

## **Notification to Chester taxpayers regarding 2020 Tax Bills:**

In previous years, the Town of Chester has mailed tax bills the second week in July. This year, there will be a delay in mailing tax bills. The State of Vermont will not be setting the Education Tax Rate until August 1st with this date "being subject to change". To avoid potential confusion and additional expense of mailing two separate bills, the town will not be mailing tax bills until the Education Rate has been set. At this time, the tax due date will remain September 15, 2020. Should the education rate be delayed further, we will reevaluate this process.

This delay in billing will have a significant impact on the cash flow for the town and may cause a need for additional borrowing. In effort to help minimize this impact, we are encouraging property owners to make prepayments for their property taxes in July and early August, based on their 2019 tax bill. Prepaying any amount will also help relieve the overall financial burden for property owners when the final bill becomes due.

Payments can be made by hand delivery, mail, direct debited from a checking/savings account, or paid by credit/debit card (3% fee for this payment option). Payments can be dropped off to Town Hall Monday through Friday 8:00-4:00 or can be mailed to Town of Chester, P.O. Box 370, Chester, VT 05143. If you would like to make a payment or set up recurring payments to be taken out of an account, please call the Town Office at (802) 875-2173.

Thank you to the property owners that will take advantage of this option and to everyone for their understanding during this difficult time.