

## **Howard County Council**

George Howard Building 3430 Court House Drive Ellicott City, Maryland 21043-4392

## COUNCILMEMBERS

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Courtney Watson, Vice
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Minutes (Approved) Constant Yield Public Hearing FY 2015 May 5, 2014

> George Howard Building 3430 Court House Drive Ellicott City, MD 21043

The public hearing was called to order by Chairperson Calvin Ball at 7:01 p.m. in the Banneker Room, George Howard Building, 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City.

Members present: Chairperson Calvin Ball, Vice Chairperson Courtney Watson, Council Member Greg Fox, Council Member Mary Kay Sigaty, and Council Member Jennifer Terrasa. Council Staff present: Sheila Tolliver, Administrator to the County Council; Craig Glendenning, County Auditor; Jeff Meyers, Legislative Assistant; James Vannoy, Deputy County Solicitor; and Jennifer Sager, Legislative Coordinator.

Chairperson Ball announced that the Council will be taking testimony on the constant yield tax rate as follows:

This is the annual hearing on the constant yield. This hearing, which is required by State law, gives the public an opportunity to comment on the County's planned property tax revenue for the forthcoming fiscal year. Council Resolution 59-2014, which we will introduce later tonight, proposes to set the property tax rate for Fiscal Year 2015 at \$1.014 per \$100 of assessment. This is the same as this year's property tax rate. Because property values have risen in the last year and the assessments on properties reassessed this year reflect that, we anticipate that the County will receive \$8,830,179 in additional property tax revenue in FY 2015 without a change in tax rates. To maintain revenues at the same level received in FY 2014 – the constant yield rate --, the County would need to lower its tax rate to \$.9932.

If you wish to speak on the constant yield tonight and did not sign in to testify on our electronic sign-in form, please see Jeff Meyers of our staff, who will help you to sign in.

As always, speakers may testify for up to 3 minutes. If you are the only speaker from an organization, you may speak for up to 5 minutes. The timer will give an audible signal when your time has elapsed. When you are seated at the podium, please give your name and

address for the record and, if you are the single representative for a group, please identify the name of the group.

There was no bill to read. Testimony was provided by:

a. Steve Feher – 3608 Miller Valley Court, Ellicott City, MD 21042 – asked to speak.

The Constant Yield Public Hearing adjourned at 7:15 p.m.