

Hedley Improvement District

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Hedley Improvement District Facing Increased Upgrade Costs

Dear Residents:

Like most Improvement Districts, the Hedley Improvement District has faced a substantial rise in the cost of maintaining, upgrading, and planning for projects associated with the Water Department.

The Hedley Improvement District has managed to keep an increase to the Parcel Tax and Water Toll rates in operating budget at 14% for 2022, even though the inflation rate faced during the past year for parts and other operational costs has been considerable.

That said, the infrastructure that supplies the Hedley area with water, is part of the original system that was in place years ago. Therefore, our water system has been deteriorating; there have been leaks, breakage in the pipes, and obvious signs of aging. Thus, the costs associated with maintaining and upgrading the existing armature have significantly gone up.

For example, a viable wire-less connection from the pumphouse to the reservoir is necessary, especially if there is an emergency. Then there is the increase for well-licensing which is about \$500 a year. Next, is the ameliorated water-main line replacement on roads (Daly Avenue to start soon). For another thing is the stabilization and improvement of the pumphouse which will happen next year. In addition, is the replacement of corroded pipes under the streets with newer and better material that will be safe as well as last longer than what is there now. Unfortunately, these changes require funds.

Given that we are a small community and outside support for Improvement Districts is almost non-existent, the board had little choice but to raise the rates for both the Parcel Tax and Water Tolls for the following year.

Even with this increase, which will help in the aforementioned projects, as well as future improvements, the residents of Hedley still have lower water and parcel tax costs compared to other communities.

As a result, we will continue to operate the system in a cost effective and prudent manner as we have in the past. We just need to plan and finance these capital costs. We hope this will give you a better understanding as to why an increase is required.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the office or Trustee.

Board and Staff
Hedley Improvement District