



Administration Department

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Average City Homeowner Paying Less in City Taxes than Five Years Ago

BURLINGTON – The Burlington Common Council adopted the City’s \$22.2 million budget on Tuesday, December 3. The adopted budget will result in a .5 percent increase in the tax levy, and a slight decrease in taxes for the average homeowner. Through conservative budgeting practices over the past five years, City taxpayers will pay \$1,491 in city taxes. In 2008, the average homeowner paid \$1,498 in City taxes. (The actual tax paid by an individual taxpayer is determined by the value of their individual home and may be more or less than the average.)

The average utility bill will increase by 6 percent based upon increases to the water and wastewater fees. The increases are necessary due to continued infrastructure needs, including the second phase of three phase Wastewater Treatment plant improvements and continued improvements needed to the wastewater piping infrastructure. The continuing replacement of undersized water lines in certain portions of the City and the restoration of the Dunford Drive standpipe are also significant capital needs.

City staff removed a full-time Public Works position and a full-time Police Officer position in the 2014 budget. These positions were removed through attrition and no lay-offs will be required. This continues the trend of analyzing the staffing needs each year and determining the most efficient means of providing services. Over the course of the last five years, the City has reduced its workforce by 6 part-time and 4 full-time positions while maintaining essential city services.

The City continues to hold an estimated 25 percent in reserves and maintains strong credit ratings with the major credit rating agencies. The City’s most current bond issues received AA- ratings from credit rating agency Standard and Poors.

City of Burlington Budget Quick Facts:

Average Homeowner’s City Tax Bill:	\$1,491
Total Property Taxes Received:	\$5.5 million
Total Shared Revenue from State:	\$653,000
Total General Transportation Aid from State:	\$547,000
Total General Fund Expenditures:	\$7.5 million
Total Number of Employees:	115
Miles of Streets Maintained:	53.8
Public Safety Expenditures:	\$3.8 million
Public Works Expenditures:	\$2 million
Water and Wastewater Expenditures:	\$5.5 million

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