

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE WORKSHOP MEETING – April 25, 2022 – 6:00 P.M.

Mayor Williams calls the workshop meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and asks the Clerk to call the roll:

Roll Call	Present/ Absent
Dr. Michael Brantley	<u>Present</u>
Keith Cafferty	<u>Present</u>
Robert Lane, Jr.	<u>Present</u>
Tassie D. York	<u>Present</u>
Nicholas Williams	<u>Present</u>

Also present: Gene Anthony, Township Attorney; Gabriella Siboni, Municipal Clerk., Michael Bascom, Chief Financial Officer.

Mayor Williams announces that the notice requirements of R.S. 10:4-18 have been satisfied by the publication of the required advertisement in The Coaster and the Asbury Park Press on January 6, 2022, posting the notice on the Board in the Municipal Complex, and filing a copy of said notice with the Municipal Clerk. In addition, the meeting agenda is posted on the Township web site (www.neptunetownship.org) and the meeting is being streamed live via townhallstreams.com.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION IN OPEN SESSION

1. Committee Calendars

Committeeman Lane stated that COVID Testing continues at the senior center, the next is schedule for May 8th.

Committeewoman York stated that 28th of April- Post 266 is having its celebration for its 100 year celebration

2. Town Wide Garage Sale

Ms. York stated there was no way to do a town wide garage sale on one day. There will be a yard sale and flea market in June 4/5 in Shark River and Ocean Grove. The remaining zones would have dates that coincide with the bulk pick up schedule. There are two open rain dates in case of inclement weather. The fee for yard sales would be \$5.00 instead of \$10 as allowed by the Township ordinance.

Mayor Williams asked how the committee intended to advertise the town wide yard sale and the requirement for registration. Committeewoman York stated the advertisement and information would be on the website. Deputy Mayor Cafferty asked why the fee wasn't waived. Ms. York stated that Ms. Narciso advised that the

3. Parking Survey

Mr. Cafferty stated the goal is to get the survey out in time for this peak season.

The following items are under review in regards to the parking survey

- We are pursuing a way to implement the surveys online with an access code provided to those eligible to take the survey
 - If someone did not have access to a computer they would still be able to complete the survey
 - The data would be able to reviewed in multiple ways based on responses and correlation of information to access codes
- We have determined there are 2,115 rateables in Ocean Grove, however this includes:
 - 242 -2 family homes
 - 68 -3 family homes
 - 41 -4 family homes
 - Commercial businesses
 - Mixed use parcel (commercial with a residential apartment for example)
 - This does not account for the number of people in each household or parcel.
 - Bed and Breakfasts are considered residential properties.

- The questions that we are working on in order to move forward are:
 - Who is eligible to access the survey?
 - What response rate is necessary in order for the survey to be considered viable?
 - What measures will be used to assess the responses provided?

Mr. Lane asked if all drivers in a household would be able to take the survey. Mr. Cafferty stated that was still a question for who would be eligible.

Res # 200 Authorize An Executive Session As Authorized By The Open Public Meetings Act.

Offered by: York Seconded by: Lane
 Vote: Brantley Yes Cafferty Yes Lane Yes York Yes Williams Yes

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – April 25, 2022 – 7:00 P.M.

Mayor Williams calls the meeting to order and asks the Clerk to call the roll:

Roll Call	Present/ Absent
Dr. Michael Brantley	<u>Present</u>
Keith Cafferty	<u>Present</u>
Robert Lane, Jr.	<u>Present</u>
Tassie D. York	<u>Present</u>
Nicholas Williams	<u>Present</u>

Also present: Gene Anthony, Township Attorney; Gabriella Siboni, Municipal Clerk, Michael Bascom Chief Financial Officer

Silent Prayer and Flag Salute

The Clerk states, "Fire exits are located in the rear of the room and to my right. In the event of a fire, you will be notified by fire alarm and/or public address system, then proceed to the nearest smoke-free exit."

Mayor Williams announces that the notice requirements of R.S. 10:4-18 have been satisfied by the publication of the required advertisement in The Coaster and the Asbury Park Press on January 6, 2022, posting the notice on the Board in the Municipal Complex, and filing a copy of said notice with the Municipal Clerk. In addition, the meeting agenda, ordinances, and resolutions are posted on the Township web site (www.neptunetownship.org) and the meeting is being streamed live via townhallstreams.com.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion offered by Committeeman Lane, seconded by Dr. Brantley , to approve the minutes of meeting of April 11, 2022. All in Favor

PRESENTATION

Proclamation- April 27, 2022 as Denim Day

WHEREAS, April 27, 2022 marks the 24th celebration of Denim Day in the United States. Denim Day is the annual sexual assault awareness event that works to start conversations about the destructive attitudes surrounding sexual assault, and;

WHEREAS, The Denim Day campaign began in 1999 as an international protest of an Italian Supreme Court decision to overturn a rape conviction because the victim was wearing jeans. The head judge argued that “because the victim wore very, very tight jeans, she had to help him remove them... and by removing the jeans... it was no longer rape but consensual sex”, and;

WHEREAS, The judgement sparked a worldwide outcry from those who understood coercion, threats and violence that accompany the act of sexual assaults, and;

WHEREAS, Each year, we wear denim to honor this survivor and all survivors who have experienced victim blaming, and;

WHEREAS, Participating in Denim Day provides a wonderful opportunity for the community to show solidarity with survivors of abuse and to encourage open discussion about how we can work in our personal and professional lives to reduce violence in our communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nicholas Williams, Mayor of the Township of Neptune, along with the entire Township Committee, do hereby declare April 27, 2022 as Denim Day and I encourage all to sport their denim as a symbol of protest against misconceptions that surround sexual assault and as a show of support to all survivors of sexual assault.

COMMENTS FROM THE DAIS

Comments from the Dais regarding business on this agenda or any reports on recent events in their respective departments.

Committeeman Lane attended a Fletcher Lake committee meeting where they are trying to work on their agreement with Bradley Beach. Mr. Lane was with the Shade Tree/ Environmental commission when they were handing out seedlings for free. Hooked on Fishing is occurring on Sunday June 5. May is Older American month and will be celebrating “Age my Way”. There is a Covid clinic scheduled May 18 for testing and boosters.

