

MEDIA RELEASE



PETROLIA COUNCIL APPROVES 2018 BUDGET – SEWER RATES DOWN BY 10%, TAXES UP 1%

Petrolia – Senior staff at Petrolia Town Hall presented Town Council with a budget in October proposing a modest 1% tax increase on the municipal portion of taxes for property owners. This proposed increase speaks to the commitment of staff to work as efficiently as possible and takes into consideration the proposed changes to minimum wage.

The small margin of increase was very challenging and included consideration of the proposed minimum wage increase to \$14 per hour for 2018 (approximately \$68K increase to the Town's Operating budget). A facilities maintenance plan has been implemented and broken out to enable better future planning. OMPF (Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund) for 2018 has decreased by \$136K. Despite a few financial challenges for the upcoming year, the Town will be able to transfer \$856K into working capital reserves (up from 2017's transfer of \$771K).

Part of the 2018 Budget, that passed at the regular meeting of Council in November, includes that sewer rates be reduced by 10%, and a further 5% in 2019. Water rate increase will hold steady at a small proposed increase of 2%, which keeps Petrolia as the fourth lowest combined water/sewer rates in Lambton County. This reflects a \$2100 savings for the average household over 10 years.

Capital expenditures of \$1.612 million, including new wayfinding signs for Victoria Park, Victoria Hall maintenance for carpeting, HVAC maintenance, Fire Department radios, and a wood chipper, Phase Two of the Florence, Egan and Kerby Street road section, sidewalk repairs and road maintenance.

Mayor John McCharles said, "Staff have worked very hard to make sure that the 2018 budget reflects efficiencies, and that it speaks to our greater goals as a Council and staff for effective management of tax dollars."

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For more information:

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Bottomline

Budget 2018 Approved and Targeted Rate Changes for 2019 and 2020

Rate	2018 Approved 27 November 2017	2019 Target	2020 Target
Municipal Property Tax	1%	3%	3%
Water	2%	2%	2%
Sewer	-10%	-5%	2%

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 "K-1"

WATER AND SEWER RATES 2018

Effective January 1, 2018	Pipe Size	Min m ³	# of Units	Price/m ³	Minimum volume charge	Month Base rate/svc charge	Total Minimum water billing	Total Minimum Sewer Charge	Total Minimum Billing	sewer charge per m ³
	5/8"	5	1	\$ 1.88	\$ 9.40	\$ 9.47	\$ 18.87	\$ 17.78	\$ 36.64	\$ 3.56
101E & 201E, 751E, 761E	3/4"	9	1	\$ 1.88	\$ 16.92	\$ 9.47	\$ 26.39	\$ 32.00	\$ 58.38	\$ 3.56
752E, 762E	1"	18	1	\$ 1.88	\$ 33.84	\$ 9.47	\$ 43.31	\$ 63.99	\$ 107.30	\$ 3.56
753E, 763E	1 1/2"	40	1	\$ 1.88	\$ 75.20	\$ 9.47	\$ 84.67	\$ 142.20	\$ 226.87	\$ 3.56
754E, 764E	2"	72	1	\$ 1.88	\$ 135.36	\$ 9.47	\$ 144.83	\$ 255.96	\$ 400.79	\$ 3.56
756E	4"	227	1	\$ 1.88	\$ 426.76	\$ 9.47	\$ 436.23	\$ 806.99	\$ 1,243.21	\$ 3.56
300E Out of Boundary (Oozlofsky Street and Discovery Line)		5	1	\$ 2.65	\$ 13.25	\$ 16.08	\$ 29.33	\$ -	\$ 29.33	\$ -
(special agreement, out of Town Boundary)					\$ -			\$ -		\$ -
702E Meadowview & Lambtonian		5	1	\$ 1.88	\$ 9.40	\$ 9.47	\$ 18.87	\$ 20.79	\$ 39.66	\$ 4.16
(special sewage charge of consumption only)								(on consumption only)		\$ -
708E, 709E, Mainline	1"			\$ 1.88	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
(invoice actual meter reading X rate)										\$ -
710E Mainline	1"			\$ 1.88	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -

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

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

2018 Water Rate Increase

2%

2018 Sewer Rate Decrease

-10%