

# POTTSTOWN CITIZENS FOR Enlightened LEADERSHIP

## Where your local taxes go

Pottstown Council last month adopted a 2023 budget that calls for a 2 percent tax increase.

The Pottstown School Board voted in November to limit any tax increase in the 2023-2024 school year to 6 percent. However, because of a significant boost in state funding this year, it's likely there will be no tax increase.

Together, the borough and the school district are set to spend more than \$118 million this year. The categories are shown in the chart below.

Combined, the school district and borough levy higher real estate taxes than any other Montgomery County municipality except Cheltenham.

Pottstown Borough also charges separate fees for trash collection and water/sewer service.

The lion's share of Pottstown's spending — 58 percent — goes to educate about 3,400 children and youth aged 4 to 18.

A student only needs a legal Pottstown address to receive a free education.

Of course, once students graduate or otherwise leave school, we have no idea how many are going to stay in Pottstown and contribute to the community.

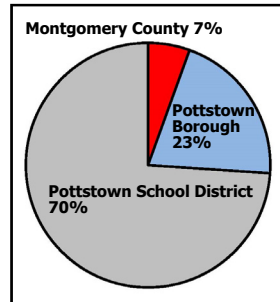
Other government services benefit all residents.

With all this spending, regrettably, not a dime will go to enhance our natural environment and improve our quality of life.



Commentary by  
Tom Hylton

Pottstown government spending 2022-2023		
Pottstown School District	\$68,467,437	58%
Pottstown Borough:		
Sewer fund	\$9,464,502	8.3%
Police	\$9,219,545	7.8%
Water fund	\$8,682,421	7.4%
Trash fund	\$3,608,698	3.1%
Water capital fund	\$2,573,000	2.2%
Administration & misc.	\$1,822,562	1.5%
Fire fund	\$2,081,224	1.8%
Sewer capital fund	\$3,472,000	2.9%
Pensions	\$2,381,893	.2%
Parks	\$1,072,708	.9%
Street repairs fund	\$1,001,000	.8%
Licensing, inspections	\$968,524	.8%
Sewer lines fund	\$967,210	.8%
Public works	\$661,088	.6%
Capital savings fund	\$434,441	.4%
Airport	\$377,301	.3%
Street lighting fund	\$267,081	.3%
Debt service fund	\$265,010	.2%
Library	\$172,669	.1%
Parking Lots	\$111,682	.05%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$118,071,996</b>	<b>100%</b>
Pottstown area transit (federally funded)	\$2,404,497	
Grants received but not yet spent	\$6,096,730	



**The Pottstown School district collects 70 percent of the real estate taxes in Pottstown.**

Annual fees for trash collection and water/sewer service are billed separately from real estate taxes	
Trash	\$3,065,684
Water Sewer	\$10,572,046

**Pottstown workers also pay a 1 percent earned income tax split between the borough and school district, and a \$52 local services tax which goes to the borough.**