



## HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

401 COURTHOUSE/CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37402

TELEPHONE (423) 209-7200

FAX (423) 209-7201

TIM BOYD  
COMMISSIONER  
DISTRICT EIGHT

RESIDENCE  
1106 S. SEMINOLE DRIVE  
EAST RIDGE, TN 37412  
(423) 987-8072

October 10, 2017

Hamilton County Board of Commissioners  
625 Georgia Avenue, Suite 401  
Chattanooga, TN 37402

Dear Fellow Commissioners:

In the coming weeks, the Commission will begin to allocate monies from Mayor Coppinger's tax plan which was passed by the Commission on September 6, 2017. We will do this as taxpayers are receiving their new property tax bills; a fact reflected in calls I have received and each of you has likely received. With this as the context, I will introduce a resolution for discussion at the regular Agenda Session on October 25, 2017 proposing future Commissions vote twice on resolutions resulting in an increase to Hamilton County property taxes paid by our constituents.

This is a common practice among municipalities in Hamilton County, including the City of Chattanooga. The two-vote practice ensures taxpayers have ample notification of a proposed property tax increase. This change in policy gives our constituents a minimum of three weeks to contact their respective Commissioner to ask questions or voice an opinion on a proposed tax increase. Conversely, the two-vote policy allows Commissioners the opportunity to hold community meetings at their discretion to offer their reasoning for supporting or opposing a proposed increase.

It had been a decade since the County Commission voted to raise property taxes, and this fact alone illustrates how critically important a vote raising property taxes is. Shouldn't a vote of this significance be done with as much transparency and public input as is reasonably possible? I believe our constituents would overwhelmingly support a proactive step incorporating this two vote policy on property tax increases.

I would appreciate each of you taking the time to consider this policy change for Hamilton County. I believe we can all agree that this policy change would enhance the trust among those we serve and demonstrate our commitment to good government.

Sincerely,

  
Tim Boyd  
Commissioner District 8

cc: Hamilton County Mayor Jim Coppinger