

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY

Minutes of the **County Council Meeting for the Tax Rate** held on Tuesday, **May 9, 2023**, commencing at 9:05 A.M. held in County Council Chambers as well as virtually online through Electronic Communication Technology.

The meeting was called to Order by the Reeve, Mr. Lorne Halisky in the presence of the following persons:

ATTENDANCE		
<u>Div. No.</u>	<u>Councillor(s)</u>	<u>Tuesday, May 9, 2023</u>
1	Dan Gawalko	Present in Chambers
2	Linda Fenerty	Present in Chambers
3	Dominique Cere	Present in Chambers
4	Lorne Halisky	Present in Chambers
5	Jered Serben	Present in Chambers
CAO	Gene Sobolewski	Present in Chambers
Asst. CAO	Lydia Cielin	Virtually Present
Finance Manager	Brenda Adamson	Present in Chambers
Executive Svcs/R.S.	Patti Priest	Virtually Present

Members of Administrative Staff in attendance:

Jordan Ruegg – Planning & Dev. Manager	Virtually Present
Kyle Schole – Planning Technician	Virtually Present
Amanda Kihn – Interim Ag. Fieldman	Virtually Present
Evonne Zukiwski – Communications Officer	Virtually Present
Carole Dowhaniuk – GIS Operator	Virtually Present
Dave Franchuk – Enviro & Park Manager	Virtually Present
Daniel Moric – Natural Gas Manager	Virtually Present

No Members of the Media were in attendance.
One Member of the Public was in virtual attendance.

Agenda:

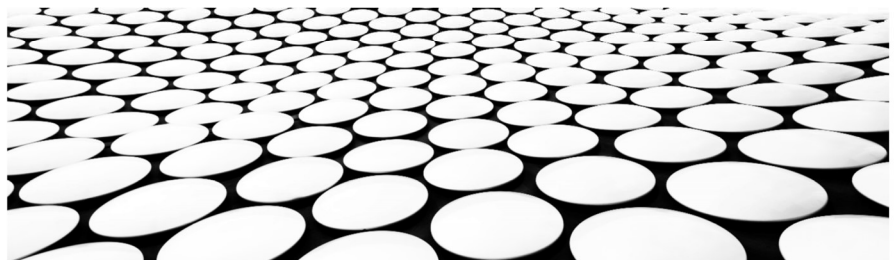
578-23: Fenerty That the Smoky Lake County Council Budget Meeting Agenda for Tuesday, May 9, 2023, be adopted.
Carried Unanimously.

Presentation:

Smoky Lake County 2023 Tax Rate

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY 2023 TAX RATE

APRIL, 2023

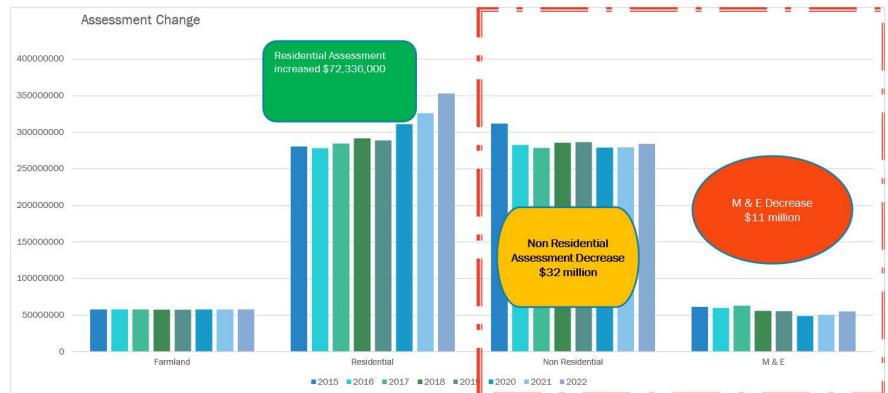


MEETING OBJECTIVE:

