Taxpayers in the city and town of Port Washington will get a holiday gift this year — a tax bill that is lower than last year.

In the City of Port Washington, the owner of a house valued at $200,000 will pay $95.40 less in taxes this year, City Administrator Mark Grams said.

However, there will also be a new $44 annual recycling fee on the tax bill, bringing the overall decrease to $51.40, he said.

The owner of a $150,000 condominium that does not receive recycling pickup from the city would find his taxes decreasing by $71.55, Grams added.

And the owner of a business or manufacturing facility assessed at $500,000 would pay $238.50 less in taxes, he said, noting they would not be assessed the recycling fee.

The total tax rate in the city is decreasing almost 48 cents per $1,000 assessed valuation, Grams said.

Each of the taxing jurisdictions — the city, Ozaukee County, Port Washington-Saukville School District, technical college and state — had rates that were stable or lower than last year, Grams said.

The largest decreases were 27 cents per $1,000 of assessed valuation for the city and 26 cents per $1,000 for the school district, he said.

This was offset somewhat because the school credit decreased from $18.95 last year to $18.47 this year, Grams added.

The city's 2012 budget is $8.6 million, a decrease of 1.24% from this year. The budget is supported by a $4.7 million levy, 3.33% less than this year's levy.

However, the levy for next year does not include recycling collection and the city also decided to end its shared-ride taxi program.

Residents will instead have to depend on Ozaukee County's shared-ride taxi for transportation services beginning next month.

Grams said the city's tax bills will be printed by Ozaukee County next week.

"All in all, Port Washington taxpayers should be pretty happy when their tax bills arrive in the next couple weeks," he said.

In the Town of Port Washington, the owner of a house valued at $200,000 would pay an estimated $2,796 in taxes, $12 less than the $2,808 paid last year, Town Clerk Jenny

Schlenvogt said.

The overall tax rate is down six cents per $1,000 assessed valuation, she said, from $14.04 last year to $13.98 this year.

The town's tax rate was up only one cent, from $2.21 per $1,000 to $2.22, she said.

The town's assessed valuation increased slightly, Schlenvogt said, from $201,454,700 last year to $201,736,300 this year.

On Monday, the Town Board formally approved the 2012 budget of $542,000, a decrease of about $5,000 from last year's spending plan.

"We had our annual meeting and presented the budget. Now it's time to adopt it," Town Chairman Jim Melichar said.

The town tax levy of $447,000 was approved by the electors last month. The levy is down slightly from last year's $446,400.