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Your Community Newspaper in Colborne and Cramahe

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Colborne holds the line at less than 2% tax hike

By Eileen Argyris

Although Colborne council has held the line on municipal spending, because of county and public school levies taxpayers will see a 5.77-per-cent overall increase in their 1993 property taxes.

Colborne approved its 1993 budget May 11, reflecting a 1.95 per cent increase in the municipal portion of the residential tax bill.

But, when coupled with the county and public school levies the increase is nearly six per cent.

For a public school supporter who owns an average home assessed at \$2,500, that translates into a \$74.04 increase, excluding sewer charges, bringing the total tax bill up to \$1,355.89 from

\$1,281.85 last year.

By comparison, taxpayers who support the separate school board will be faced with an increase of only 1.14 per cent. A separate school ratepayer with a house assessed at \$2,500 will pay only \$14.39 more this year than in 1992. The total bill this year for such a taxpayer will be \$1,277.89, up from \$1,263.50.

Property taxes consists of three parts: public or separate school board taxes, county taxes and the municipality's own levy.

A breakdown on 1993 taxes for a public school supporter shows the largest chunk goes to the board of education. Of the total \$1,355.89 paid by the owner of an average home (assessed at \$2,500) the school

board will take \$820.27, or 64.2 per cent, the county will take \$140.04, or 11.5 per cent and the village will be left with \$345.65, or 25.5 per cent.

Colborne council has set this year's mill rate at 542.356 for residential and farm public school supporters. To calculate how much you will pay, multi-

ply this figure by the assessment on your property and divide by 1,000 to arrive at the correct dollar figure.

The total amount to be raised through taxes this year in Colborne is \$1,302,071. Of that amount, \$781,343 goes to the Northumberland and Newcastle Board of Education.

Colborne receives \$328,293. Northumberland County's share is \$135,563 and \$56,872 goes to the Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Newcastle Roman Catholic Separate School Board.

Council has approved expenditures for the village this year

at \$1,116,432. Of that total, \$788,139 will be raised through provincial grants, biding fees, service charges and other sources of income. The rest, \$328,293, must come from taxpayers.

All figures come from the office of the clerk of Colborne, Jean Kernaghan.

Cuts in provincial grants spoil village's zero increase

By Eileen Argyris

Colborne Reeve Walter Rutherford said this week that the village council had planned to return a zero increase budget, until the recent announcement that the provincial government was cutting unconditional grants to municipalities.

Colborne clerk Jean kernaghan said Monday night that the grant cuts left the village short between \$21,000 and \$22,000 in expected revenues.

"Our portion was going to increase by just about zero -- pretty near zero," said Rutherford Monday.

But, council still managed to hold the municipal portion to less than a two-per-cent increase.

In passing the budget Monday night, business and commercial mill rates were set at 625.590 for public school supporters and 588.884 for separate school supporters.

Farm and residential mill rates were set at 542.356 mills for public school supporters and 511.156 for separate school supporters, an overall increase of just under six per cent with county and school board levies included, but excluding sewer charges, which are added later.



A Colborne tradition — The Kinsmen's annual Mothers Day breakfast of bacon, pancakes, sausage, eggs and toast was enjoyed at the Colborne Legion hall last Sunday, May 9 by many mothers, grandmothers and children of all ages. The Buxton family of Cramahe Township (clockwise from lower left) enjoying the day and the meal are Matthew, Steve, Katie and Pat. While the other members of the family pay a reasonable price for a delicious meal, the Kinsmen every year provide breakfast free for all moms in attendance. Photo by Eileen Argyris