

Fremont NH – 2010 Tax Rate Release Information

We are in receipt of the 2010 tax rate. The Selectmen's Office, with input from the Tax Collector, School, and Superintendent's Office, has prepared this information for you in an effort to assist in your understanding of the 2010 rate. The new tax rate, set by the NH Department of Revenue Administration on 11/01/2010 is \$26.55 per thousand. This breaks down as follows:

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Town	2.64	3.17	3.28	3.70	3.44	3.58
Local School	12.68	14.87	14.87	15.74	16.62	19.42
State School	2.28	2.26	2.20	2.22	2.18	2.52
County	0.85	0.84	0.88	0.90	0.88	1.03
Total	\$18.45	\$20.27	\$21.23	\$22.56	\$23.12	\$26.55

Major changes took place in 2010 as we undertook the first recertification process following the 2005 revaluation. This year is a new cycle in terms of looking at prior years as a landmark. The recertification lowered overall property values due to the current market conditions. A key component to the annual setting of the tax rate is the total amount of town-wide assessed valuation. This is the total value of all taxable land and buildings in Fremont. This reduction makes comparing prior years more difficult. The values have changed as follows:

Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total Assessed Valuation	\$399,950,562	\$415,332,105	\$421,914,226	\$427,227,039	\$429,321,292	\$358,837,557

The Town received a default budget in 2009 and only two warrant articles passed. In 2010, the proposed budget was approved, as it was \$108,648 less than the default budget. Town overall expenses decreased given these voter decisions. A warrant article passed for mosquito control \$49,550. The net municipal appropriations decreased \$188,629 from 2009. If you have specific questions about the Town's portion of the tax rate, they can be directed to the Selectmen's Office at the Town Hall at 895 2226.

At the School District Meeting, it was forecasted that the local school portion of the tax rate would increase by about \$1.61. The gross increase in the school budget was \$322,220 according to the Business Manager at SAU 83. This was offset by a net return of unreserved fund balance of \$471,164. This helped to reduce the actual increase significantly. There was a decrease of \$166,820 over 2009-10 due to a reduction in tuition expenses.

If you have specific questions about the school expenses, you should contact the Superintendent's Office, SAU #83, at 5 Hall Road Unit 1 in Fremont, at 895 6903.

AS IN ALL YEARS, THE LOCAL TAX RATES (TOWN AND LOCAL SCHOOL) ARE A DIRECT REFLECTION OF THE VOTES TAKEN BY THE VOTERS OF FREMONT AT THE ANNUAL TOWN AND SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETINGS IN MARCH.

The State School tax portion decreased by \$35,380, but the adequate education grant to Fremont increased by that same amount. The State School tax rate for 2010 is \$2.52. This rate is based on the equalization ratio and the "cost of an adequate education" as determined by the Department of Education based on weighted average daily membership in residence in each school district. Each school district's percentage of total is then calculated. Each percentage is then multiplied by the Town's share of the State education tax amount to allocate a portion of the state education taxes to each school district. Fremont saw an increase in revenue from the State of New Hampshire for education this year. The difference between the adequate

education for each school district and each school district's share of the state education taxes becomes the adequate education grant for each school district.

The portion of the Rockingham County budget attributable to Fremont decreased by \$8,745 to a total of \$369,736. Veteran Credits increased by \$500 to \$89,500. Elderly and blind exemptions increased to \$1,313,333 to include a new category of disabled exemptions granted.

Current use values did not change significantly, they went up slightly due to the adjustments to the equalized ratio to 118.4%. There was some new value attributable to new homes, garages, sheds, and other property value improvements. Additions to the tax base help to offset expenditures increases and more evenly balance the tax rate. The State also completely deleted Shared Revenues to offset town and county expenses, resulting in a revenue reduction as well.

The Tax Collector's Office at the Town Hall will be open the following dates for payment of taxes:

Thursday November 18	11:00 am to 2:00 pm	SECOND ISSUE TAX BILLS ARE DUE
Tuesday November 23	11:00 am to 1:00 pm	MONDAY DECEMBER 6, 2010
Tuesday November 30	5:00 to 7:00 pm	
Wednesday December 1	5:00 to 7:00 pm	
Thursday December 1	11:00 am to 2:00 pm	
Monday December 6	2:00 to 6:00 pm	
Thursday December 9	11:00 am to 2:00 pm	

If you have questions about your assessment, please feel free to stop by the Selectmen's Office and review the records. All property assessing records are public information. You can access the information online at the Vision Appraisal website at www.visionappraisal.com. We send updates in several times a year to the Vision site, and you can see the most recent date of updates when you log on. The Selectmen's Office is open Monday and Friday 8:30 am to 12 noon; Tuesday and Wednesday 8:30 am to 4:00 pm; and Thursday from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. We will also be glad to mail you out your property card if you call and make that request.

If you feel that your property is disproportionately assessed, or there are listing errors on your card, you will need to file an abatement. Our abatement information sheet is available at the Town Offices and on the town website at www.fremont.nh.gov. Abatement forms are available at the Selectmen's Office, or can be downloaded from the NHBTLA website at <http://www.nh.gov/btla>; and there is also a link on the Town's website. You need Form *Taxpayers 76:16 Abatement Application to Municipality*. You can also call or email the Selectmen's Office and we will send one out to you. Abatement forms are DUE no later than Tuesday MARCH 1, 2011 by 4:00 pm. If dropped off in person, they must be received by the close of business at 4:00 pm that day. A postmark of March 1, 2011 is also acceptable.

You can drop off tax payments with a stamped self-addressed returned envelope, and the Collector will mail out your receipt. The Selectmen's Office and Tax Collector's Office are located at the Fremont Town Hall, 295 Main Street; on the main floor.

Fremont Selectmen's Office
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