conditions of the county.

As directed by the Board, any inflationary increases to the tax digest will not be realized and the millage rate will be rolled back accordingly.

I have recommended an appropriation of \$269,767 from available Fund Balance. This is approximately 6% of the projected Balance available July 1, 2008. The appropriation of fund balance was necessary to make debt service payments on short term capital leases and other one time expenditures.

Through the excess realized in SPLOST 4, just under \$491,000 will be spent on a new super tanker for the Fire Department, an ambulance for EMS, as well as 5 new patrol cars for the Sheriff's Department. It is important to keep in mind that these funds are non-recurring and once depleted will not be available to subsidize recurring general revenue. No other CIP purchases will be made under the proposed 08-09 budget with general revenue.

The proposed budget includes no new positions. I will be placing a hiring freeze on all administrative positions for the upcoming year. Non-public safety positions needing to be re-filled would have to be approved by the County Manager. All county departments as a whole will be reviewed for possible reorganization prior to any new hiring.

The employees of the County will be receiving a 1.015% cost of living increase as well as 2.5% merit increases. In previous years, we have mirrored the cost of living increase applied by the Social Security Administration which was 2.3% for this year. Approximately 11% was included the proposed budget for increases in employee health insurance. If the increase is greater than 11%, employees may be required to make up the difference.

A few budget highlights:

- There was a total of 16 county positions (along with a 6 person EMS crew) included in the FY08 budget. Many of these positions were only funded for a partial year - we are now paying these employees for a full year of service.
- The proposed budget includes an increase in Probate Court of 18%, including retaining a position that was added late in the current budget year as well as more funding for poll workers.
- The Public Defender's budget includes a 33% increase to assist in covering some positions that are no longer state funded.
- The Auditor's budget has increased 46% to allocate for recently adopted Governmental Standards Accounting Board requirements as was presented to and approved by the Board on February 18, 2008.

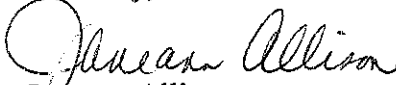
- Due to increased fuel expense our countywide fuel budget has increased by approximately 8.6% for FY09. Beginning July 1, 2008, we will be implementing a conservancy and efficiency program within all Departments.
- Outside agencies such as the County Health Department, Libraries, Mental Health Services, Senior Center were held to a 2% increase.

A Public Hearing on the proposed FY 08-09 budget has been scheduled for the June 2 meeting. Adoption is scheduled for the June 16 meeting.

The proposed spending plan for the upcoming year maintains essential services; and continues stabilization of the tax burden.

In closing, I would like to recognize our outstanding county employees, We understand that they will be bearing a small burden under this proposed budget, but want them to realize that we do appreciate their hardwork and commitment to Habersham County and do not take lightly this burden.

Cordially,


Janeann Allison
County Manager

ALL FUNDS SUMMARY	Adopted Budget FY 2008	Proposed Budget FY 2009	\$ Inc/Dec	% Inc/Dec
General Fund	16,041,785	16,641,889	600,104	3.7%
Jail Fund	60,200	65,220	5,020	8.3%
Inmate Welfare Fund	91,500	101,500	10,000	10.9%
Law Library Fund	37,000	20,400	(16,600)	-44.9%
Emergency 911 Fund	1,211,431	1,344,194	132,763	11.0%
Drug Task Force Fund	174,998	175,354	356	0.2%
Development Authority Fund	37,000	37,000	-	0.0%
Hotel/Motel Tax Fund	24,000	25,100	1,100	4.6%
Drug Abuse, Treatment & Education Fund	167,000	131,000	(36,000)	-21.6%
Special Revenue Funds	1,803,129	1,899,768	96,639	5.4%
Water & Sewer Fund*	6,283,100	709,656	(5,573,444)	-88.7%
Landfill/Solidwaste Management Fund	1,606,135	2,803,035	1,196,900	74.5%
Transit Fund	44,324	49,433	5,109	11.5%
Total Enterprise Funds	7,933,559	3,562,124	(4,371,435)	-55.1%
Capital Improvements Fund	1,039,000	412,572	(626,428)	-60.3%
SPLOST 2	139,000	53,000	(86,000)	-61.9%
SPLOST 3	85,000	-	(85,000)	-100.0%
SPLOST 4	2,910,870	5,853,155	2,942,285	101.1%
Total Capital Funds	4,173,870	6,318,727	2,144,857	51.4%
	29,952,343	28,422,508	(1,529,835)	-5.1%

