

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 7, 2025

Town Council Approves 0% Municipal Tax Rate Increase for 2025

Town Council passed the 2025 Tax Rate Bylaw during the May 7, 2025, Regular Meeting of Council. This Bylaw sets the tax rate for the municipal portion of both residential and commercial property taxes. Understanding the ongoing economic challenges faced by residents and businesses, Town Council made the decision to maintain the municipal tax rate at 2024 levels, resulting in a 0% municipal tax rate increase for 2025.

“We know that many residents and business owners are feeling the strain of higher costs across the board,” said Mayor Nancy Dodds. “We’ve worked hard to present a fiscally responsible and forward-looking budget that supports the services our community relies on while considering our future needs. However, we recognize that our residents and business owners will still see an increase in their overall tax bill due to higher property assessments and the provincial increase to the Alberta School Tax. In developing the budget, we were mindful of these ongoing challenges and remain committed to managing our budget responsibly while continuing to invest in the services that matter most to Drayton Valley.”

Significant cost savings on insurance as well as increases in franchise fees and interest revenue have allowed Town Council to deliver a balanced budget that prioritizes customer service, community safety, infrastructure improvements and community beautification while minimizing the financial impact to property owners.

“Today’s decision reflects Council’s ongoing commitment to sound fiscal management and strategic planning,” said Interim CAO Pat Vincent, CLGM. “Council’s direction and Administration’s diligence have allowed us to maintain tax rate stability while still addressing cost pressures, and making key investments that support operational effectiveness and community well-being. We are focused on ensuring Drayton Valley remains positioned for sustainable growth and success.”

Although the municipal tax rate will remain unchanged, property owners will still see an increase in their overall tax bill. This is due to two main factors:

- **Assessment growth, which reflects the market value of individual properties;**
- **A 12.91% increase to the provincial school tax, which is determined by the Government of Alberta. The Town has no influence over this portion of the tax bill and is legislatively required to collect and remit the school tax to the Province.**

Council and Administration have continued to apply prudent fiscal management practices. By identifying cost-saving measures, including significant reductions in insurance premiums, along with increased revenues from franchise fees and investment interest, the Town was able to maintain current service levels, and also allocate additional funds to reserves. This responsible approach ensures a healthier financial position and supports the long-term sustainability of municipal services and infrastructure.

“We are proud to deliver a budget that reflects responsible budgeting and long-term financial sustainability,” said Mayor Dodds. *“This approach allows us to strategically invest in critical infrastructure and beautification projects, improve the efficiency of our operations, and continue building an inclusive, vibrant, and resilient community. It’s about balancing today’s needs while preparing for tomorrow’s opportunities.”*

Council remains committed to ensuring that every tax dollar is used efficiently and effectively. The adoption of the 2025 Tax Rate Bylaw reflects that commitment, ensuring the Town remains on solid financial footing while delivering the services and amenities that make Drayton Valley a great place to live, work, and invest.

For media inquiries, please contact:

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