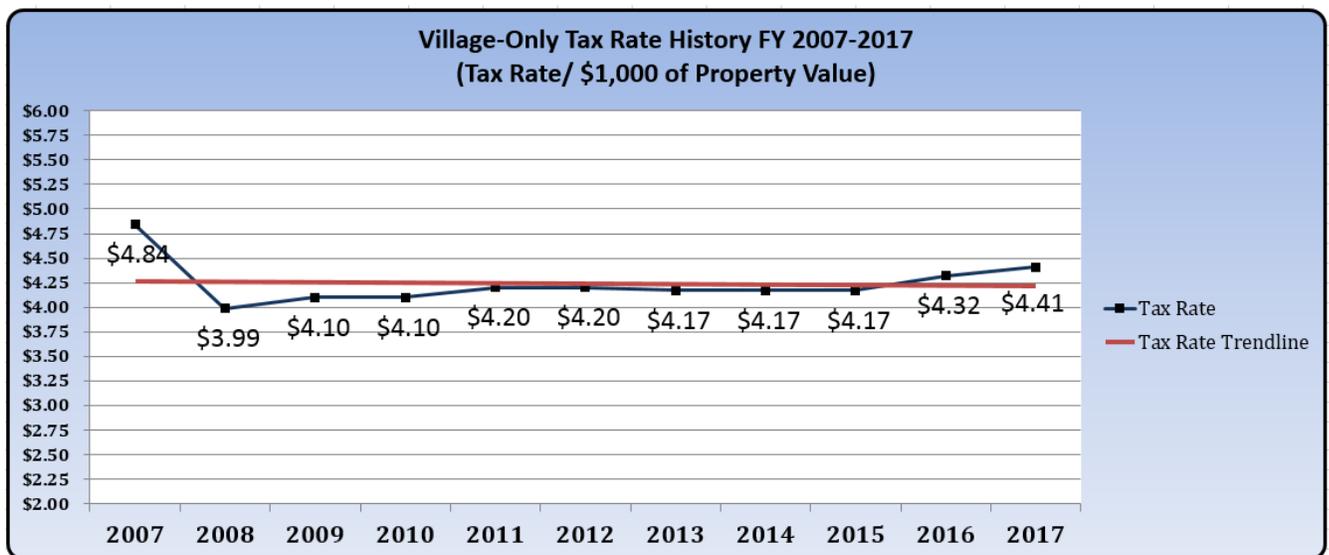


HOBART BOARD FINALIZES 2017 OPERATING BUDGET

Following a public hearing held on Tuesday, November 22nd, the Village Board adopted the Village's 2017 Operating Budget and special user charges for the storm water utility and refuse/recycling collection. The Village-only tax rate will see a 9 cent increase from \$4.32 to \$4.41 per \$1,000 of property value. This is a slight increase from the previous year. Overall, the tax bills for Hobart residents in both the Pulaski and West De Pere School Districts will be less this year when factoring in the levied amounts of all taxing entities.

Village special charges for refuse & recycling collection remain unchanged with the exception of properties that utilize the largest size refuse bin, which has a \$30 yearly additional charge. Storm water utility charges were reduced by \$1.43 per ERU (equivalent residential unit), a 2% reduction. The new storm water utility charge for 2017 will be \$70.00, Water rates, and sewer rates will remain unchanged from 2016. Sewer rates are slated to be examined in February 2017; the local Village sewer rate will be adjusted to accommodate charges passed on by GBMSD for sewerage treatment.