- ✓ REVIEW ASSESSMENT INFORMATION
- ✓ REVIEW REQUISITIONS
- ✓ TAX RATE OPTIONS
- ✓ RECOMMENDED TAX RATE BYLAW

2022 ASSESSMENT

DETAILS OF THE 2022 ASSESSMENT WERE PROVIDED AT THE SMOKY LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING HELD APRIL 27, 2023

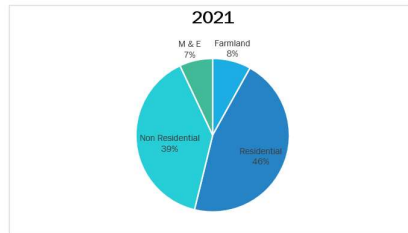


ASSESSMENT CHANGES SINCE 2015

ASSESSMENT

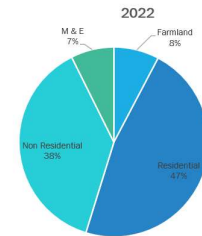
The proportion of Residential assessment vs non residential continues to increase

- Residential Assessment:
- ◆ 2016 41%
 - ◆ 2021 46%
 - ◆ 2022 47%



Non-Residential & M & E:

- ◆ 2016 51%
- ◆ 2021 45%
- ◆ 2022 38%



This is significant because it creates a greater tax burden for the residential properties

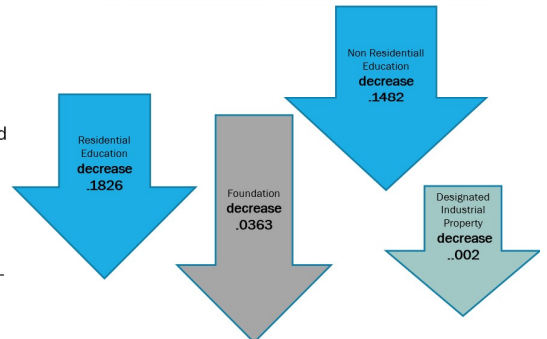
2023 REQUISITIONS

THE REQUISITION RATES HAVE DECREASED

2023 REQUISITIONS

- Total School Requisitions decreased
 - Residential Rate will be 2.4387 (2022 - 2.6213)
 - Non- Residential Rate will be 3.7365 (2022 - 3.8847)
- Foundation Requisition has decreased slightly:
 - 2023 Rate will be .688 (2022 - .7243)
- Designated Industrial Assessment decreased from .766 to .746
- Although we cannot establish a separate rate for policing, it is important to not how much the increase affects taxes.
 - In 2023 the portion of the Municipal Rate as a result of Policing Charges will be .2575 (2022 - .1583)

	2022	2023	Increase (Decrease)
School	\$2,085,670	\$2,039,430.22	-\$46,239
Foundation	\$514,064	\$510,942	-\$3,122
Designated Industrial Property	\$22,464	\$20,652	-\$1,812
Policing	\$127,404	\$192,000	\$64,596

