

operating grant of \$6500, a commitment to the St. Joseph Island Food Bank (\$2600), Algoma Health Unit (\$808) and COVID-19 expenses (undetermined). The net effect of the increases are approximately \$27,000 which would result in a 3% tax rate increase.

The budget was presented as requested, without an increase. This was done by taking \$27,000 from the Efficiency Fund Reserve, provided to municipalities in 2019.

The following information is provided through OPTA (Online Property Tax Analysis). The shift in assessment in the residential class, even with showing a .1 percent tax increase, was significant.

- *373 properties would have an average increase of \$31.00
- *11 properties would have an average increase of \$135.00
- *274 properties would have an average decrease of \$28.00
- *11 properties would have an average decrease of \$123.00

Median/Typical Property Tax Impact:

Single Family Home – Tax Change: - \$34.22
 Seasonal Recreational Dwelling – Tax Change: - \$5.95
 Farm House – Tax Change: +\$115.41
 Farmland – Tax Change: +\$14.55
 Managed Forest – Tax Change: +\$6.44

A sample assessment comparison based on the current proposal would be as follows:
 A property valued at \$100,000 in 2019 would have raised \$1077.61 in taxes
 A property valued at \$100,000 in 2020 would raise \$1034.25 in taxes

Some of Council expressed concern that the full increase should not be taken from reserves as we do not know what will occur with future budgets as a result of COVID – 19 and other annual increases. There was a discussion that a modest increase in the tax rate may be a more appropriate option than a much larger increase in 2021 and in subsequent years.

The following by-law was passed to adopt the budget as presented with a .1 percent increase, and a recorded vote was requested by Councillor Dukes.

20-61

Moved by Greg Gilbertson
 Seconded by Albert Crowder

Resolved that we do adopt By-Law No. 2020-1454 being a by-law to provide for the adoption of the estimates for the year, and the adoption of tax rates for all property classes for 2020 and to further provide for penalty and interest in default of payment thereof for 2020.

Yay – Albert Crowder

Nay – Janet Callahan

Nay – Brian Dukes

Yay – Greg Gilbertson

Yay – Mark Henderson

Cd.

Other items of correspondence received included the following:

- 1) Ratepayer of 5392 Wierzbicki Drive ratepayer - requesting Council reconsider the temporary closure of the Jocelyn Township Share Shed
- 2) ARCH – Hospice – 2020 Bucket List Ride

