

City of Fremont Update

Date: August 13, 2021

To: City Employees/ City Boards/ Mayor & City Council

Substation H Energized

The City's eight electrical substation was completed and energized recently. The substation is located on the corner of E Cloverly Road and S Yager Road (off the road to the transfer station). The picture on the right is a bird's eye view of the substation, taken by a drone, looking towards the E Cloverly and S Yager intersection. The total cost of the substation was around \$5.5 million,



with Wholestone paying for 60% of the cost. The substation is one of the City's largest electrical substations, with its two 20MW transformers, or in other words, it is large enough to service Wholestone, Lincoln Premium Poultry, and Fremont Beef (three of the City's largest customers) with electric power.

Robotic Farming

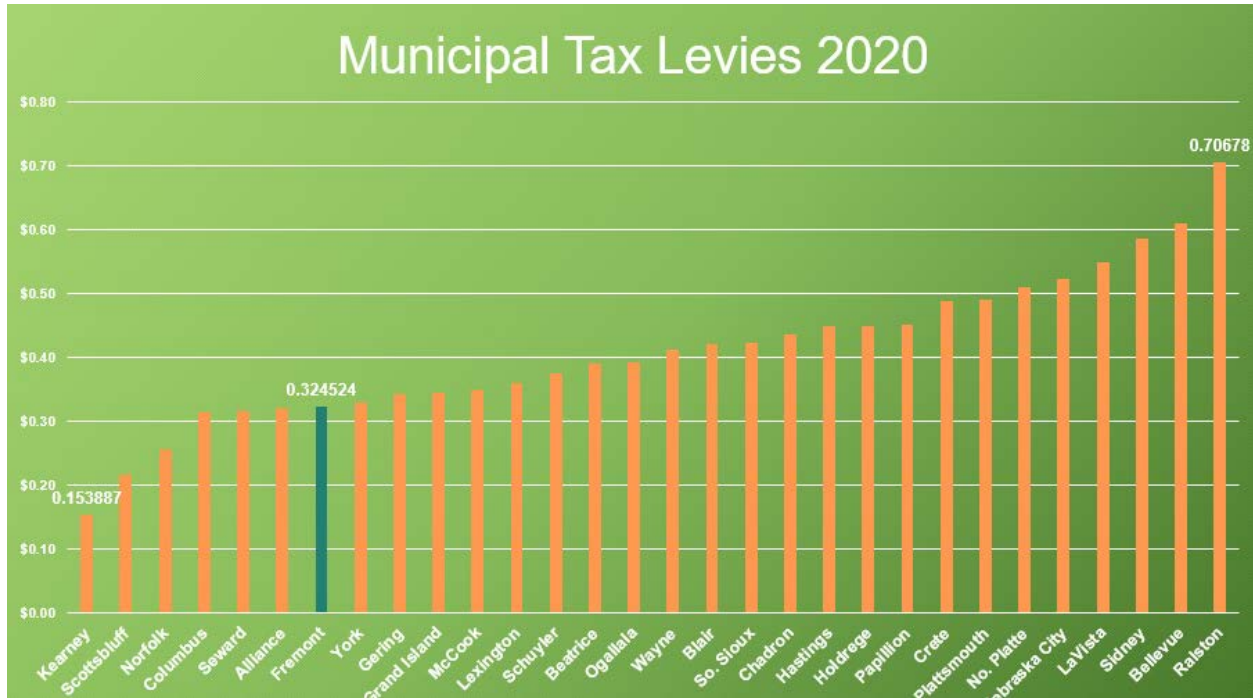
In Braddock, PA, where Andrew Carnegie first mass-produced steel, is home to a new kind of industry: robotic farms that grow stacks of greens inside buildings. The owners, Fifth Season, considers vertical farming as a means to feed people and a chance to work with a community in need. The entire process, from seed to harvest, is controlled robotically. Sensors are constantly monitoring everything from nutrient mix, carbon dioxide levels and light spectrum, in order to ensure the greens follow prescribed growth protocols. The plants use no herbicide or pesticides, because they grow in hermetically sealed environments, because no soil is used, plants are fed through the water, and employees do not come in contact with the plants.



There is no job so important and no service so urgent that we cannot take the time to do the work safely!

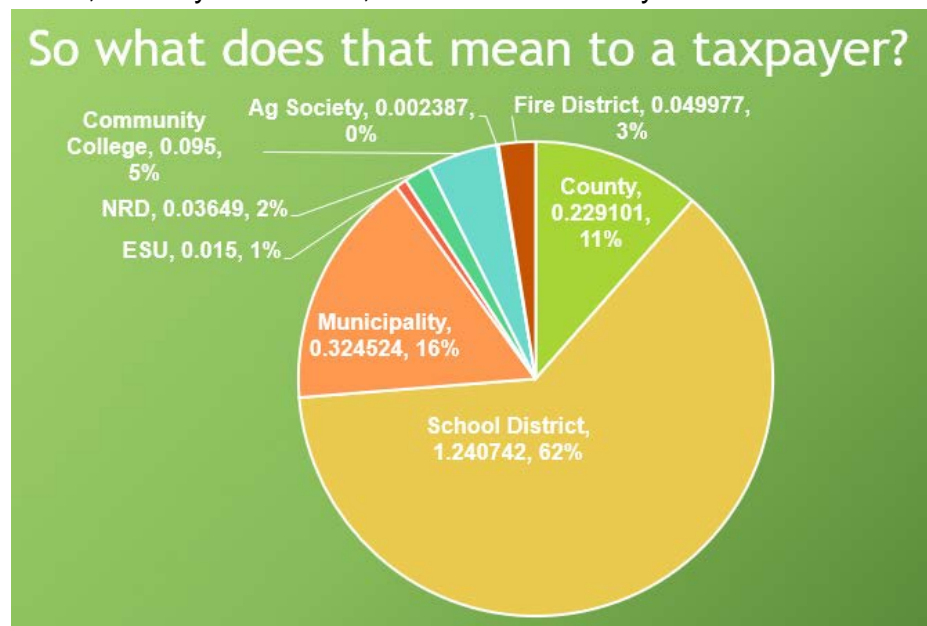
2021-2022/2022-2023 Budget Underway

The City's biennial budget process is underway. Done every two years instead of every year, the budget process is a very involved process conducted by every department, but especially the Finance Department. At the last City Council meeting on August 10, Finance Director, Jody Sanders reviewed some information about how the City compares to cities across the state. The chart below plots the City's levy (.324524) against other first class cities. Please note that our levy is seventh lowest among first class cities in Nebraska.



Another graph discussed at the meeting is shown below. It shows the how the levies among the governmental units in Dodge County stack up. Please notice the largest three levies are the school district at 1.240742, the City at .324524, and then the County at .229101. What that means is that property owners would pay the School District \$1,240, the City \$342 and the County \$229 in property taxes per \$100,000 in valuation.

Again, based upon the chart above, only six first cities in the state collect less than \$342 in City property taxes per \$100,000 of valuation than what Fremont collects.



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