

## REPORT OF THE TOWN TAX COLLECTOR

Your property tax bill information is governed by the New Hampshire Right to Know Law, RSA Chapter 91-A. Property Tax information is considered a public record available to anyone upon request. Our town website presently has this information provided in the annual reports, however the information is scattered in several documents and does not contain the current tax rate and billing information. It is in this spirit that the NH Tax Kiosk is now available to our residents.

In January 2014 the Town of Hancock will be offering the residents the ability to view their property tax bill invoice online.

The Tax Kiosk provides your assessment as well as transaction details for refinancing, filing of taxes, sales and purchases of homes, etc. The kiosk can be accessed any time by going to [www.nhtaxkiosk.com](http://www.nhtaxkiosk.com) and clicking on the town of Hancock OR by clicking on the link available on our town website located on the tax collector's page.

The Tax Kiosk does the following:

1. Once an owner or parcel is selected, a list of all recent invoices is displayed, showing type of invoice, due date, bill amount, and outstanding due amount.
2. Internet users can change the Interest Date to determine the proper payment amount for future payments.
3. For any individual invoice, the Internet user can click the Transactions button to access additional information about the specific tax bill, including any transactions that have been made on that invoice such as payments, abatements, or penalties.
4. Taxpayers will have the ability to PRINT the information available on the Tax Kiosk for their records.

We are excited to provide this service to our community, making access to your public records available when it is convenient for you. You will no longer be restricted to Tax Collector hours on Monday and Wednesday.

The 2013 property tax rate set by the Department of Revenue was apportioned as follows:

Town	\$5.25
Local School	\$13.37
State School	\$2.43
County	\$1.22
Total Tax Rate	\$22.27 per \$1000.00 of assessed property value

The 2013 property tax rate represented an overall increase of \$1.47 per \$1000.00 of assessed property value.

Our town sends out bills semi-annually to generate the revenues needed to support our community. The first bill is typically due by July 1 and the second bill is due December 1 to cover the tax fiscal year of April 1 – March 31. The first property tax bill is an estimated bill based on the previous year's tax rate. The second bill generated is based on the new tax rate set by the Department of Revenue in the fall. This new rate is applied to the current assessed value of your property as of April 1<sup>st</sup>.

State law requires that tax bills be sent to the address of the last known property owner as recorded on the deed at the Hillsborough County Registry of Deeds. **If there is a change of ownership or mailing address, please notify our office of these changes.**

I would like everyone in town to feel free to call or e-mail me at any time with questions or concerns relative to the payment and collection of property, timber yield, current use change and excavation taxes. General information related to property taxes is posted on the town website for your convenience. I check phone and e-mail messages regularly during the week. Tax Collector hours are Monday and Wednesday at 11am – 1pm or by appointment.

Respectfully submitted, Rennie Timm