



OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

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### Message to the Citizens of Rumford regarding Revaluation:

I write this to make sure the correct information is out there. The Town of Rumford started the revaluation process two years ago. We have not had a revaluation since 1998. When this process started it had been twenty years. Revaluations are recommended to be done every ten years. The lapse of time between revaluations is the biggest contributing factor for the change in the estimated tax bills you all received.

The Municipal budget was approved at an amount 4.82 % over last year's budget. The budget was approved mostly by 67-78% of those voting. This budget was approved by voters while in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Although the budget increased 4.82% the new valuation for the Town went up significantly. That process of equalizing the tax burden based on new property valuation estimates changed the Mil rate from 30.5 down to an estimated 22.9 which is a decrease of 25%. That being said, for all those that had an increase in their estimated tax the main contributing factor is the increased valuation of your property.

The purpose of the Revaluation is and was from the beginning to ensure residents are not paying more or less than their fair share. I am in the same position as many of you in that my tax bill went up. However looking at my previous tax billing I know that my property value is worth more than previously assessed and fully expected that my bill would go up.

For those that do not agree with the valuation given to your property, there is a process to dispute that or ask questions. Please call the Tax Assessors office and make an appointment to speak with the revaluation company that conducted our revaluation.

Secondly, the Sun Journal reported today that the Town had made settlement with our former Town Manager. I will only say that had no impact on your tax bill.

We hope to finish this revaluation process in the next couple of weeks and set the tax commitment and send out the tax bills.

Sincerely,

Stacy Carter  
Town Manager