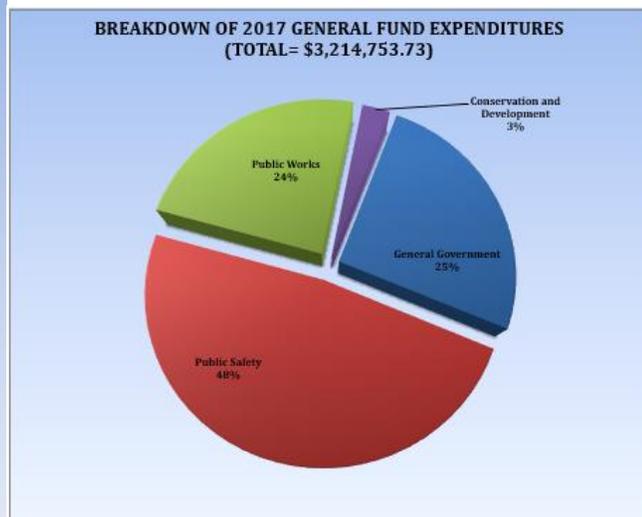
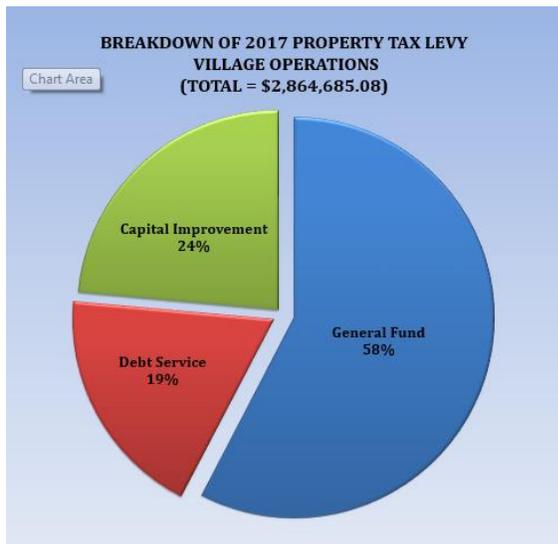
GENERAL BUDGET OVERVIEW

Key spending areas in the 2017 financial plan include additional investment in personnel resources in the Hobart-Lawrence Police Department (HLPD), funding for previously-established 2015-2017 strategic plan initiatives, and large equipment purchases in DPW and the Fire Department. "The Board was very clear on the outset of our budget discussions," according to Village Assistant to the Administrator Adam Ruechel, "The Board did not want to remove funding for strategic plan initiatives or road paving, had a debt service increase to plan for, and were dealing with public safety needs of adding an additional full-time police officer as well as the replacement of one of the Villages fire engines. The adopted budget reflects their strategic direction."

The Village will be adding another full-time officer to assist with the continually growing population base of Hobart and Lawrence. This plan was endorsed by the Hobart and Lawrence Boards in early November. “There is an understanding among Village and Town leaders that incremental advancements in additional police patrol is required, especially in fast-growing communities like ours,” Chief Randy Bani said. “Residents in both communities value a clean environment, safe living, and high quality of life, and our Department intends to maintain that quality of life.”

While the addition of a police officer and the replacement of a fire engine made up a large share of new spending that is tax levy supported, the 2017 budget also features the following projects and initiatives that are funded by a variety of funding sources, including the levy, two tax increment districts, segregated equipment reserve funds and cash on-hand in the Capital Improvement Fund:

- Clean Sweep Event added to Refuse & Recycling Collection Services \$5,000
- Economic Development Marketing/branding- \$35,000
- DPW Front-End Loader - \$120,000
- DPW Bobcat Skid Loader - \$40,000



Where Do Your Property Tax Dollars Go?

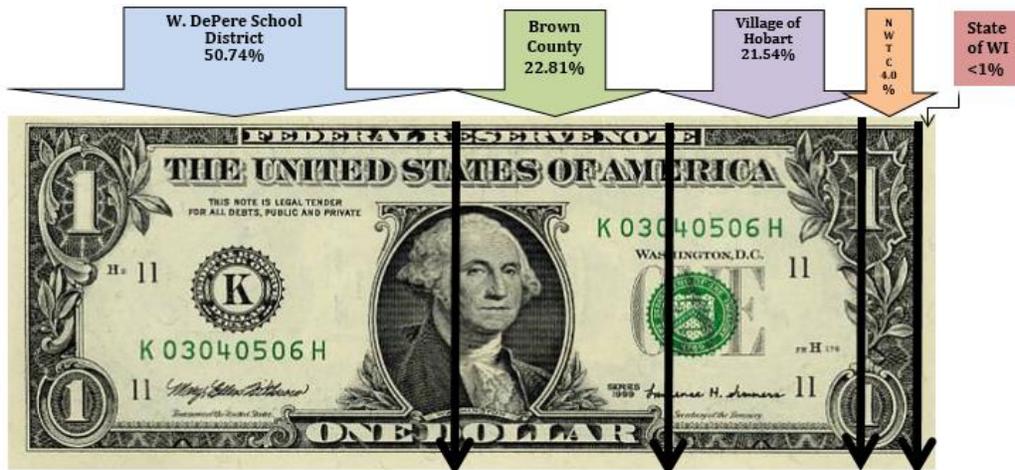
The Village of Hobart is only one of several taxing jurisdictions that share your annual property tax payment. Although the Village collects your entire tax payment, it only retains 21-24% (depending on which school district you reside in) for Village of Hobart operations. Other entities, such as school districts, Brown County, NWTC, and the state of Wisconsin also retain a portion of your annual tax payment. Below, residents can view a breakdown of how your property tax dollar is distributed among the multiple taxing jurisdictions. The first dollar graphic is for

properties within the Pulaski Community School District; the second is for properties within the West De Pere School District.

