

# MEDIA RELEASE



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### TITLE: PETROLIA ANNOUNCES 2017 OPERATIONAL AND CAPITAL BUDGETS

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**Petrolia** – Town of Petrolia Mayor, John McCharles, and Council announced that the 2017 operational and capital budgets for the town were approved at the November 28 Town Council Meeting. The 2017 tax levy (the amount to be raised from taxation this year) is \$4.7 million with a projected non-department specific total revenue of \$6.5 million. The total operating budget is \$6.5 million for a balanced budget. This past summer, Council provided staff budget direction to aim for a proposed 2017 municipal tax rate increase of less than inflation, which was estimated at 2%. Petrolia’s municipal tax rate increase for 2017 is 1% per household. However, the composite tax rate increase will be 0.2% if the County and Education 2017 rate changes are like their 2016 changes.

Mayor McCharles said, “This is an historic moment for Petrolia in that we have approved our 2017 Budget before the budget year starts. Petrolia is the first municipality in Lambton County to approve its budget.” The Town’s capital infrastructure plans include: road resurfacing; reconstruction of Florence-Egan-Kerby (two-year project); a radio replacement program for the Fire Hall; arena capital work such as new arena boards and compressor; expansion at the Community Centre; and new seats for the VPP (funded totally by donations and fundraising).

Water rates will increase by 2% in 2017. Water capital projects include: second year of the water meter replacement program; critical repairs to the water in-take located in Lake Huron; the water portion of Florence-Egan-Kerby; and finishing off the replacement of the Mandaumin Reservoir. Sewer rates for 2017 will decrease by 5%. Sewer capital projects include: relocation of our Ella Lift Station; sewer portion of Florence-Egan-Kerby; and the second year of the Waste Water Treatment Plant upgrade project.

This is the first time the town has presented targeted rate changes for future years. The targeted Property Tax rate change is 3% annually for 2018 and 2019. The targeted Water Rate change is 2% annually for 2018 and 2019. The targeted Sewer Rate change is a decrease of 10% for 2018 and further 5% decrease for 2019. The Town of Petrolia has been extremely successful in securing grants to assist with several of its major infrastructure projects. Mayor McCharles added, “These are exciting times and I congratulate the town’s staff and Council on their successful efforts to find efficiencies, and on producing a comprehensive, balanced budget that considers the current and future needs of the Town’s residents.”

The Budget Public Meeting was held on November 14, with a presentation by Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer, Rick Charlebois. Residents are encouraged to contact the Municipal Office with any questions.

-end-

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**Bottomline**  
**Budget 2017 Approved and Targeted Rate Changes for 2018 and 2019**

Rate	2017 Approved 28 November 2016	2018 Target	2019 Target
Municipal Property Tax	1%	3%	3%
Water	2%	2%	2%
Sewer	-5%	-10%	-5%

As directed by Council in our Financial Policy, staff are presenting future year targeted rates. These targets are based on current information and assumptions.



**SCHEDULE "L-1"**

**WATER AND SEWER RATES 2017**

Effective January 1, 2017	Pipe Size	Min m <sup>3</sup>	# of Units	Price/m <sup>3</sup>	Minimum volume charge	Month Base rate/svc charge	Total Minimum water billing	Total Minimum Sewer Charge	Total Minimum Billing	sewer charge per m <sup>3</sup>
	5/8"	5	1	\$ 1.84	\$ 9.20	\$ 9.28	\$ 18.48	\$ 19.76	\$ 38.24	\$ 3.95
101E & 201E, 751E, 761E	3/4"	9	1	\$ 1.84	\$ 16.56	\$ 9.28	\$ 25.84	\$ 35.57	\$ 61.41	\$ 3.95
752E, 762E	1"	18	1	\$ 1.84	\$ 33.12	\$ 9.28	\$ 42.40	\$ 71.14	\$ 113.54	\$ 3.95
753E, 763E	1 1/2"	40	1	\$ 1.84	\$ 73.60	\$ 9.28	\$ 82.88	\$ 158.08	\$ 240.96	\$ 3.95
754E, 764E	2"	72	1	\$ 1.84	\$ 132.48	\$ 9.28	\$ 141.76	\$ 284.54	\$ 426.31	\$ 3.95
756E	4"	227	1	\$ 1.84	\$ 417.68	\$ 9.28	\$ 426.96	\$ 897.10	\$ 1,324.07	\$ 3.95
300E Out of Boundary (Oozlofsky Street and Discovery Line)		5	1	\$ 2.60	\$ 13.00	\$ 15.76	\$ 28.76	\$ -	\$ 28.76	\$ -
(special agreement, out of Town Boundary)					\$ -			\$ -		\$ -
702E Meadowview & Lambtonian		5	1	\$ 1.84	\$ 9.20	\$ 9.28	\$ 18.48	\$ 23.09	\$ 41.57	\$ 4.62
(special sewage charge of consumption only)								(on consumption only)		\$ -
708E, 709E, Mainline	1"			\$ 1.84	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
(invoice actual meter reading X rate)										\$ -
710E Mainline	1"			\$ 1.84	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
803E Enniskillen - effective January 1, 2017				\$ 1.39	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ -

(no sewer, no min bill/invoice meter read X rate only)

The 100 and 200 codes represented residential metric and residential gallon for each pipe size

The 700 codes represented commercial metric and commercial gallon for each pipe size

**2017 Water Rate Increase** 2%

**2017 Sewer Rate Increase** -5%

**Enniskillen Water Rate Increase, Ontario All Items CPI** 2%