

Notice of Public Hearing on Increasing Property Taxes

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Ottawa will hold a public hearing on a proposed increase of 0.2224 mills in the operating tax millage rate to be levied in 2020 over the millage rate allowed without a hearing.

Without this hearing, County property tax revenues must be reduced by the amount of the County's share of the State Convention Facilities Tax and State Cigarette Tax.

The actual 2019 millage rate was 5.4449 mills. The proposed 2020 millage rate is 5.4317 mills, which is .0132 lower than the actual millage rate in 2019.

The Board of Commissioners intends to dedicate .30 of the County operating millage to fully funding the defined benefit plan that was closed to new employees effective December 31, 2011 or December 31, 2012, depending on the employee group. As of the last actuary report on December 31, 2018, based on Municipal Employees' Retirement System (MERS) assumptions, the plan was 75% funded. Per MERS current actuarial assumptions, the estimate to fully fund the MERS defined benefit plan requires additional resources equal to .30 mills for 14 years.

This action will sunset after the completion of the MERS Option B payment plan. The Board of Commissioners urges future Board of Commissioners to reduce taxes to the extent possible at that time.

The hearing will be held on June 9, 2020 at 1:30 pm at the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners' Board Room, located in the Ottawa County Administrative Building, Olive Township.

Following the public hearing, the County Board will take action to approve all or any portion of the proposed additional millage rate.

If adopted, the proposed additional millage will increase total operating revenues from ad valorem property taxes 4.27% over such revenues generated by levies permitted without holding a hearing. If the proposed additional millage rate is not approved, the 2020 revenue will decrease by 0.50% over the preceding year's operating

revenue.

The taxing unit publishing this notice, and identified below, has complete authority to establish the number of mills to be levied from within its authorized millage rate.

This notice is published by:
The Chairman of the Ottawa County Board of
Commissioners
12220 Fillmore Street
West Olive, MI 49460