Deputy Mayor Cafferty stated the basketball hoops were replaced at Sunshine Village.

Mayor Williams stated the Committee is proud to present a budget that reflects Neptune’s commitment to financial stability and resiliency in the face of disasters and pandemics and still remain a full service community. Mayor Williams thanked Mr. Bascom and the department heads for their hard work on the budget this year.

REPORT OF THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

- **Pump Track:** Final design has been submitted and construction should begin within days.
- **Electric Vehicle Grant:** We have been notified by the NJDEP that we are to be awarded a grant in the amount of \$476,966.16 to purchase an electric garbage truck along with a charging station.
- **Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance:** NJDEP has completed their review of our ordinance. Staff is reviewing their recommended amendments. I would expect that the ordinance will be presented to the governing body for introduction at the next meeting.
- **Living Shoreline Project:** We are still awaiting the public notice to be posted by the Army Corps of Engineers.
- **Microgrid:** The BPU has awarded Neptune approval to move forward with the development of an estimated \$38 million microgrid project that will support our civic area including the municipal building, the schools, DPW, the Senior center, the Sheriff’s building and more. We expect to complete the project design and be ready to award the project in September. There may be advantages of considering the area as an Area in Need of Rehabilitation to provide us with latitude in developing and awarding such a critical project. More will be shared in the coming days/weeks.

PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION OF THE 2022 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Michael Bascom, C.F.O., will make a presentation on the 2022 municipal budget followed by Public Comments regarding the 2022 Municipal Budget which was introduced on March 14, 2022. The public will be permitted one opportunity to comment with a limit of five minutes.



Neptune

Township - NJ

Where Community, Business & Tourism Prosper

2022 Municipal Budget Presentation

Budget / Mission Statement

In order to serve the diverse needs of our community and to enrich the quality of life for all residents, the Township of Neptune is committed to providing a safe and healthy community for individuals of all ages through the offering of programs, services, information, and access.

- ❖ Fiscal Responsibility (significant inflation impacts in 2022)
- ❖ Maintain and Improve Quality of Life in every neighborhood
- ❖ Provision of services (No reduction in services to the community)
- ❖ Public Safety, Health & Welfare as priorities
- ❖ Maintaining a stable tax base and tax rate
- ❖ Providing services to 6000+ senior citizen residents
- ❖ Remain prepared for disaster response and recovery
- ❖ Debt for growth of community and distribution of costs to those who receive the benefit (not to borrow for items we can't afford)
- ❖ Dealing with continued loss of statutory state payments
- ❖ Sustainable budgeting
- ❖ Maintenance of strong financial ratings from Moody's and Standard & Poor's
- ❖ Continuing recovery from Global Pandemic



Impact of CoVID-19 Public Health Emergency

- ❖ State aid was not directly impacted
- ❖ Able to recover significant portion of costs through CARES Act
- ❖ Revenue losses
 - ❖ *Municipal Court closed*
 - ❖ *Business registration fees*
 - ❖ *Grant funded programs*
- ❖ Increased expenses for public safety
- ❖ Capitalized on low market rates for capital debt issuance with long term savings to Township
- ❖ Benefited from Monmouth County Health agreement – no budget impact
- ❖ American Rescue Plan and FEMA cost recovery offsetting many costs.

Total General Budget 2018-2022 (Includes Library)

2022 Budget: \$49,194,110.54

2021 Budget: \$48,128,710.66

2020 Budget: \$46,246,619.52

2019 Budget: \$45,204,827.17

2018 Budget: \$44,668,204.67

2.2% increase

\$1,065,399.88

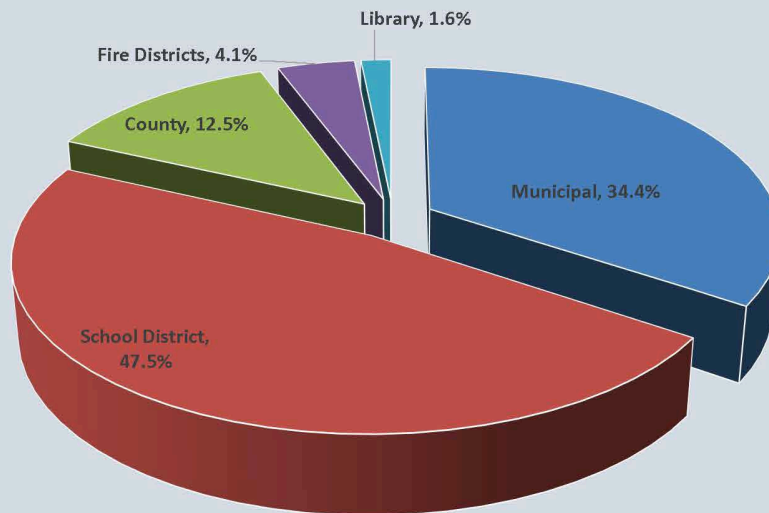
Impact of 2021 Budget

Tax Rate Projected to decrease by 8.0 cents per \$100 of value from .722 to .642 (11.15% decrease).