PULASKI COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT



WEST DE PERE SCHOOL DISTRICT



The dollar bill graphics above show that only 21.54% (West DePere) and 23.66% (Pulaski) of the funds coming from Hobart taxpayers are used to **operate the Village of Hobart**. The remaining 75-79% of your annual property tax payment goes to other taxing jurisdictions that make their own financial and policy decisions.

For example: A Hobart resident in the Pulaski Community School District with a property valued at \$150,000 would pay a total tax bill (real estate only) of \$2,798 based on the combined tax rate from all taxing jurisdictions. The Village of Hobart's share of that total \$2,798 for Village finances is 23.66%, **or about \$662**. The other \$2,136 goes to fund the operations of the school district, county, NWT C, and state of Wisconsin. School districts and Brown County represent the greatest portion of the annual property tax bill, and this is true on a consistent basis year after year.

Continuing with the example, the \$662 that is retained by the Village for its finances is split among 3 different funds that make up our total property tax levy: the General Fund, the Capital Fund, and the Debt Service Fund.

The *General Fund* is the largest of the funds and contains all general government activity like police, fire, finance, elections, rescue services, public works, administration, etc. Of the \$662 retained by the Village, about \$384 (58%) goes to the *General Fund*.

The second fund is the *Capital Fund*, which is for large expenses like road projects, vehicles, and equipment. Of the \$662 retained by the Village, about \$152 (24%) goes to the *Capital Fund*.

The last fund making up the property tax levy is the *Debt Service Fund*. This fund is made up of the principal and interest payments the Village must make in that year for its general obligation debt. Of the \$662 retained by the Village, about \$126 (19%) goes to the *Debt Service Fund*.

How Does the Village Of Hobart’s Tax Rate Compare to Other Cities and Villages?

The Village of Hobart has historically enjoyed one of the lowest municipal tax rates in Brown County. The same is true for our 2017 tax rate of \$4.41/\$1,000. Keep in mind, it is difficult to compare tax rates among communities as each have variables such as service levels, use of special charges or assessments outside of property taxes, and other considerations/fiscal challenges specific to each community. A big factor is the breakdown of property valuation in a community. Communities with a proportionally higher volume of commercial and manufacturing properties typically enjoy a lower tax rate, although this is not always the case.

The payable 2017 tax rate compared to other cities and villages in Brown County is denoted below. You will see that Hobart has the 4th lowest tax rate in the County when looking at municipal-only rates.

City/Village	Payable 2015 Tax Rate	Payable 2016 Tax Rate	Payable 2017 Tax Rate
Bellevue	\$ 2.78	\$ 2.78	\$ 2.77
Howard	\$ 3.79	\$ 3.72	\$ 3.80
Denmark	\$ 3.61	\$ 3.61	*
Hobart	\$ 4.17	\$ 4.32	\$ 4.41
Suamico	\$ 4.29	\$ 4.38	\$ 4.50
Ashwaubenon	\$ 5.35	\$ 5.43	\$ 6.13
Wrightstown	\$ 6.81	\$ 7.33	*
De Pere	\$ 6.53	\$ 6.67	\$ 6.74
Allouez	\$ 7.17	\$ 7.22	\$ 7.22
Pulaski	\$ 8.82	*	*
Green Bay	\$ 8.86	\$ 8.86	\$ 9.02

* Tax Rate not yet available or unknown

The Village Board and staff are proud of its accomplishments in financial reporting and transparency. The Government Finance Officers' Association (GFOA) has awarded the Village its three highest honors for financial reporting: Distinguished Budget Presentation Award, the Certificate of Achievement for Annual Financial Reporting, and the Popular Annual Financial Report. The Village will submit for all three of these awards again in 2017.

The 2017 budget summary power point presentation and budget summary details can be viewed on the Village homepage at www.hobart-wi.org. Prior to January 1, the master budget document for GFOA credentialing will also be available on the website, and published on *Hobart Headlines*, the Village's e-newsletter service. For any budget-related questions, please contact Village Assistant to the Administrator, Adam Ruechel, at adam@hobart-wi.org, or by phone at 869-3815.