

To: Hampton Borough Property Owners

Re: 2019 Tax Rate Increase

There has been a significant increase in the property tax rate for Hampton Borough for 2019, an approximate 8.3% increase overall. As you can see from the chart below, the increase has been generated by large increases in the budgets of both the Regional High School and the local Hampton Borough School, each of which have increased by approximately 11%. Because the school budgets make up the largest portion of the total municipal tax levy, these increases resulted in this substantial rise in the local tax rate, from \$3.211 per one hundred to \$3.478 per one hundred. The increase is not due to any change in the assessed value of your property, which, in most cases, remains as it has been over the last several years.

We are fully aware that Hampton residents pay a very high property tax and we do what we can to avoid such increases, but unfortunately, the schools are not an area over which the town officials have any direct control. Note that the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter bills are increased to collect the entire 8% increase in two installments, so your tax paid by the end of the year equals the total annual tax on your property. Do not multiply these quarterly bills by four to estimate your annual tax. Instead, look at your 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter estimated bills for 2020, which each reflect one fourth of the 2019 total tax.

If you still have questions, you can contact the local tax collector or tax assessor through the office of the borough clerk, or you can speak directly to any council member, at any time.

	2018	2019	Net Increase	Percent Inc
1. County Taxes	458250	467972	9722	3.04
2. Local School Tax	1883221	2094076	210855	65.94
3. Regional School	674917	748922	74005	23.14
4. Hampton Borough	835606	860782	25176	7.87
Total Increase:			319758	100%

