
County of Wetaskiwin No. 10

Box 6960
Wetaskiwin, AB, T9A 2G5
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NEWS RELEASE

May 29, 2019

Council Approves Final Budget

The operating and capital budget and tax rate bylaw for 2019 were approved by Council May 17th. The 2019 budget value is \$19.5 million compared to the 2018 value of \$19 million.

What impact does the budget have on taxes?

The average residential ratepayer will see their total tax bill increase by approximately 1.5%. Residential ratepayers who have experienced a decrease in the market value of their property will see less than the 1.5% increase, and in some cases, may see an overall decrease in taxes. Residential ratepayers who have experienced an increase in the market value of their property will see more than the 1.5% increase.

The average non-residential commercial ratepayer will see their total tax bill remain constant.

“The budget reflects the relationship between the desires of the community and municipal resources. The taxes collected will generate sufficient funds to provide those services, stated Reeve Terry Van de Kraats. Council always strives to provide a consistent level of services to the community that enhances the quality of life for all our citizens.”

Commencing in 2019, Council has authorized a \$300,000 County wide Fire Fighting Operating Tax, which has been rolled into the municipal mill rate. What this means to you as a ratepayer is should you have a fire on your property, you will not receive an invoice, unless it is deemed negligent burning took place or you are in contravention of the Fire Bylaw of the County.

Provincial government legislation requires all municipalities to collect education property taxes on behalf of the Province of Alberta. The County also collects on behalf of the Wetaskiwin and Area Lodge Authority for seniors housing facilities. For 2019, approximately 46% of residential taxes are transferred to the province for education purposes and 3.5% for Lodge Authority purposes.

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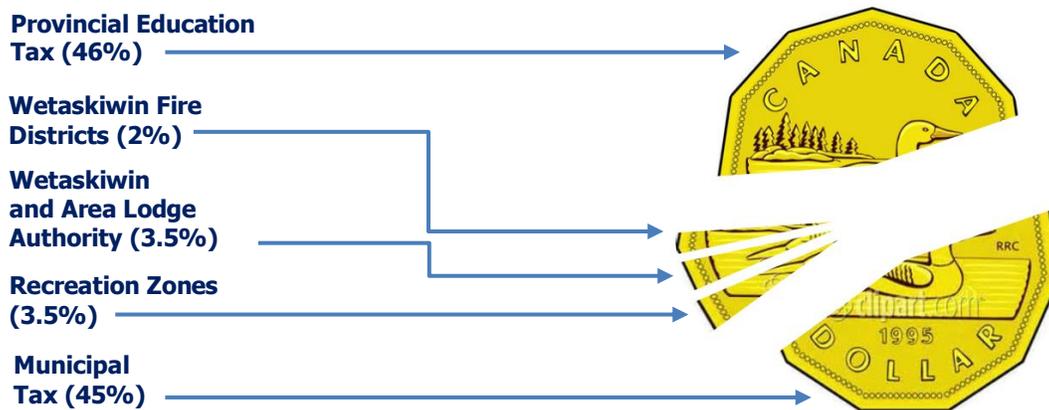


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Budget highlights include:

- Continued work completed under the 5-year Road Construction Plan.
- Gravel, construction, and paved roads now budgeted County-wide vs. Divisional.
- Firefighting costs included in property taxes.
- Brushing program reduced by half (\$150,000).
- One time doubling of Federal Gas Tax grant (additional \$615,000).

The following chart is a breakdown of the revenues for the 2019 budget:



Pursuant to Section 311 of the *Municipal Government Act*, Chapter M-26.1, and by this release, be advised that the Assessment Notices for the municipality were sent on May 31, 2019. All assessed persons are deemed to have received their Assessment Notices as a result of this publication.

Please notify the County of Wetaskiwin No. 10 if you have not received your notice within a reasonable time frame.

For further information, please contact Eric Hofbauer, Director of Finance, at (780) 361-6228 or via email at ehofbauer@county10.ca or Rod Hawken, Chief Administrative Officer, at (780) 361-6225 or via email at rhawken@county10.ca.

Any County ratepayer that would like to have their assessment explained by an assessor may do so by contacting the Assessment Department at (780) 361-6237 or toll free at 1-800-661-4125.