

Press Release

Manchester Delays Motor Vehicle Billing

June 21, 2017- The Town of Manchester will delay issuing motor vehicle tax bills this year. Motor Vehicle tax bills will be issued on October 1st. Normally, Manchester sends out all its tax bills for real estate, motor vehicles, and business personal property at the same time. However, due to uncertainties surrounding the state-wide motor vehicle tax cap, only real estate and personal property tax bills will be issued this week, in accordance with our normal schedule.

The uncertainty is about the mandated, state-wide motor vehicle mill rate cap of 32.00 mills that exists under current law. Last year this mill rate cap was increased to 37.00, and various sources report that this mill rate cap may again be changed to 37.00 this year, or be eliminated entirely. However, this has not yet happened.

If the Town was to bill out at the 32.00 mill rate for motor vehicles, as currently mandated by state law, and the state-wide motor vehicle mill rate cap is increased, the Town would be in a position of having to re-bill our taxpayers in order to collect any difference. This would be burdensome to our taxpayers and would create additional billing and processing costs for the Town.

By waiting to send the motor vehicle tax bills until this situation is clarified, the Town can hopefully avoid either over-charging our taxpayers and having to issue refunds or under-charging our taxpayers and having to re-bill them. While there is a chance that the Town may have to re-bill for taxes if State municipal aid is substantially reduced, the Town feels that it is better to wait as long as possible before making that decision.

As this issue only involves motor vehicle tax bills at this time, only motor vehicle tax bills will be delayed. Real estate and business personal property tax bills will be sent out this week, and will be due and payable as scheduled, with the last day to pay without interest August 1, 2017. Once motor vehicle tax bills are sent, all taxpayers will have a minimum of 30 days to pay their motor vehicle taxes on-time.

For more information regarding this matter, please contact the Town of Manchester Office of Assessment & Collection at 860-647-3011, or visit the Office of Assessment & Collection at Manchester Town Hall (41 Center Street), weekdays between 8:30 AM and 5:00 PM