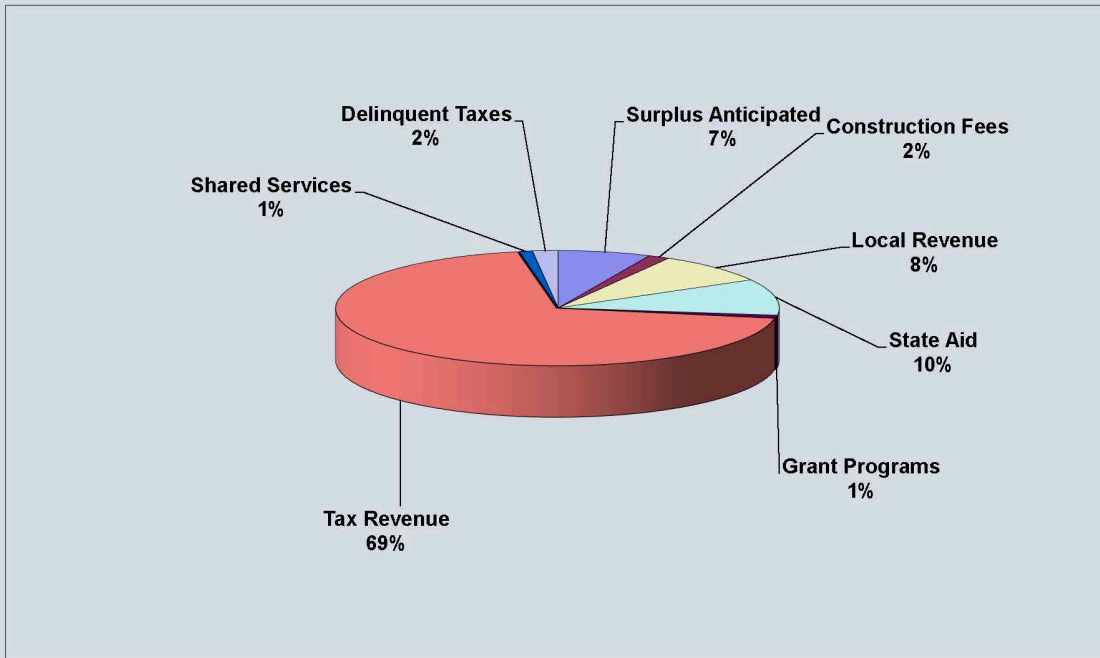
Tax on home assessed at \$400,000.00 is estimated at \$2,566.06, a decrease of \$321.94 as compared to 2021.

Tax Rate Decrease

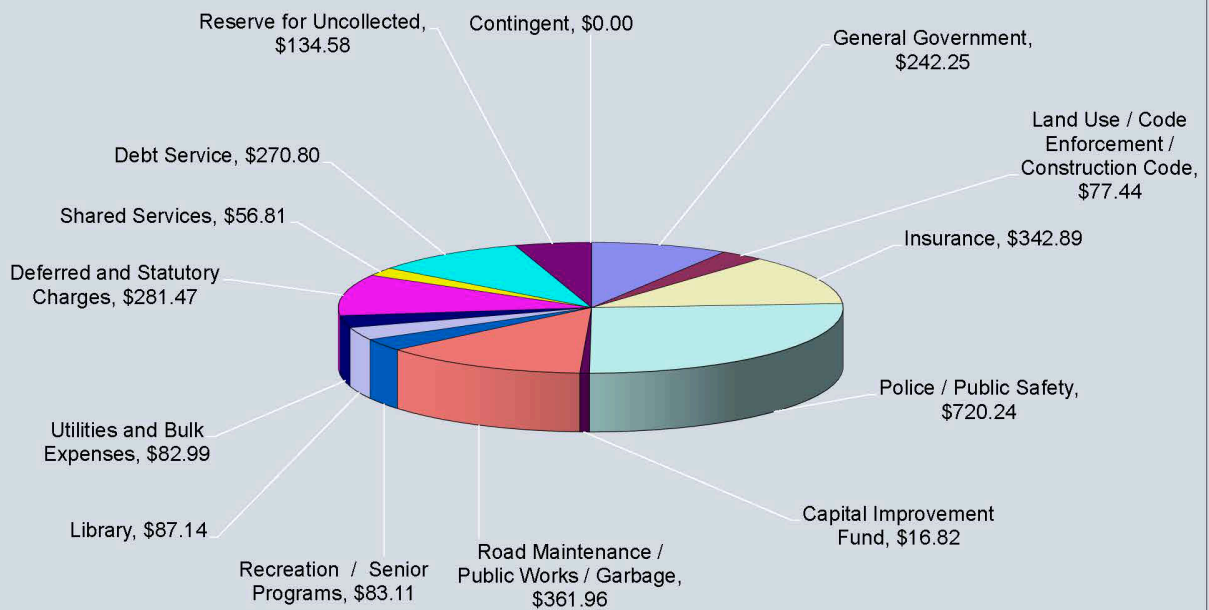
How Your Property Tax Dollar is Divided



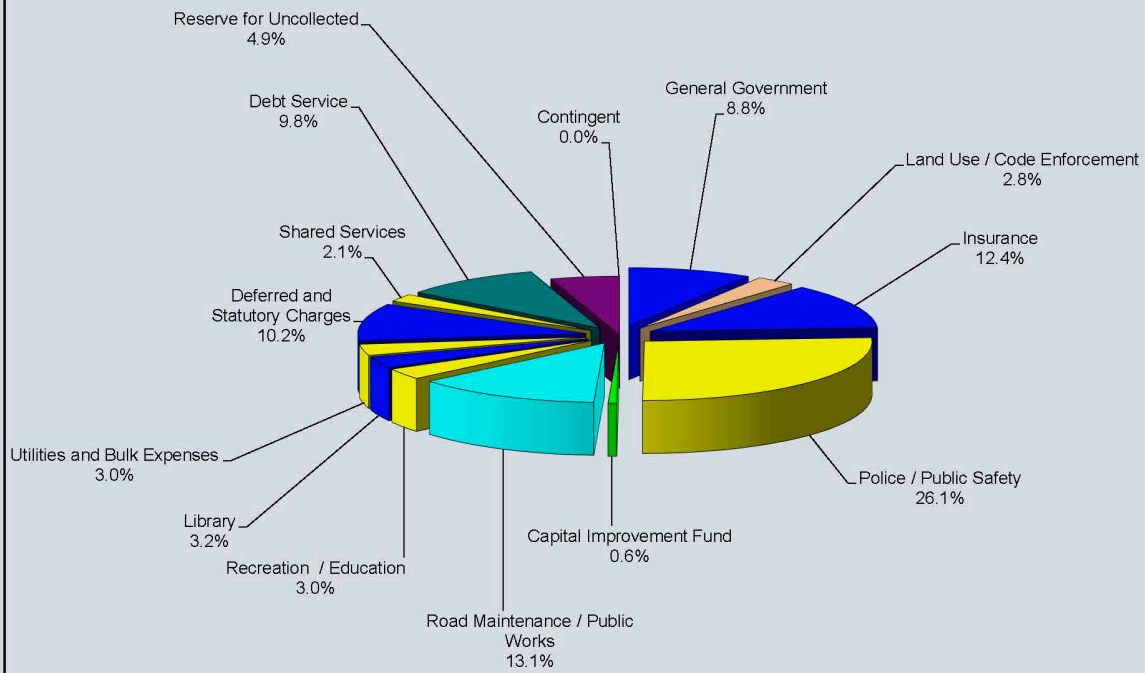
Sources of Revenue to Support Township Budget



