

2010 BUDGET YEAR
 LOCAL UTILITY RATE AND TAX COMPARISON
 FOX CITIES INCORPORATED COMMUNITIES

Community	2010 Monthly Utility Cost			A	B		C	A+B+C	2010	2007	2007
	Water Cost	Sewer Cost	Storm Cost	Utility Annual	Local Equalized Tax Rate	Local Prop Tax	Refuse/Recycle Fee	Annual Cost Municipal Services	Ranking Annual Cost		
	ASSUME: 6,000 gallons/mo			1 ERU	Value:	\$ 150,000			(1) is highest cost		
V. Little Chute	\$ 26.24	\$ 45.00	\$ 7.00	\$ 938.88	\$ 6.19	\$ 928.50	\$ 40.95	\$ 1,908.33	5	5	\$ 1,797.45
V. Combined Locks	24.44	37.50	6.92	826.32	4.70	705.00	-	1,531.32	7	7	1,504.83
V. Kimberly	17.75	48.50	9.17	905.00	6.57	985.50	10.00	1,900.50	6	4	1,923.52
C. Kaukauna	43.02	51.12	3.13	1,167.24	7.99	1,198.50	-	2,365.74	1	2	2,036.08
C. Appleton	43.95	19.85	9.07	874.44	7.88	1,182.00	-	2,056.44	3	3	2,010.36
C. Menasha	40.22	24.45	6.25	851.04	9.30	1,395.00	5.00	2,251.04	2	1	2,098.87
C. Neenah	36.81	17.18	7.00	731.88	8.11	1,216.50	-	1,948.38	4	6	1,774.23
Community Average	\$ 33.20	\$ 34.80	\$ 6.93	\$ 899.26	\$ 7.25	\$ 1,087.29	\$ 7.99	\$ 1,994.54			\$ 1,877.91
						Change from 2007		6.21%			

Notes/Comments

Possible 2010 changes

- V. Little Chute Water rate case after July; new refuse fee
- V. Combined Locks
- V. Kimberly Water rate case after July; new recycling fee
- C. Kaukauna storm water - 1/1 \$25; 7/1 \$50 (2010 annual \$37.50)
- C. Appleton residents pay refuse fee only for 90 gal. carts and/or extra pickups (\$0.50 credit on 35 gal. carts)
- C. Menasha new refuse fee
- C. Neenah 3 tiered storm rates; min. rate is \$7.00/mo

Compiled: Feb-10
 Village of Little Chute

MUNICIPAL COST COMPARISON

The green chart on the other side of this sheet titled "LOCAL UTILITY RATE AND TAX COMPARISON" includes common cost information from seven incorporated communities in the Fox Valley. The purpose is to gain a relative comparison between the costs of municipal operations in communities with a similar economic profile. There is no one correct, or best, total cost. Each community makes its own decisions, has its own goals and challenges, and has its own utility system infrastructure.

However, a taxpayer may look to see if a relative comparison is reasonable. For example, when the Little Chute staff compiled the same survey data early in 2007, the combined cost of municipal services in Little Chute ranked 5th lowest of the seven communities. When the survey was updated in early 2010, Little Chute remains as the 5th lowest cost community. While the overall average cost has gone up, it has not changed much in relation to nearby communities.

Media headlines often emphasize local tax rates. While this is important, it overlooks the significant impact that utility rates and special fees have on the household or business. For this reason, the survey includes utility rates, equalized tax rates, and any universal special charges. One recent change is for more communities to adopt some sort of charge to offset the rapid rise in landfill costs. In 2010, the survey shows Little Chute, Kimberly, and the City of Menasha have moved to offset refuse cost with a special charge.

Even though it appears the Little Chute resident will pay a new Refuse/Recycling fee beginning in April, when taken together with other utility costs, and the local tax rate, the overall cost continues to be less than average. Little Chute's combined cost is \$1,908.33 compared to the average of \$1,994.54 for all seven communities.