

Revaluation Helps Balance Ashe Budget

Written by Steve Frank
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Revaluation will help Ashe County Manager Dan McMillan with his budget dilemmas, that as he presented the Commissioners with his proposed budget for 2011-2012 this week. With education in the forefront for the commission and McMillan, he is recommending Ashe Schools maintain the current level of school funding of \$4.6 million for next year.

He noted that every county department made every effort to conserve, but to increased costs lead to requests in excess of \$2 million over proposed revenues. He pointed out that the \$30.25 million dollar budget is less than the 2010-2011 and even the 2009-2010 budget, but he said it “still requires an additional appropriation of funds to provide a balanced budget.” McMillan squeezed approximately two million dollars of additional funds necessary to accomplish the balanced budget—a “revenue neutral” plan—by taking those new values and reducing the present Ad Valorem rate of 42.5 cents per \$100 dollar value to 40 cents per \$100 dollar value—a reduction of 2.5 cents per \$100 dollar value on the tax rate for due to properties in Ashe being revalued this year. The Commissioners are taking his recommendations under consideration over the next few weeks before finalizing the budget.