How Municipal Tax Funding is Spent



How the 2022 Municipal Tax Dollar is Spent (%)



State impact on local budget

Appropriations CAP (3.5%)

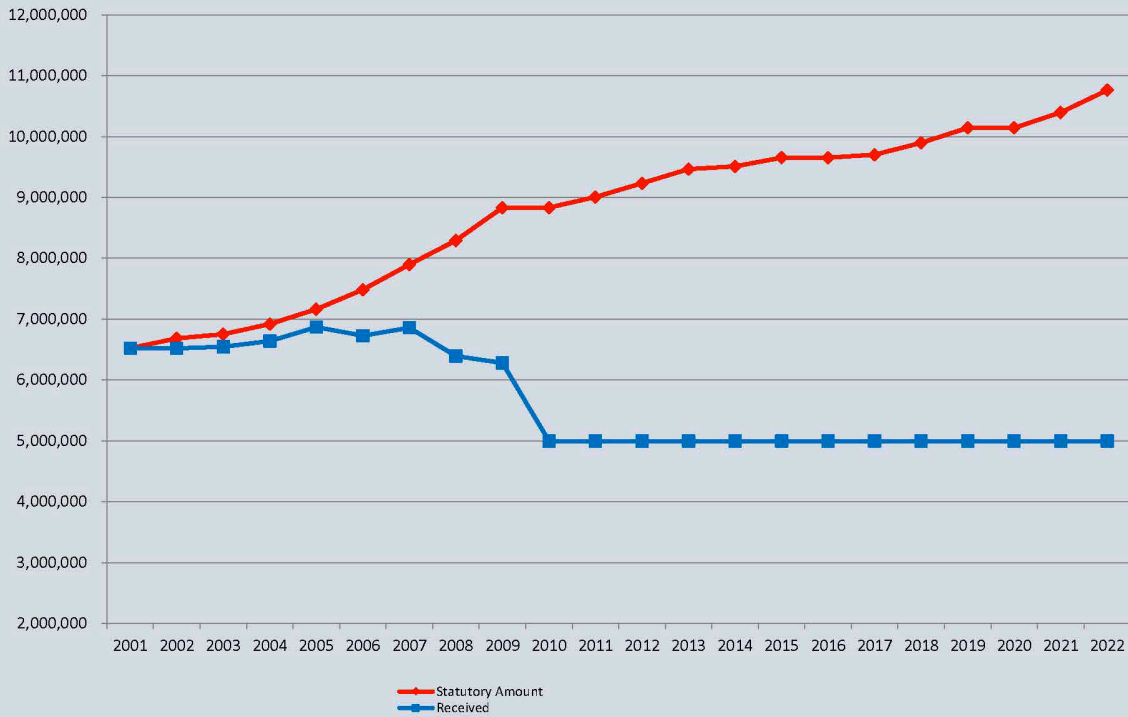
Levy CAP (2%)

State Aid Loss (Local Property Tax Relief)

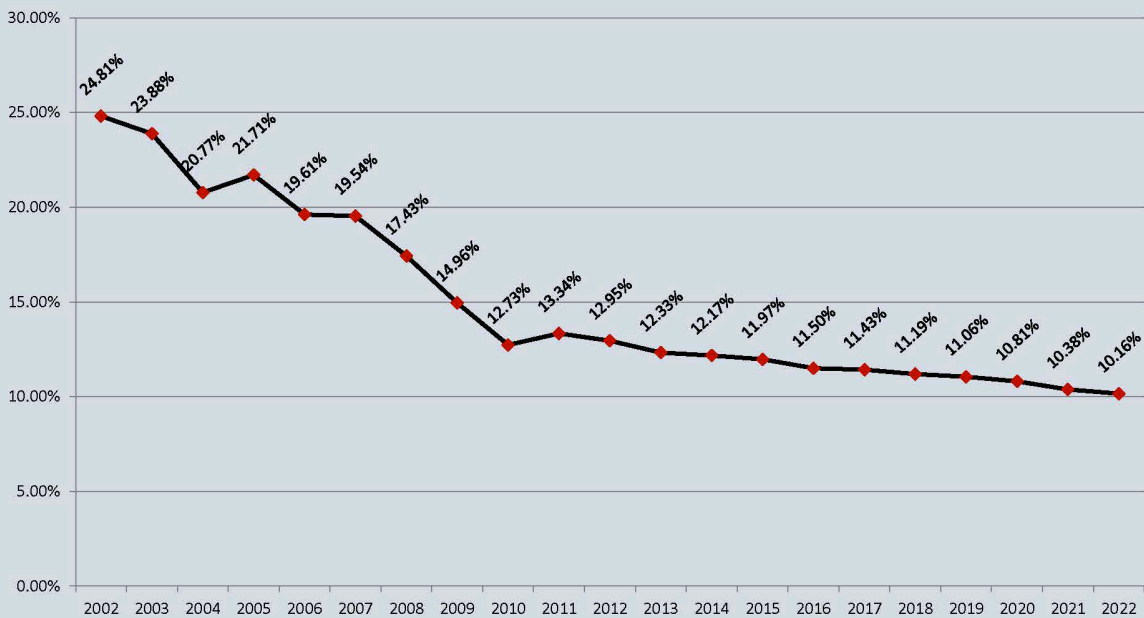
Impact will continue to grow in increments each year unless the State Aid program comes into compliance with the intent of the program



Underpayment of State Aid to Neptune by Year (Totals more the \$68,416,432.00 since 2001 / \$5,762,456.00 for 2022 Alone)



