

Tax Report for AGM April 11th 2019

Tax Rate

Tax rate has remained at \$50.00 per parcel since 2014 and will not be increasing in 2019.

Rate is set by annual by-law and is not based on improvements or the size of the lot. It is the same for every property.

Payment Window and taxes due date

Tax notices will be mailed at the beginning of June and are due on July 15 providing a 6 week payment window. Payment within this window will avoid interest charges and late payment penalties being applied.

The payment window was changed in 2017 to avoid confusion with provincial property taxes that are due by July 1st. We had hope that this made the distinction between the two more clear that these are two separate and unrelated bills.

This strategy has achieved some success with a noticeable improvement in prompt payment times from property owners.

Paying Taxes by Etransfer

More and more people are opting to pay their taxes by Interac etransfer. Paying by etransfer is advantageous to tax payers because it takes less time, usually does not cost anything (depending on your bank), is faster and more reliable than mail, and you receive a receipt from the bank as soon as it is accepted. It takes just as much admin time to process an etransfer as it does a check, but there is a much better paper trail.

Consistent non-payers

There are a few property owners who continue to delay or avoid payment of taxes when due. There are a small number of property owners who have fallen into arrears by a number of years.

This is unfair to those who pay their taxes on time. Taxes are a shared responsibility of all property owners and are a mandatory responsibility under the Local Government Act 2015.

WLLID has tried, and will continue to try, to reach an amicable solution to this problem. To date we have tried our best to avoid formal collection processes. However, we have a responsibility to all taxpayers to apply due diligence in meeting our obligations for collection of taxes. The board of trustees is under increasing pressure to pursue serial non-payment of taxes through more formal processes.