



Taxation amount for 2025 will see modest Municipal increase

April 28th, 2025, saw the passing of the Town of Tofield's 2025 Mill Rate Bylaw, for the purposes of taxation. Council voted unanimously to implement a two point eight, eight (2.88%) increase to the Municipal portion of property taxes.

Now, it is important to note that there are other requirements built into the taxes which will receive their own mill rate and are outside of the Town's control. These are: Beaver Emergency Services Commission (BESC), Beaver Foundation, Alberta Policing, and the School Foundation Fund.

Beaver Emergency Services (BESC) provides fire protection services to Tofield and Beaver County as a whole. These services include the operation of fire halls, as well as the maintenance, upkeep and purchasing of buildings and equipment, such as firetrucks and tankers to provide this essential service to the communities they support. Emergency Management for the entire Beaver County Region is a service requirement for BESC.

To provide further clarity on these additional necessary areas, a breakdown will be

provided below:

1. BESC – The BESC requisition for 2025 will see an amount of \$387,233. (17.82% increase from 2024)

2. The Town is required to levy taxes to pay the School Foundation Fund, this is \$767,277 (8.44% increase from 2024).

3. The Town is also required to levy taxes to pay the requisition to the Beaver Foundation (seniors housing). The Foundation requisition is \$135,040 (0.00% increase from 2024)

4. Alberta Policing – This amount will be \$112,961 for 2025 (0.00% increase from 2024). This fee is being charged to all municipalities, as the former threshold for pay, was municipalities 5000 and higher.

As one can see from the above breakdown, requisitions from other agencies contributed to an increase outside of the Town's Control. Therefore, overall, the Total combined Mill Rate (Municipal, School, Seniors Foundation, Policing and BESC) will see varying increases

on individual properties.

Further, the assessed value of a property is a direct correlation to an increase in taxation amounts. Assessment is the valuation placed upon a property by the Municipal Assessor.

There are varying factors which contribute to the assessed value, however, some of these can be directly tied to sales of similar homes in your neighbourhood, and the final sales price.

The cost of living has risen significantly, and has provided a direct impact on fuel costs, power, and gas prices. The increase in these costs has had a direct impact on each municipality across Alberta. These costs are not a pleasant reality, and are being downloaded upon us, regardless of our combined efforts to reduce consumption and provide energy saving measures.

Council remains committed to the citizens of Tofield and felt that an increase to Municipal Taxes, for the purposes of Municipal Operations, was necessary and unavoidable.

Respectfully submitted,

Tofield Mayor and Council