State Aid as a Percentage of Total Budget Revenues

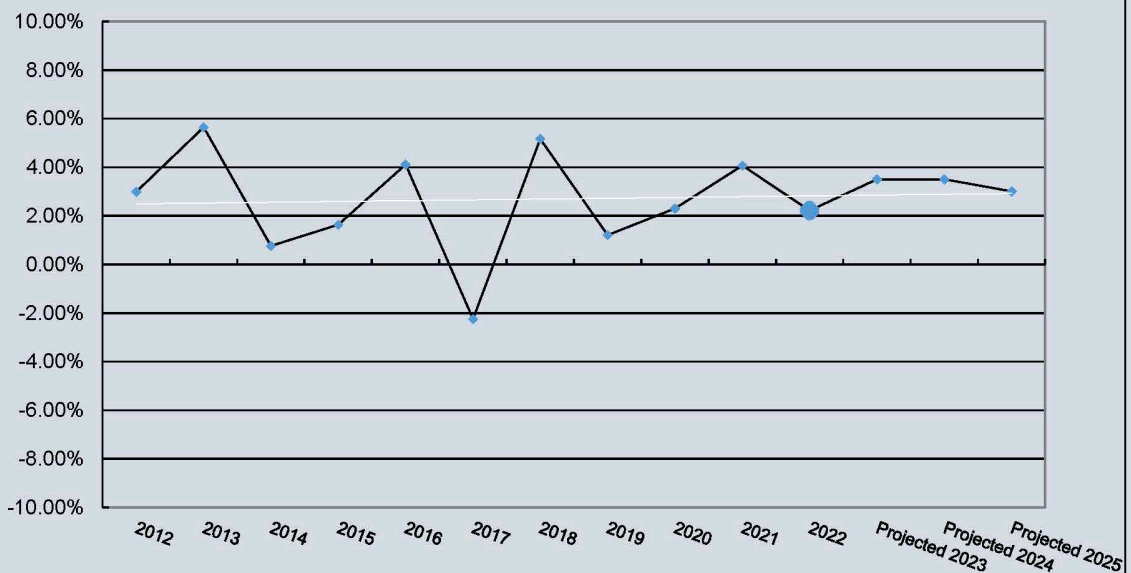


Percent of Budget Supported by Local Tax Revenue



Budget Stability

Percent Change in Municipal Appropriations

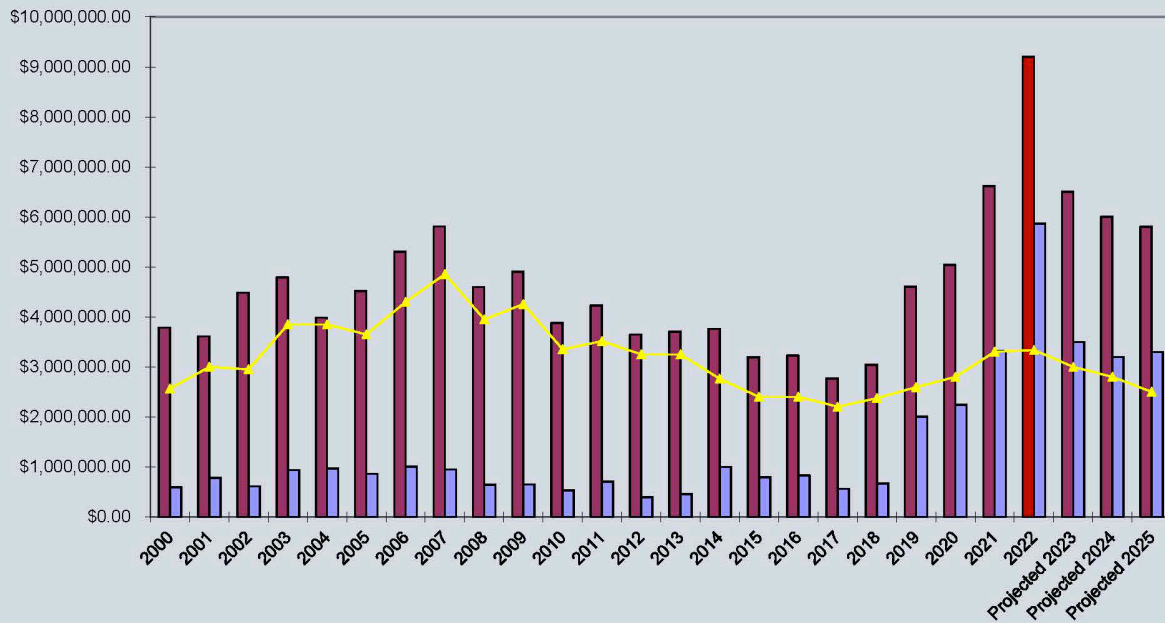


Budget Appropriations & Levy CAP

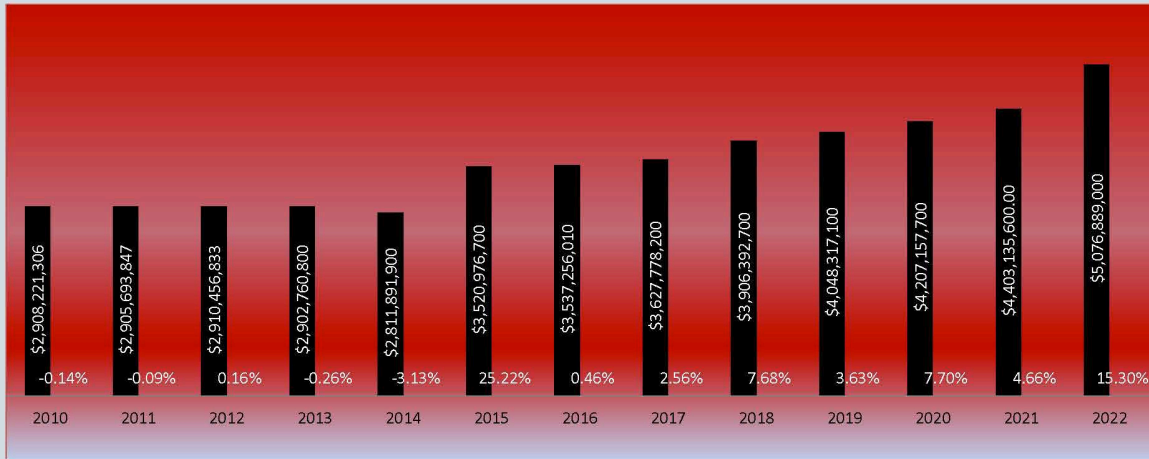
Allowable Operating Appropriations: \$ 38,357,641.33
 Actual Appropriations in 2022 Budget: \$ 38,342,048.13
 Under Maximum Permitted Appropriations CAP by: \$ 15,593.20
 Appropriations Bank applied: \$ 0.00
 Appropriations Bank Expiring: \$982,371.42
 Appropriations Bank Remaining for 2023: \$911,454.75

