

NEWS RELEASE

March 21, 2017



Council Approves 2017 Municipal Budget

At its Regular Council Meeting held on Monday, March 20, 2017 the Council of the Municipality of Bluewater approved in principle, subject to the receipt of the 2017 education tax rate, a 2.74% tax rate increase for 2017. This tax rate represents a levy increase of 8.14%. Included in this amount are non-discretionary costs (policing, conservation authority, hydro, insurance) which account for a total of 4.85% or \$340,531 of the levy increase. Given the impact of non-discretionary items, compiled with the municipal growth rate of 0.91%, the net impact of the discretionary levy is 2.38%.

“Unfortunately, the municipality has no direct control over the rising costs of non-discretionary items. As a result, Council had to take a hard look at the discretionary items that they control. A 2.74% tax rate increase balances taxpayers’ ability to pay and service levels” says Mayor Hessel.

“The municipality continues to monitor its operations to find improvements. For instance, staff is monitoring the use of hydro at its facilities and is implementing power saving initiatives to reduce the consumption of hydro” says Mayor Hessel.

Contacts:

Tyler Hessel
Mayor
Municipality of Bluewater
(519) 440-7734

Kyle Pratt
Chief Administrative Officer
Municipality of Bluewater
(519) 236-4351 Ext. 226