General Fund Summary

Dept #	General Fund Summary	FY 2008 Adopted Budget	FY 2008 Amended Budget	FY 2009 Proposed Budget	\$ Inc or Decrease	%
						Change
110	Countywide	571,350	573,850	489,451	(84,399)	-15%
111	Auditor	50,000	50,000	72,800	22,800	46%
112	Legal Services	120,000	120,000	118,000	(2,000)	-2%
120	County Commission	179,635	185,635	184,871	(764)	0%
121	County Manager	114,108	114,108	93,662	(20,446)	-18%
122	County Finance	209,839	209,839	235,326	25,487	12%
123	Human Resources	83,210	83,210	103,614	20,404	25%
125	Tax Commissioner	314,889	314,889	325,295	10,406	3%
126	Tax Assessors	485,214	485,214	537,265	52,051	11%
127	Board of Equalization	5,250	5,250	3,980	(1,270)	-24%
130	County Clerk	64,431	64,431	52,818	(11,613)	-18%
131	County Engineer	75,289	75,289	76,205	916	1%
134	Economic Development	102,133	102,133	148,238	46,105	45%
145	Registrar	100,629	100,629	99,903	(726)	-1%
154	Safety	6,500	6,500	5,500	(1,000)	-15%
155	Buildings & Grounds	473,216	516,314	496,264	(20,050)	-4%
156	County Annex	80,100	82,100	98,092	15,992	19%
160	Information Technology	147,983	150,983	150,314	(669)	0%
178	Cannery	6,820	6,820	-	(6,820)	-100%
218	Drug Court	125,000	125,000	125,000	-	0%
230	Probate Court	217,286	217,286	256,911	39,625	18%
231	Magistrate Court	387,114	388,114	402,787	14,673	4%
235	Clerk of the Court	544,421	544,421	560,989	16,568	3%
264	Juvenile Offenders Program	5,000	5,000	6,000	1,000	20%
265	Superior Court	173,104	173,104	168,542	(4,562)	-3%
266	District Attorney	70,456	75,656	89,598	13,942	18%
267	Public Defender	275,125	275,125	366,565	91,440	33%
268	Juvenile Court	217,314	217,314	229,250	11,936	5%
270	State Court	141,345	141,345	136,634	(4,711)	-3%
271	State Court Solicitor	92,662	92,662	92,011	(651)	-1%
321	Code Enforcement	69,852	69,852	69,791	(61)	0%
322	<i>Drug Taskforce (Transfer)</i>	85,119	85,119	84,276	(843)	-1%
340	Sheriff	1,920,321	2,013,482	2,059,271	45,789	2%
341	Jail	1,781,814	1,742,814	1,823,128	80,314	5%
374	Animal Control	181,530	92,030	100,263	8,233	9%
382	Coroner	23,313	25,313	24,543	(770)	-3%
384	Fire Department	1,103,618	1,661,273	1,126,771	(534,502)	-32%
385	Emergency Management	149,127	149,127	108,267	(40,860)	-27%
390	<i>E-911 (Transfer)</i>	383,531	383,531	394,194	10,663	3%
391	Animal Shelter	-	89,500	93,416	3,916	4%
395	EMS	635,500	645,500	822,330	176,830	27%
475	Road Department	1,654,118	1,660,118	1,674,187	14,069	1%

General Fund Summary

479	<i>Water Department (Transfer)</i>	-	-	-	-	0%
480	<i>Landfill (Transfer)</i>	-	-	-	-	0%
492	Airport	14,390	14,390	14,410	20	0%
576	Mental Health	25,900	25,900	26,300	400	2%
583	US Department of the Interior	9,425	9,425	-	(9,425)	-100%
584	Soque Watershed Association	2,000	2,000	2,000	-	0%
585	Senior Center	162,322	162,322	164,193	1,871	1%
586	NE Georgia Food Bank	2,500	2,500	2,500	-	0%
589	Health Department	180,000	180,000	183,000	3,000	2%
590	<i>Dev Authority (Transfer)</i>	37,000	37,000	37,000	-	0%
591	Family & Children Services	60,306	60,306	58,000	(2,306)	-4%
677	Fairgrounds	15,400	29,025	17,600	(11,425)	-39%
686	Library System	310,000	310,000	316,200	6,200	2%
696	Recreation	798,623	798,623	858,907	60,284	8%
750	Extension Service	77,042	77,042	80,254	3,212	4%
754	<i>Public Transit (Transfer)</i>	22,284	22,284	23,000	716	3%
792	GIS	-	-	-	-	0%
793	Forestry Commission	3,462	3,462	3,462	-	0%
794	Building Department	251,041	251,041	257,175	6,134	2%
795	Planning Department	379,391	378,692	241,566	(137,126)	-36%
796	Planning Commission	10,400	11,100	10,000	(1,100)	-10%
997	Contingency	253,033	178,533	240,000	61,467	34%
	TOTAL General Fund	16,041,785	16,673,525	16,641,889	(31,636)	-0.2%