

11/12/76

Town Budget Gets OK; Up By \$463,000

The Guilderland Town Board last week adopted a \$4.42 million budget for 1977, up about \$463,000 from this year.

The basic tax for the general fund and for highway costs will be about \$26.21 per \$1,000 assessed valuation. That is an increase of \$1.44 from this year.

Tax figures do not vary significantly from the document drafted by the Town Board several weeks ago.

One reason for increased expenditures in the 1977 budget was the board's decision to grant a five per cent cost of living increment to all employees.

Other factors cited by Supervisor Carl Walters include increased cost of insurance, acquisition of St. Mark's Community Center, fringe benefits, replacement of vehicles in the police department and flush toilets to be installed in the pavilion at the town park.

Added to the combined tax rate, homeowners can expect to dig deeper into their pockets to pay for sewer, water, fire and possibly lighting services according to the part of the town in which they live.

Townwide sewer charges depend on what zone a resident lives in, which is determined by availability of service.

Sewer charges for typical one-family homeowners and the increases from this year, in parentheses, are: \$141.28 in Zone A (\$17.02); \$21.17 in Zone B (\$3.28); and \$5.29 in Zone C (\$0.82).

There are also changes in tax levies for water districts.

The 1977 tax rate for homeowners in the Fort Hunter Water District is \$8.36 per \$1,000 assessed valuation, up \$1.97 from this year.

Lone Pine Water District homeowners will pay 45 cents per \$1,000 less for services next year. The 1977 tax rate is \$1.41 per \$1,000.

Westmere Water District homeowners will pay \$2.58 per \$1,000 more next year. The rate will be \$22.83.

Fire district charges will also be changed. Fort Hunter Fire District charges will be 51 cents per \$1,000 less, at a rate of \$8.98.

Westmere Fire District charges will be up \$3.26 per \$1,000 in 1977 to a rate of \$12.95.

There will also be changes in lighting districts.