Allowable Tax Levy: \$33,326,384.00
 Actual Tax Levy: \$32,569,000.00
 Under Maximum Permitted Levy CAP by: \$757,384.00
 Levy Bank applied: \$ 0.00
 Levy Bank Expiring: \$ 246,562.00
 Levy Bank Remaining for 2023: \$1,620,348.00

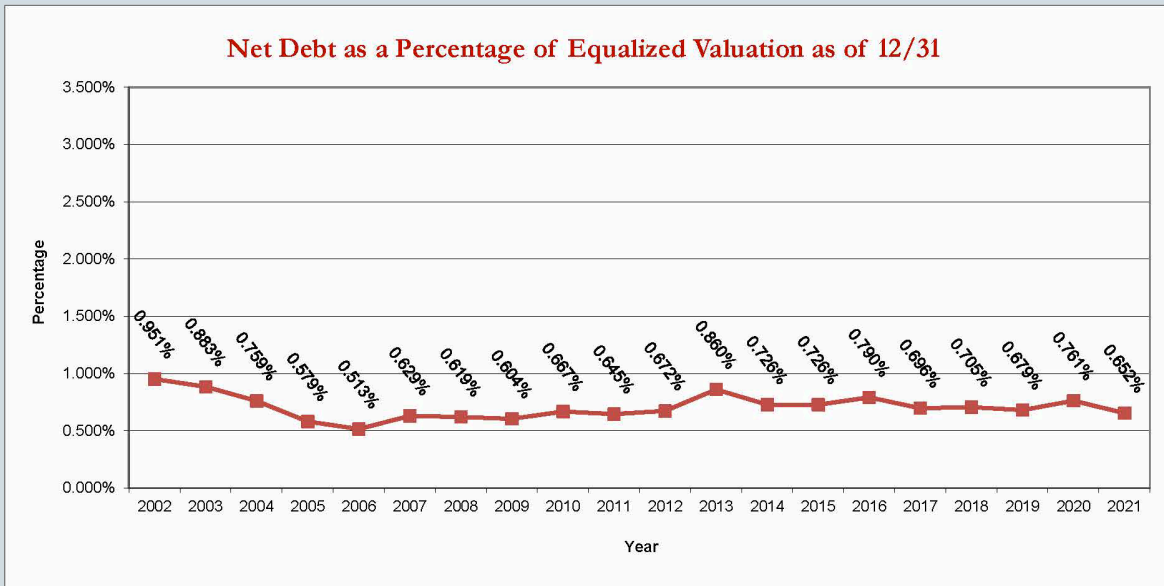
Surplus Analysis



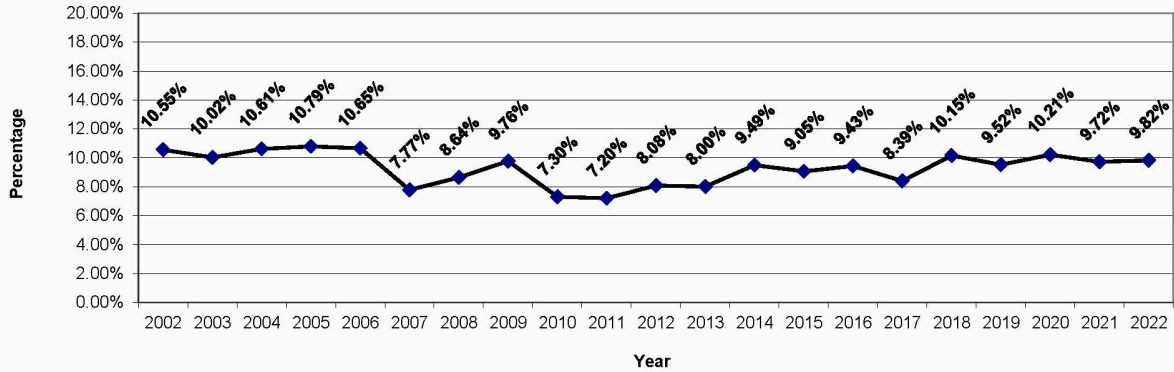
Net Valuation Taxable



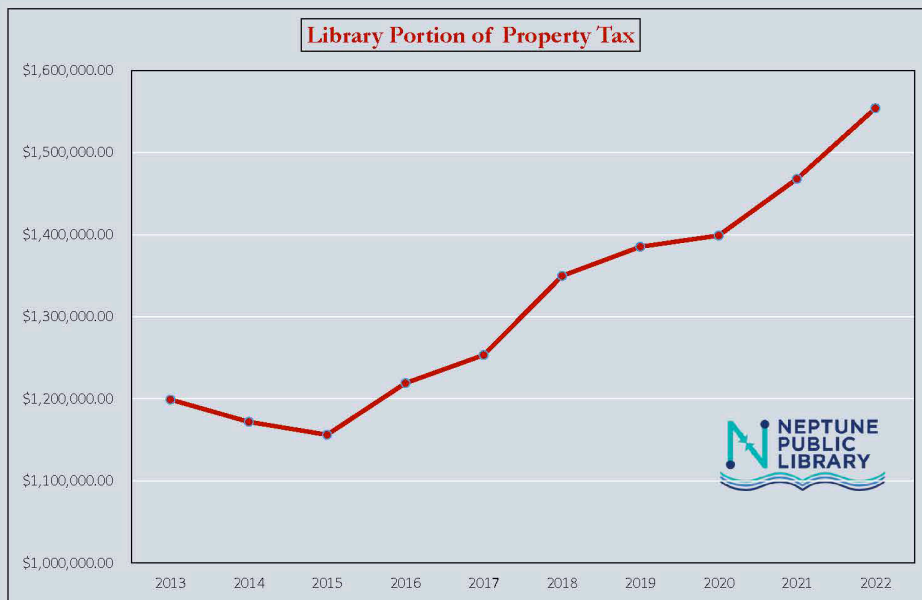
Net Debt for Capital Improvements



Debt Service Expense as a Percentage of Total Budget

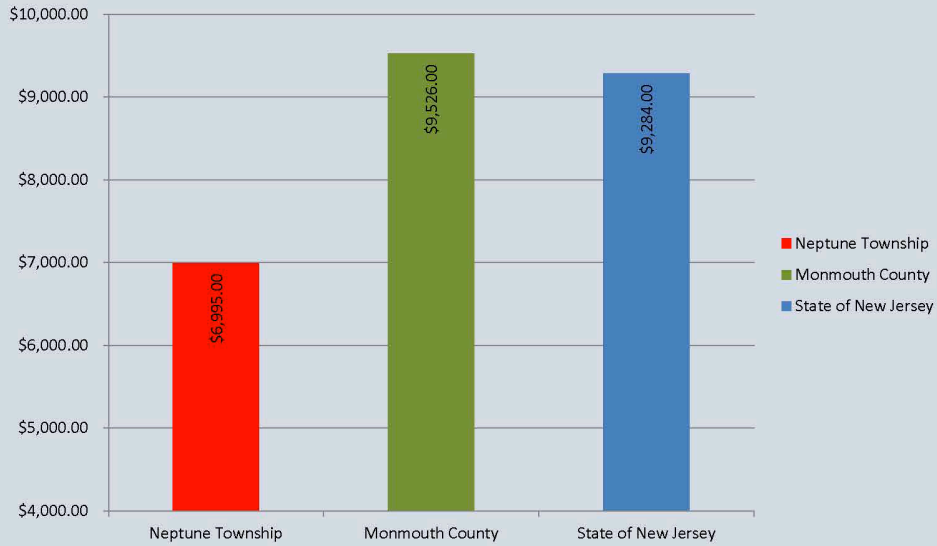


Taxes for Public Library



Neptune Taxes vs. County & State Averages (Based on 2021 Actual)

Average Tax Comparison - 2021
Includes Local, County, School, Library & Fire District Taxes



Ten Largest Taxpayers

	Owner of Record (2021)	Aggregate	% of Assessed	2021 Taxes
		Assessed Value	Value (Real Property)	
1	Neptune Partners LLC % BNE Real Estate	\$ 40,425,200	0.9181%	\$ 854,184.51
2	Neptune Plaza Shopping Center, LLC	\$ 34,135,600	0.7753%	\$ 721,285.25
3	Aspen 3600, LLC	\$ 26,175,600	0.5945%	\$ 553,090.45
4	JB Neptune Holdings, LLC	\$ 25,805,100	0.5861%	\$ 545,261.78
5	Woodlands Neptune, LLC	\$ 22,947,100	0.5212%	\$ 484,872.24
6	Wal-Mart Real Estate Business Trust	\$ 20,578,700	0.4674%	\$ 434,827.95
7	Ocean Grove NJ, LLC	\$ 15,155,000	0.3442%	\$ 320,719.60
8	HD Dev of Maryland Inc Property Tax	\$ 15,000,000	0.3407%	\$ 314,769.36
9	Ocean Grove Camp Meeting Assn	\$ 14,984,600	0.3403%	\$ 316,950.01
