**PRESS RELEASE ANNOUNCING A PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX INCREASE**

The Evans County Board of Commissioners today announces its intention to increase the 2025 property taxes it will levy this year 18.27 percentage over the rollback millage rate.

The tax increase derives from inflation, expanded operations for the Sheriff’s office including prisoner population increase, court cost, reassessed property values, unfunded state mandates such as required constitutional raises, and the rising cost of insurance including health, property, liability, and automobile.

When the total digest of taxable property is prepared, Georgia law requires that a rollback millage rate must be computed that will produce the same total revenue on the current year’s digest that last year’s millage rate would have produced had no reassessments occurred.

The budget tentatively adopted by the Evans County Board of Commissioners requires that a millage rate higher than the rollback millage rate, therefore, before the Evans County Board of Commissioners may finalize the tentative budget and set a final millage rate, Georgia law requires three public hearings to be held to allow the public an opportunity to express their opinions on the increase.

All concerned citizens are invited to the public hearings on this tax increase to be held at the Evans County Administrative Building located at 613 W. Main St, Claxton, Georgia on **February 19, 2025 at 11:00 am and 5:30 pm** and on **February 26, 2025 at 6:00 pm**.