

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Lee Hearn, Chairman
Edward Gibbons, Vice Chairman
Eric K. Maxwell
Charles D. Rousseau
Charles W. Oddo

**FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA**

Steve Rapson, County Administrator
Dennis A. Davenport, County Attorney
Tameca P. Smith, County Clerk
Marlena Edwards, Chief Deputy County Clerk

140 Stonewall Avenue West
Public Meeting Room
Fayetteville, GA 30214

**SPECIAL CALLED HEARING
ACTION AGENDA**

October 15, 2026
5:00 p.m.

Welcome to the meeting of your Fayette County Board of Commissioners. Your participation in County government is appreciated. All regularly scheduled Board meetings are open to the public and are held on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 5:00 p.m.

OFFICIAL SESSION:**Call to Order**

Chairman Lee Hearn called the October 15, 2026, Special Called Millage Rate Hearing to order at 5:00 p.m. A quorum of the Board was present. Commissioner Charles Rousseau was absent.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Hearn offered the Invocation and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Acceptance of Agenda

Vice Chairman Edward Gibbons moved to accept the agenda. Commissioner Charles Oddo seconded. The motion passed 4-0. Commissioner Rousseau was absent.

PUBLIC HEARING:**1. Final Public Hearing to discuss the 2026 Property Tax Millage Rate.**

Chief Finance Officer Sheryl Weinmann presented the final required public hearing regarding the 2026 millage rate and recommended maintaining the current millage rates while approving Resolution 2026-15 to levy the County's property tax.

Ben Loggins, Fayetteville, stated that at night he could hear the data center and he was not happy. He stated that he realized it was not due to any Board decision. He asked when the County would receive taxes from the data center so that the County could roll back taxes.

Andrea Barnett, Fayetteville, stated that considering that there was so much development in Unincorporated Fayette County, she did not understand why there was a need to increase the millage rate.

Vice Chairman Gibbons moved to approve Resolution 2026-15 to levy the County's 2026 property tax. Commissioner Oddo seconded.

Commissioner Maxwell stated that at the October 1 meeting, the Board had a robust discussion to address the comments made. He encouraged the audience and viewers to refer to that meeting. He stated that he had some of the same questions.

Mr. Rapson reported that Fayette County anticipates receiving approximately \$7.7 million in data center-related revenue, primarily from personal property taxes. The County has designated these funds within the Targeted Revitalization and Infrastructure Program (TRIP) and is treating them as one-time revenue pending potential action by the Georgia General Assembly regarding tax relief measures and data center revenue allocation. He noted that a November ballot referendum would allow voters to consider a floating homestead exemption, which could provide future taxpayer relief without requiring annual legislative approval. Due to uncertainty regarding future state actions, portions of the revenue have been allocated to one-time capital and public safety projects, including Animal Control, recreation facilities, the Sheriff's Office, Fire, and 911 services, with the remaining balance placed in fund balance reserves. Mr. Rapson also clarified that the County was maintaining its current millage rate and was not increasing taxes; however, state law required the County to advertise the action as a tax increase when a rollback rate was not adopted.

Chairman Hearn stated that he liked comparing Fayette County to surrounding counties. Spalding County was over 19 mills, Clayton County was over 18 mills, Rockdale County was in the 18 mill range, Dekalb County was over 16 mills, Gwinnett County over 14 mills and Fayette County was 7.7 mills. He stated that this spoke to the fact that the County did a good job managing the money and spending it wisely for the taxpayers. He stated that he appreciated the work of the staff and finance team.

Commissioner Oddo stated that he wanted to point out that the County was doing more with this lower millage rate than other counties are doing around the state.

Vice Chairman Gibbons stated that the money was treated as one time revenue because the County did not know what the State legislature would decide and most of the money was put into public safety. Mr. Rapson stated that was correct.

Vice Chairman Gibbons moved to approve Resolution 2026-15 to levy the County's 2026 property tax. Commissioner Oddo seconded. The motion passed 4-0. Commissioner Rousseau was absent.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Maxwell moved to adjourn the October 15, 2026, Special Called Millage Rate Hearing. Vice Chairman Gibbons seconded. The motion passed 4-0. Commissioner Rousseau was absent.

The October 15, 2026, Board of Commissioners Special Called Millage Rate Hearing adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Tameca P. Smith, County Clerk