10	Meridian Hospitals Corp	\$ 14,231,000	0.3232%	\$ 311,230.15

No “Gimmicks”

No One Time Revenues

No Pension Deferral

No School Tax Deferral

No Appropriations CAP / CAP Waivers

No Fiscal Year Debt

No Extraordinary Aid

No Overuse of Surplus nor Reserves



Superior AA Rating / Standard & Poor's

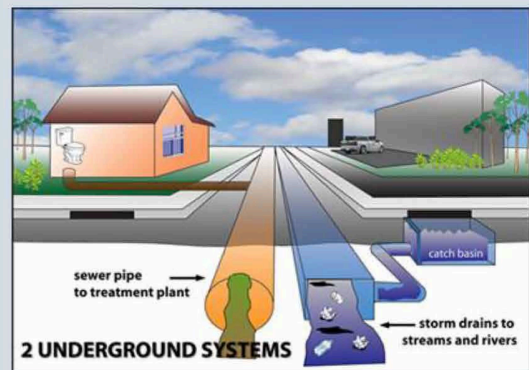
Credit Quality	DBRS		Moody's		S&P		
	Long Term	Short Term	Long Term	Short Term	Long Term	Global CP Scale	Canadian CP Scale
Superior ←	AAA	R-1 high	Aaa	P-1	AAA	A-1+	A-1 (high)
	AA high	R-1 high	Aa1	P-1	AA+	A-1+	A-1 (high)
	AA	R-1 mid	Aa2	P-1	AA	A-1+	A-1 (high)
	AA low	R-1 mid	Aa3	P-1	AA-	A-1+	A-1 (high)
Good	A high	R-1 low	A1	P-1	A+	A-1	A-1 (mid)
	A	R-1 low	A2	P-1	A	A-1	A-1 (mid)
	A low	R-1 low	A3	P-2	A-	A-2	A-1 (low)
Adequate	BBB high	R-2 high	Baa1	P-2	BBB+	A-2	A-1 (low)
	BBB	R-2 mid	Baa2	P-2	BBB	A-2	A-2
	BBB low	R-2 low	Baa3	P-3	BBB-	A-3	A-3
Speculative	BB high	R-3 high	Ba1	Not Prime	BB+	B	B
	BB	R-3 high	Ba2	Not Prime	BB	B	B
	BB low	R-3 high	Ba3	Not Prime	BB-	B	B
Highly Speculative	B high	R-3 mid	B1	Not Prime	B+	C	C
	B	R-3 mid	B2	Not Prime	B	C	C
	B low	R-3 low	B3	Not Prime	B-	C	C
	CCC	R-3 low	Caa	Not Prime	CCC	C	C

Sewer Utility

Sewer utility is self-liquidating.

Sewer is regenerating surplus.

Major Sewer infrastructure projects will continue in efforts to reduce Infiltration & Inflow and prevent pollution of our waterways.



