

BOONSBORO MAYOR AND COUNCIL

April 18, 2022

PUBLIC HEARING

6:30 PM

Fiscal Year 2023 Real Estate and Personal Property Tax Rates

The Boonsboro Mayor and Council held a Public Hearing as duly advertised on Monday, April 18, 2021 in the Meeting Chambers of the Charles F. Kauffman Building. The Meeting was streamed via GoToMeeting. In attendance were Mayor Howard Long, Assistant Mayor Rick Byrd, Council Members Tony Nally, Marilee Kerns, Ray Hanson, Terri Hollingshead and Rick Weaver. Also present were Town Manager Paul Mantello and Office Manager Kimberly Miller.

Mayor Long opened the Public Hearing at 6:30PM for the purpose of receiving public input, either in support of or in opposition to the Fiscal Year 2023 Real Estate and Personal Property Tax Rates.

Council Member Kerns presented a fair summary of the proposed Fiscal Year 2023 Real Estate and Personal Property Tax Rates.

The Mayor and Council of the Town of Boonsboro proposes to increase Real Property Taxes.

- For the Tax Year beginning July 1, 2022, the estimated Real Property assessable base will increase by 3.73%, from \$338,183,395 to \$350,796,706.
- If the Town of Boonsboro maintains the current tax rate of \$0.3591 per \$100 of assessment, Real Property Tax Revenues will increase by 3.73% resulting in \$45,294 of new Real Property Tax Revenues.
- In order to fully offset the effect of increasing assessments, the Real Property Tax Rate should be reduced to \$0.3462, the Constant Yield Tax Rate.
- The Town of Boonsboro is considering not reducing its Real Property Tax Rate enough to fully offset increasing assessments. The Town proposes to adopt a Real Property Tax Rate of \$0.3591 per \$100 of assessment. This tax rate is 3.73% higher than the Constant Yield Tax Rate and will generate \$45,294 in additional Property Tax Revenues.

Mayor Long opened the floor for public comment and read the three comments submitted via email:

- **Barbara Wetzel, 112 Della Lane:** 1) Resident tax emails should go to staff emails, not MKerns, 2) An example appraisal/tax increase should be included in next year's notice, and 3) Better consideration should be given to the weight/inserts in mailers.
- **Linda Downs-Webb, 105 Fishing Creek (was present in audience as well):** I am opposed to the Town Property Tax Increase! I'm retired on a fixed income and cannot afford an increase! Most people are already struggling with Increases of the cost of living. The town needs to review its budget and find ways to cut cost and not raise taxes on the residence of Boonsboro.
- **David Matera, 218 Midlothian Way.** Asked that the Council provide a more detailed explanation of the Town's proposed Real Property Tax increase and what those tax dollars are allocated towards.

Motion by Council Member Hollingshead, second by Assistant Mayor Byrd to adjourn the Public Hearing at 6:57PM. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly A. Miller, Office Manager