

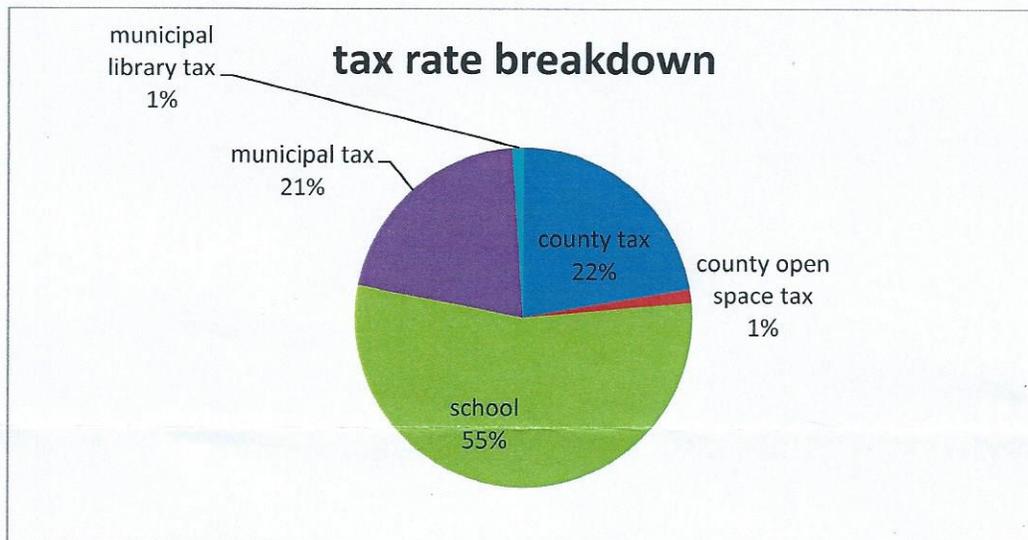
Enclosed is your 2016/2017 tax bill. For your information, we have compiled current information as well as historical information regarding your tax bill and the breakdown between the Municipal, School and County portion of your bill.

The 2016 Municipal budget is \$11,115,867. This budget raises the local rate by 1.2 cents, which equates to **\$34 per year for the average household and is the lowest increase in several years**. The overall tax levy for entire town only increased by \$108,610.

The Municipal budget provides **more than 1.8 million** towards paying down debt, and the **Town of Hackettstown will be debt free in 2017**.

The Mayor and Council have steadily worked towards the goal of becoming debt free for many years, managing to do so through a downturned economy, the loss of \$70 million in ratables since 2010, with only very modest municipal tax increases (1.7 cents in 2013, 1.7 cents in 2014, 1.3 cents in 2015). We have been consistently under the state mandated CAP, all while continuing to upgrade our infrastructure and maintain the level of services provided to our residents.

The Municipal tax rate is only a small portion of the overall taxes billed. This is also the only tax rate that the Mayor and Council determine. The balance of the bill is for the Municipal Library, County taxes, and School taxes. The pie chart below shows the breakdown of the overall tax rate:



The complete municipal budget can be viewed on the Town's website at www.hackettstown.net.

The complete school budget can be viewed on the Hackettstown Board of Education website, www.hackettstown.org.

The complete county budget can be viewed on the Warren County website, www.co.warren.nj.us.