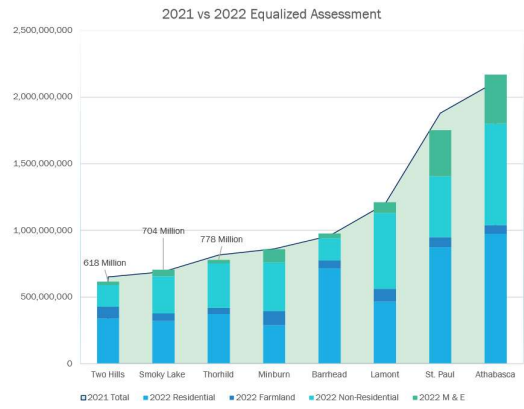


COMPARING THE 2022 TAX RATES

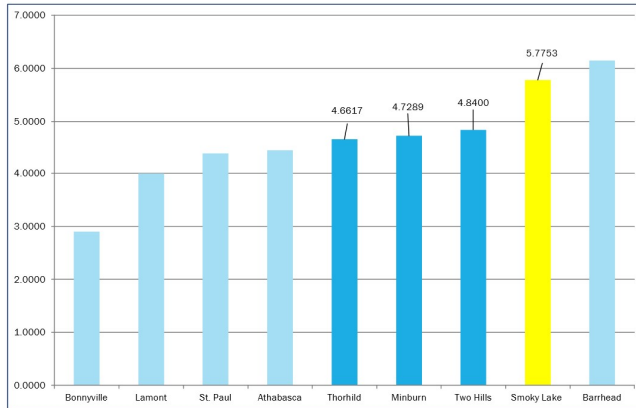
2022 EQUALIZED ASSESSMENT

To compare tax rates, we need to understand where Smoky Lake County stands in relation to Assessment.

Two Hills, Thorhild, and Minburn are the most comparable Municipalities when establishing rates.

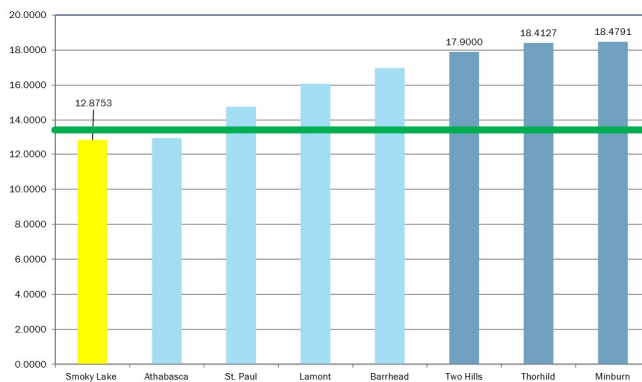


2022 RESIDENTIAL RATE COMPARISON



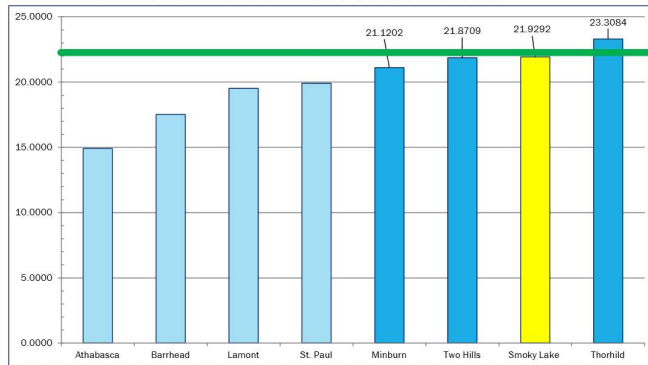
The proposed rate for 2023 is **5.7753**

2022 FARMLAND RATE COMPARISON



The Proposed Farmland Rate for 2023 is **13.2753**

2022 NON RESIDENTIAL RATE COMPARISON



The Proposed Non Residential Rate for 2023 is **22.1452**

The Proposed Small Business Rate will remain at 21.9292

CALCULATING 2023 TAX RATES

THE TAX RATE INCLUDES EDUCATION REQUISITION, FOUNDATION REQUISITION DESIGNATED PROPERTY REQUISITION AND THE MUNICIPAL TAX

TAX CALCULATIONS

Taxes Needed

Estimated Municipal Operating Revenues and transfers excluding taxes	3,405,097
Estimated Municipal Capital Revenues and transfers	5,750,448
Total Estimated Revenues	-9,155,545
Estimated Municipal Operating Expenses	16,898,16
Estimated Municipal Capital Expenses	1
Total Expenses	7,141,995
Remove Requisitions	24,040,15
Remove Amortization	6
Total Estimated Cash Expenses	-2,574,024
	-2,020,300
Tax Municipal Revenue Needed	19,445,832
	10,290,287

A Tax Rate of 1 provides a total of \$749,000

- Residential = 353,000
- Farmland = 58,000
- Small Bus = 18,000
- Non Res/M & E = 320,000