Marina Utility

Marina Utility is self-liquidating.

Future projects will include maintenance dredging which sustains marina operations and enhances environmental conditions.



Explanatory Statement: This ordinance authorizes a resident only handicapped parking zone in front of 127 1/2 Broadway and 27 Ocean Ave.

No Public Comment was made

Offered by: Lane Seconded by: Cafferty
Vote: Brantley Yes Cafferty Yes Lane Yes York Yes Williams Yes

Ordinance No. 22-17 An Ordinance To Amend Volume I, Chapter Vii, Section 7-7 Of The Code Of The Township Of Neptune By Adding A No Parking Zone On Benson Ave.

Explanatory Statement: This ordinance creates a 25 foot no-parking zone on Benson Ave.

Michael Badger Mr. Badger asked if this changes the parking on Benson Ave on the East side
Camp Meeting President of the Benson as well because parking prohibition signs have been removed.
Ms. Siboni stated this ordinance does not change any other prohibitions, this is in specific to a safety issue because of the presence of a driveway.

Offered by: York Seconded by: Cafferty
Vote: Brantley Yes Cafferty Yes Lane Yes York Yes Williams Yes

CONSENT AGENDA

- Res # 203** A Resolution Of The Township Committee Of The Township Of Neptune Appointing Members To The Green Team
- Res # 204** Authorizing Certain Personnel Actions- Tourism Representatives
- Res # 205** A Resolution Of The Township Committee Of The Township Of Neptune Granting Leave Of Absence To David Pyle Under The Family Medical Leave Act
- Res # 206** Accept The Resignation Of Robert D. Perkins II As A Driver In The Public Works Department
- Res # 207** Authorizing Certain Personnel Actions- Recreation
- Res # 208** Resolution Authorizing Agreement Between Neptune Township Emergency Medical Services And The New Jersey Emergency Medical Services Task Force Support Group For The Delivery Of Support Services

- Res # 209** Resolution Authorizing The Execution Of A Sublease Agreement With The Ocean Grove Chamber Of Commerce To Operate A Tourism Bureau In A Portion Of 81 Main Avenue, Ocean Grove, New Jersey
- Res # 210** Resolution Authorizing Tax Abatement
- Res # 211** A Resolution Of The Township Committee Of The Township Of Neptune Authorizing The Submission Of An Application For DMHAS Grant Funding For Neptune Municipal Alliance For Year One Grant Term 7/1/2022 To 3/14/2023 In The Amount Of \$7,251.05
- Res # 212** A Resolution Of The Township Committee Of The Township Of Neptune Authorizing The Cancellation Of Sewer Rent
- Res # 213** A Resolution Authorizing The Refund Of Taxes As A Result Of An Overpayment
- Res # 214** A Resolution Authorizing The Closing Of Streets And Temporary No Parking In Connection With The Ocean Grove Chamber Of Commerce Festivals And Events
- Res # 215** Resolution Supporting Offshore Wind Transmission Project
- Res # 216** Authorize The Payment Of Bills
- Res # 217** Resolution Of The Township Committee Of The Township Of Neptune Awarding Earle

Asphalt Company The Improvements To Myrtle Avenue Contract In An Amount Not To Exceed \$341,413.13

Res # 218 A Resolution Of The Township Committee Of The Township Of Neptune Authorizing A Person To Person Transfer Of Plenary Retail Consumption License 1334-33-004-006 To Ruby Tuesday Operations LLC

Res # 219 Resolution Authorizing The Professional Services Agreement With H2M Architects And Engineers Schematic Design Development For Community Building In An Amount Not To Exceed \$28,500 Plus Meeting Attendance Fees And Reimbursable Expenses

CONSENT AGENDA

Offered by: Lane Seconded by: Brantley
Vote: Brantley Yes Cafferty Yes Lane Yes York Yes Williams Yes

SEPARATED RESOLUTIONS

Res # 220 Authorizing Certain Personnel Actions- Code And Construction
Ms. Siboni stated this will be amended to include James Wishbow.

Offered by: York Seconded by: Lane
Vote: Brantley Yes Cafferty Yes Lane Yes York Yes Williams Yes

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Members of the public may address any concern relating to the Township. The public will be permitted one visit to the microphone with a limit of five minutes.

Hank Coakley
Valley Dr.

Mr. Coakley asked if the committee has considered or authorized a sign to notify drivers of headlights and windshield wipers

Has the Township committee considered a task force with surrounding towns where they would take the first 5 cars to check drivers license, registration, insurance.

Karen Mason
105 Cardinal Rd.

Ms. Mason asked for a status on the eviction on the order of consent. Mr. Anthony stated the attorney for Mr. Honniker. The notice to cease was required by the lease agreement to the tenant. The tenant was issued a notice to cease and the tenant did not comply. A notice of eviction would be filed and Mr. Anthony should be receiving a copy of same shortly from their representative.

Ms. Mason asked if there is a restriction or condition that can be put in place that would require the developer to appear before zoning to make sure their property is properly developed and the rules and requirements are followed. Mr. Anthony stated there are laws that the development must go before a board for approval. If the resolution is violated, the zoning department is to issue summonses.

Ms. Mason asked what is happening at the circle. Mr. Bascom stated that there is development at the old Coca-Cola factory. Mr. Cafferty stated there is anticipated an Aldi and 4 other units.

Terri Festhalle
Montclair, NJ

Representing Pink Balloon for conditional license for cannabis.

Mayor Williams stated there are applications being developed. The application will be available online. Mayor Williams stated there is a cannabis committee to review the application. They will be submitted to the council liaisons Dr. Brantley and Mayor Williams before they will be brought to the full committee for consideration.

Rich Williams
1 Abbott Ave.

Mr. Williams asked who would be meeting to discuss the parking I Ocean Grove. Mr. Cafferty stated that it will be internal between Committee members York and Cafferty as well as internal members of the administration.
Mr. Williams asked about the rooftop deck on the hotel.

ADJOURNMENT

Offered by: Cafferty _____

Seconded by: York _____

Meeting Adjourned at 6:50PM

Respectfully Submitted,



Gabriella Siboni
Township Clerk