MILL RATES	RESIDENTIAL	FARMLAND	NON RESIDENTIAL	NON RESIDENTIAL SMALL BUSINESS	MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT
MUNICIPAL	5.7753	13.2753	22.1172	21.9292	22.1172
Municipal Rates	5.7753	13.2753	22.1172	21.9292	22.1172
Municipal increase	0	0.4	0.188	0	0.188
EDUCATION	2.4387	2.4387	3.7365	3.7365	0.000
SENIORS FOUNDATION	0.688	0.688	0.688	0.688	0.688
Total Rates	8.902	16.402	26.5417	26.3537	22.8052
INCREASE	-0.217	0.183	0.0054	0.0000	0.1536

OPTION #1

- Keep the Residential Tax Rate the Same as 2022
- Increase the Farmland Rate by .4 (3% increase)
- Keep the Small Business Rate the same as 2022
- Increase the Non Residential by .188 (1%)

AVERAGE CHANGE PER PARCEL

- Total Residential rate change = (0.217)
- Total Farm rate change = 0.183
- Total Non residential rate change = 0.0054
- Total Machinery & Equipment change = -0.1536

Class	Farm	Res	Small Bus	Non ResM & E	
Rate	16.402	8.902	26.3537	26.55417	22.8052
Parcels	4,273	2,169	40	452	138
Assessment	\$13,291	\$162,719	\$213,585	\$70,710	\$399,739
Avg Tax per parcel	\$218.00	\$1,448.53	\$5,628.76	\$1,876.77	\$9,116.13
Avg increase	\$2.34	\$76.84	(\$252.3)	\$239.75	\$1,368.65
Avg % Change	1%	6%	(4%)	15%	18%

NEXT STEPS

❖ TO MEET MGA REQUIREMENTS THE TAX BYLAW WILL NEED TO BE APPROVED BY MAY 11, 2023

Request for Decision:

Bylaw No. 1443-23: Year 2023 Tax Rate

579-23: Cere

That Smoky Lake County Bylaw No. 1443-23: Year 2023 Tax Rate, for the purpose of authorizing the rates of taxation to be levied against assessable properties within the municipality of Smoky Lake County for the 2023 Taxation Year, be given **FIRST READING**.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Serben that Smoky Lake County Bylaw No. 1443-23: Year 2023 Tax Rate, for the purpose of authorizing the rates of taxation to be levied against assessable properties within the municipality of Smoky Lake County for the 2023 Taxation Year, be given **SECOND READING**.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Gawalko that Smoky Lake County Bylaw No. 1443-23: Year 2023 Tax Rate, for the purpose of authorizing the rates of taxation to be levied against assessable properties within the municipality of Smoky Lake County for the 2023 Taxation Year, be given unanimous consent for **PERMISSION FOR THIRD READING**.

Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Fenerty that Smoky Lake County Bylaw No. 1443-23: Year 2023 Tax Rate, for the purpose of authorizing the rates of taxation to be levied against assessable properties within the municipality of Smoky Lake County for the 2023 Taxation Year, be given **THIRD & FINAL READING**; and that the Reeve and the Chief Administrative Officer are hereby authorized to affix their signatures to all necessary documents and the corporate seal also be fastened where it is deemed to be necessary.

Carried.

Bylaw No. 1442-23: Bellis Sewer Tax Bylaw

580-23: Serben

That Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1442-23: Bellis Sewer Tax Bylaw**, to authorize the levying of a special tax on properties in the hamlet of Bellis to recover Bellis sewer maintenance costs for 2023, be given **THIRD & FINAL READING**, and that the Reeve and the Chief Administrative Officer are hereby authorized to fix their signatures to all necessary documents and that the corporate seal also be fastened where it is deemed to be necessary.

Carried.

Adjournment:

581-23: Cere

That the Smoky Lake County Council Meeting for the Tax Rate, of May 9, 2023, be adjourned, time 10:00 a.m.

Carried.

REEVE

S E A L

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER