

FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

APRIL 25, 2017

8:00 P.M.

At 7:30 p.m. the Township Committee met in Room 114 of the municipal building. Mayor Preston read the following statement:

"In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, (c.231 P.L. 1975), this meeting was announced on January 9, 2017: by 1.) posting a notice on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building reserved for that purpose, 2.) by mailing such notice to the offices of the official newspapers of the Township and 3.) by filing such notice with the Township Clerk".

Mayor Preston handed out assignments for the meeting.

Mr. Valesi stated Philips International is looking to discuss an alternate plan regarding the commuter parking lot.

At 8:00 pm Mayor Preston re-read the Open Public Meetings Law:

"In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, (c.231 P.L. 1975), this meeting was announced on January 9, 2017: by 1.) posting a notice on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building reserved for that purpose, 2.) by mailing such notice to the offices of the official newspapers of the Township and 3.) by filing such notice with the Township Clerk".

Pledge of Allegiance

In Attendance: Committeeman Ammiano, Committeeman Cook,
Committeewoman McMorrow, Committeeman Salkin and Mayor
Preston.

Absent: None

Also in attendance: Mr. Valesi, Township Administrator; Mr. Munoz,
Esq., Township Attorney; Ms. Patino, Deputy Clerk
and Ms. Warner, Township Clerk.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

Mr. Ammiano made a motion to approve the Township Committee Executive Minutes of March 7, 2017; Workshop Meeting of March 7, 2017; Budget Workshop of March 18, 2017; Executive Minutes of March 20, 2017 and Regular Meeting of March 20, 2017, seconded by Mr. Salkin.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano Mr. Cook, Mr. Salkin and Mayor Preston

NAYS: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: Mrs. McMorrow

REPORTS

Ms. Patino read the Report of the Tax Collector for the Month of March 2017:

Net Receipts:	General Fund \$	963,082.78
	Water Account \$	450,171.43
	Sewer Account \$	849,075.14

Division of ABC Social Affair Permit- Central Jersey Irish Festival, a NJ Nonprofit- May 13, 2017- Lake Topanemus Park

Ms. Patino reported the Social Affair permit was in order and was approved by the Chief of Police.

ABC Extension of Premise- Chef's International Inc. (Escondido's) – May 5, 2017 (Cinco de Mayo Event)

Ms. Patino reported the Extension of Premise permit was in order and was approved by the Chief of Police.

PRESENTATIONS

Life-Saving Certificates –
Josephine Chilton, RN
Denise Edgeworth, RN
Maureen Gugliotti, RN
Michael Reszkowski

Mayor Preston presented the Life Saving Certificates to the individuals that were present and thanked them for their heroic efforts in saving the life of Mr. Lang.

Proclamation – “In Honor of Veterans’ Annual Sale of VFW Buddy Poppies” –
May, 2017

Mayor Preston presented the Proclamation to Ed Pajor from the VFW and thanked the members for all their service to our country. The VFW members sold poppies to the audience.

Proclamation – “National Volunteer Week – Honoring Joseph P. Butler, Jr.”
April 23-29, 2017

Mayor Preston presented the Proclamation to Joseph Butler and explained the projects he has initiated.

Proclamation – “Arbor Day” – April 28, 2017

Mayor Preston presented the Proclamation to Thom Ritchie of the Shade Tree Commission. Mr. Ritchie informed the audience of the two Arbor Day ceremonies that are upcoming and invited everyone to attend.

OLD BUSINESS

O-17-5 – Calendar Year 2017 An Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and Establish a Cap Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)

Mayor Preston opened the ordinance for public hearing and asked for any comments or questions from the public.

There being none, Mr. Ammiano made a motion to close the public hearing on Ordinance O-17-5, seconded by Mr. Cook .

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mrs. McMorrow, Mr. Salkin and Mayor Preston

NAYS: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

Mr. Ammiano made a motion to adopt Ordinance O-17-5, seconded by Mr. Cook .

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mrs. McMorrow, Mr. Salkin and Mayor Preston

NAYS: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

NEW BUSINESS

R-17-91 – Resolution to Read Budget by Title Only

Mr. Cook read Resolution R-17-91 and made a motion to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mrs. McMorrow.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mrs. McMorrow, Mr. Salkin and Mayor Preston

NAYS: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

Presentation and Public Hearing on Introduced 2017 Municipal Budget

Mr. Valesi gave a power point presentation on the 2017 Municipal Budget (see attached).

The tax rate (calculated using pre and post reassessment values):

2017 Valuation	34.7 cents	35.3 cents	+0.6 cents
Actual Rate ('16 to '17)	34.7 cents	34.5 cents	-0.2 cents

Mayor Preston opened the meeting to the public and asked for any comments or questions on the 2017 Municipal Budget.

There being none, Mr. Salkin made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Mr. Cook.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mrs. McMorrow, Mr. Salkin and Mayor Preston

NAYS: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

R-17-69A- Resolution – Adoption of 2017 Municipal Budget

Mrs. McMorrow read Resolution R-17-69A, the resolution adopting of 2017 Municipal Budget and made a motion to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Ammiano.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mrs. McMorrow, Mr. Salkin and Mayor Preston

NAYS: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

R-17-92 – Certification of Local Budget Examination

Mr. Ammiano read Resolution R-17-92 and made a motion to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Cook.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mrs. McMorrow, Mr. Salkin and Mayor Preston

NAYS: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

R-17-93 Resolution Approving Consolidated Bills List

Mr. Cook read Resolution R-17-93, the Consolidated Bills List in the amount of \$2,549,335.84 and moved it for adoption, seconded by Mr. Salkin.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mrs. McMorrow, Mr. Salkin and Mayor Preston

NAYS: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS

The "Consent Agenda" section of the Meeting Agenda shall be preceded by an explanatory note substantially set forth as follows:

Matters listed under the items of "Consent Agenda" are required to conduct the day to day operations of the Township, and will be enacted by one (1) motion in the form listed below. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired of any item, that item will be considered separately."

R-17-94 – Resolution Authorizing Renewal of Shared Services Agreement with the Monmouth County Board of Health for a Public Health Emergency Preparedness Work Plan

R-17-95 – Resolution Disbursing Overpayment of Taxes

R-17-96 – Resolution Cancelling Taxes

R-17-97 – Resolution Approving Overnight Play at IPlay America

R-17-98 – Resolution Awarding a Contract for Ices/Ice Cream Vending Services

R-17-99 – Resolution Authorizing Contracts for Sports Camp Director Services as an Extraordinary Unspecifiable Service

R-17-100 – Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Distribution System Supplies for the Utilities Department

R-17-101 – Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Repair Parts for Wells for the Utilities Department

R-17-102 – Resolution Awarding a Contract for the 2017 Tennis & Basketball Court Improvements (Various Park Locations)

R-17-103 -- Resolution Approving Modification to Equipment Relating Communications Tower Located at 61 Stone Hill Road within the Township (Crown Castle Site No. 807467)

R-17-104 -- Resolution Approving New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (AT&T) Facilities Modification Application for Block 44, Lot 8, 98 Crow Hill Road, Application WCFMA-03-17

R-17-105 - Resolution Authorizing Release of Performance Guarantees which were Posted by Legend Hollow at Freehold, LLC under Preliminary Approval, Subdivision No. 891-14

R-17-106 -- Resolution Authorizing Withdrawal of Liquor License Application for Center for Aging, Inc.

Mr. Salkin read the Consent Agenda Resolutions and moved them for adoption, seconded by Mr. Cook.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mrs. McMorrow Mr. Salkin and Mayor Preston

NAYS: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

MOTION

Hope Christian School -- Waiver/Exemption from Minor Site Plan Application Fees

Mr. Cook moved to approve the waiver for Hope Christian School, seconded by Mr. Salkin.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mrs. McMorrow Mr. Salkin and Mayor Preston

NAYS: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

There being no further business, Mayor Preston opened the meeting to the public and asked for any comments or questions.

Richard Pelaia, Ice House Court, questioned R-17-97, if there was going to be alcohol at the overnight play at iPlay?

It was explained that no, the overnight play was for high school graduations.

Dave Conroy, Hidden Stream Road, asked if the brush pick up could be alternated each year by Sector so that Sector A would be the start one year and Sector A would be the last pick up the next year. That way homeowners in the early sectors don't always have to work in the bad weather to get their brush together each year.

Mr. Valesi said he would speak with the DPW director with the suggestion.

Lou Piccola, Stirrup Drive, stated he has been a 32 year resident of the Township and is retired. He thanked the Township Committee for their service to our community. He said he has been substitute teaching in the Freehold Township school system and praised them for the wonderful faculty and programs they have. He asked if there were any programs for seniors to help with their taxes?

Mayor Preston said on the State level there is a program, but you have to qualify by income.

Mr. Valesi said he believed the max income is \$80,000 and you have to have lived in your house for two years, then it can get frozen.

Mr. Ammiano thanked Mr. Piccola for volunteering his time for so long to the Little League.

Mayor Preston said in reference to Mr. Piccola's comments on our great school system, the school had a program congratulating Superintendent, Mr. Kasun for winning NJ Superintendent of the Year. The students and programs are amazing.

There being no further comments, Mayor Preston asked for comments from the dais.

Mrs. McMorrow thanked everyone for their cards and prayers and well wishes. She said she was blessed to be here with the members of the Committee and all the Freehold Township employees.

Mr. Munoz welcomed Mrs. McMorrow back.

Mr. Cook also welcomed Mrs. McMorrow back to the dais. He said he was happy she was feeling better. He also gave kudos to our school district and said he knows of residents that have moved here specifically for the school system.

Mr. Salkin thanked Mr. Valesi and Ms. Campbell for the budget. He stated we previously had to let employees go because of the economy. Because of that we are seeing the fruits of that labor. He praised our water system and that it is owned by us. We have one of the lowest water rates in the State. He also stated we have over 10,000 acres in open space, which took a lot of work to get since the Open Space Master plan in 1998.

Mr. Ammiano also welcomed Mrs. McMorrow back. He congratulated Mr. Valesi and Ms. Campbell on the whole budget process. He praised Ms. Campbell as one of the best CFO's in municipal government. He stated he also moved to Freehold Township for the school system.

Mr. Valesi thanked Ms. Campbell also. He said he would not want to do this process without her. He also thanked the Governing Body for running this budget like a business and always wanting to do the best for the taxpayer. He also welcomed Mrs. McMorrow back to the dais.

Mayor Preston thanked Mr. Valesi and Ms. Campbell for all their hard work on the budget. He gave out the following dates of activities:

Arbor Day - April 28th at the school and April 29th at Durand Park.

May 6 and 7th - Weekend at Old Monmouth Oakley House and School house - Historic Commission

Mrs. McMorrow stated the Ray Kershaw Golf Outing will be held June 6th and proceeds will go to the Municipal Alliance.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

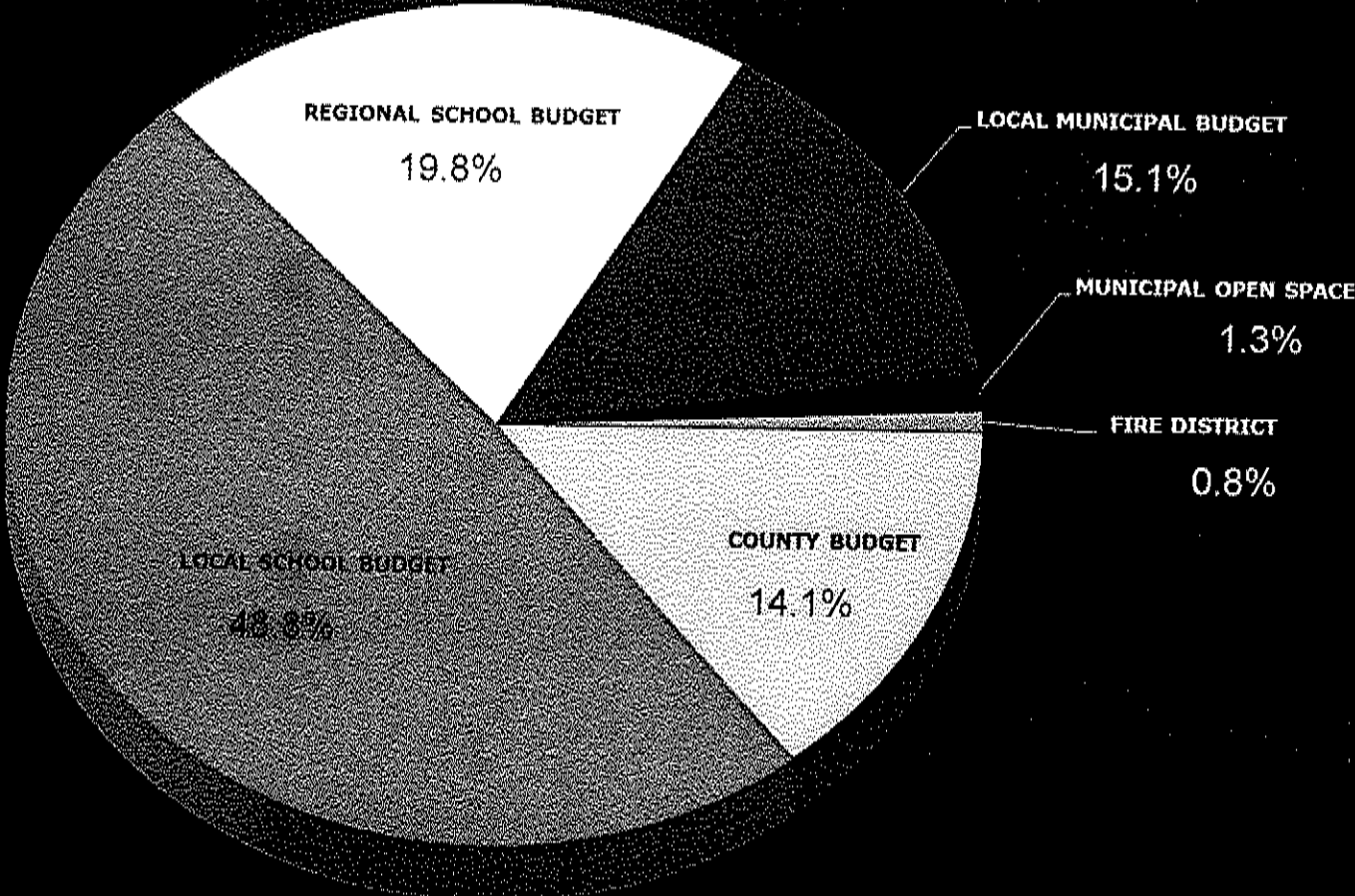


Teresa Warner, Township Clerk



2017 Municipal Budget

Where Freehold Township Tax Dollars Go....



What do I get for my 16 percent?

Essential Services

- Infrastructure and Roadways
- Police & Public Safety
- Public Works & Shade Tree
- Engineering & Planning
- Public Health Services
- Municipal Court & Justice
- Tax Collection & Distribution
- Property Assessment
- Registrar Services
- Code & Housing Enforcement
- Emergency Notification System
- Curbside Recycling

Quality-of-Life Services

- Recreation Programs
- Township Parks
- Sports Playing Fields
- Senior Center
- Alcohol & Drug Prevention
- Summer Camp Program
- Open Space Acquisition
- Open Space Maintenance
- Farmland Preservation
- Affordable Housing
- Commuter Parking
- Historic Preservation

2017 Budget Structure

- We maintain approximately 30% of our end of the year balance in surplus and reserves on the AFS continue to add to long-term tax stabilization
- Municipal revenue exceeded our targets for the year.
- Township reserves are approximately 11% of the total tax levy (up from 9.5% last year).
- 2015, 2016 and 2017 budgets combined have left over \$1,300,000 under the levy cap.
- Conservative estimates are included in the appropriate budget line items for contracts that are being presently negotiated. (CWA, IUOE, PBA/SOA)
- Collection rate remains high, which has stabilized our reserve for uncollected taxes at just below \$2M.

2017 Budget Structure

- State Aid is flat again for the fifth year in a row, which is over \$3M lower than our maximum.
- State Aid mandatory transfer to Local and Regional School Districts increased by 7% or \$57,000 (total \$948,644).
- Debt Service continues to be in line with expectations as we aggressively retire debt to keep pace with infrastructure needs. This budget includes the addition of \$400K into our Capital Improvement Fund to allow for a continuation of our debt strategy.
- In 2017, the Township will be employing a new accounting protocol for our Open Space Trust. This will no longer require us to bring in revenue from the Trust to offset debt service and maintenance costs. These cost will now be directly accounted for in the Open Space Trust Budget.

2017 Budget Highlights

Health Insurance

- Self Insurance for Group Healthcare continues to show savings and provides a stable environment for the municipal budget, and provides over \$1,600,000 in reserves to stabilize this line item.
- In 2017, the Healthcare Budget increased in our apportionment of claims dollars in our claims reserve fund. This was due, in part, to a broad use of the plan in the 2016 year and does not appear indicative of a continuing rise in costs.
- We anticipate that claims dollars will not be generated and, as such, have pledged \$600,000 of the \$1,600,000 trust balance to offset the claims fund generation estimates.
 - 2013 Savings = \$410,000;
 - 2014 Savings = \$830,000;
 - 2015 Savings = \$360,000;
 - 2016 Savings = \$120,000 (est)

2017 Budget Highlights

Personnel

- We continue to turn over employees in many departments, requiring us to increase our staffing numbers to plan in advance for retiring personnel.
- Total Freehold Township full-time employees are three (3) less than last year.
 - 193 full-time employees vs. 196 last year
 - The Township is currently considering options on four (4) vacancies
 - The budget includes seven (7) new police officers that are planned to replace officers leaving or retiring
- We are the lead agency on many shared services agreements with neighboring and local towns, and added four new agreements this year.
 - Estimated Shared Services Revenue = \$650,000
 - Approximately 24 F/T employees provide services

2017 Budget Structure

Personnel

- Salaries and Wages budget line items for 2017 are 1.98% lower than in 2016 as a result of our 5-year labor agreements, our supplementing full-time positions with flexible part-time positions, and our allocation of salaries to shared services and reimbursable/trust accounts.
- The lower salary numbers are also a result of lower salaries of newer employees replacing those of higher paid retiring employees.
- Factors have led to swings in the percentage increase or decrease in the budgeted salaries for some departments:
 - Several retirements in 2016 and some planned for 2017 and beyond
 - Clerk, Purchasing, Police, & Recreation
 - Shared Service Agreements with other municipalities that supplant employment positions (new agreements with Marlboro and Aberdeen)

2017 Budget Structure

Investments

- In 2011, Freehold Township adopted an investment strategy where the surplus assets of the Township would be invested in US Treasury Bonds in an effort to leverage capital in an extremely low interest rate environment.
- The plan is a great success, resulting in new investment gains from Treasury Bond Interest of \$1,443,000 in the last 5 years. This is in comparison to an estimated return of \$400,000 in bank interest if the Township had invested in CDs or comparable financial instruments over the same time period.
- As we see interest rates begin to climb, we will reposition our investments on the yield curve to gain more interest income. This type of repositioning comes at an initial cost that will be offset by gains from the stronger positions. The revenue line item accounts for this repositioning.

2017 Major Revenue Changes

Difference between 2016 and 2017 budget revenues

Open Space Tax for Debt Service	(1,380,000.00)
Receipts From Delinquent Taxes	(200,000.00)
Capital Fund Surplus	(104,237.94)
Construction Code - Jackson Township	(51,895.00)
Diesel Fuel	(50,000.00)
Interest on Investments & Deposits	(50,000.00)
Surplus Anticipated	\$759,000.00

2017 Major Added Costs

Difference between 2016 and 2017 budget appropriations

Group Insurance for Employees	793,772.00
Payment of Bond Anticipation Notes	150,000.00
Interest on Notes	117,488.00
Aid to Volunteer First Aid - Other Expenses	65,000.00
Police - Vehicle Purchase (increase from 2 to 4)	58,500.00
Public Employees Retirement System	57,213.00
Tax Assessment Administration - Inspections	55,248.00
Construction Official - S & W	55,001.00
Senior Center - S & W	37,850.00
Buildings & Grounds - S & W	21,000.00

Major Cost Decreases in Expenses

Difference between 2016 and 2017 budget appropriations

Debt Service – Current Fund	(1,302,000.00)
Police - S & W	(264,000.00)
Recreation Services/Programs - S & W	(108,000.00)
Fuel Oil and Gasoline	(50,000.00)
Police - Vehicles MCIA Lease Payments	(35,700.00)
Recycling - S & W	(25,000.00)
Streets and Road Maintenance - S & W	(30,000.00)
Police - Other Expenses	(23,500.00)
Financial Administration - Other Expenses	(20,000.00)
Recreation Services - Other Expenses	(20,000.00)
Construction Official - Other Expenses	(11,700.00)

Debt Service and Capital Management

2017 Debt Service Down 4.9%

Servicing of Debt from 2009 to 2016...

Total New Debt Incurred	\$26,082,000
Total Principal Paid Off	\$32,604,000
Reduction in Debt	(\$6,522,000)

*For 2016, \$5.642M new debt in notes
\$5.468M principal service**

**Includes \$400,000 Capital Improvement Fund deposit for down payments.*

Annual Tax Assessment Program

The Freehold Township Committee opted out of the Monmouth County Assessment Demonstration Program and adopted the “Somerset County Model” in order to have our assessments keep pace with the annually adjusted assessments in Monmouth County.

- Four year inspection cycle begins in 2018, which requires the Township to complete their current inspection contract early (40% of homes will be inspected in 2017)
- Cost of inspections will increase this year from \$55k to \$110k because of doubled inspection rate for 2016
- Annual Reassessment in 2016 showed just over a 2% total increase in residential value
- The market data shows a 4% to 6% home price increase in New Jersey in 2016, this was evident in some of the assessment adjustments
- As with the last plan, the aim is to not see abrupt assessment swings in a five and ten year cycle by keeping home assessments close to the housing market pricing.

Township Annual Reassessment in 2016

What effect does it have?

Begin 2016 **\$6,027,600,600**

Begin 2017 (est.) **\$6,170,314,100**

One-year increase of \$142,713,500 or 2.36%

Results in a downward rate adjustment of -0.80 of a cent before 2017 levy adjustment and before tax appeals are finalized.

The net change in available taxes for the Freehold Township Municipal Budget as a result of the change in assessment value is ZERO.

Open Space Trust Levy will change by \$42,814, same 2.36%, with net positive change in ratables. This will be slightly reduced after tax appeals are final.

Tax Assessment Program Local Impact

The assessments appear to be in line with the market data of 4.5% rise in home prices in New Jersey in 2016

The residential assessment changes were as follows:

69.4% of homes decreased; or increased less than 2%

9.3% of homes increased between 2% and 4%

11.6% of homes increased between 4% and 6%

5.1% of homes increased between 6% and 8%

1.9% of homes increased between 8% and 10%

2.8% of homes saw an increase beyond 10%

2% Levy and Appropriation Caps

Freehold Township's 2017 Municipal Budget is \$270,800 under the State mandated 2% levy cap.

Freehold Township's 2017 Municipal Budget is \$2,555,782 under the State mandated appropriation cap.

- Municipal Tax Levy can only be adjusted by 2% over the previous year's levy, with exemptions for some items.
- 2017 Township Allowable Exemptions vs. Used Exemptions:
 - Allowable Debt Expense Growth = \$184,024; Exemption = \$0
 - Allowable Pension Expense = \$44,206; Exemption = \$0
 - Allowable Healthcare Expense = \$20,660; Exemption = \$0

Freehold Township allowable levy under cap = \$567,124

Adjustment for new assessed ratables = \$ 79,747

Total Allowable New Levy = \$ 646,871

Total New Levy Used = \$ 376,071

Municipal Budget Annual Comparison

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Dollar Change</u>
Total Budget	\$ 40,136,168	\$39,471,826	- 1.7%	-\$664,342
Effective w/ OST		\$40,585,640	+1.1%	+\$449,472
State Aid	\$ 7,436,315	\$7,436,315	0.0%	(\$0)
Muni Revenue	\$ 2,587,382	\$2,542,574	- 1.7%	-\$44,808
Fund Balance	\$ 5,076,000	\$5,835,321	+14.9%	+\$759,321
Amount to Be Raised	\$ 20,892,858	\$21,268,929	+ 1.8%	+\$376,071
<u>Tax Rate</u>	(calculated using pre and post reassessment values)			
2017 Valuation	34.7 ¢	35.3 ¢	+ 0.6 ¢	
Actual Rates ('16 to '17)	34.7 ¢	34.5 ¢	- 0.2 ¢	

Comparing Municipal Tax Rates

Municipal Tax Levy as a portion of Total Budget

	Municipal Budget	Amount Raised by Taxation	% of Budget	Muni Tax Rate	Avg. Assessed Value	Amount Paid Muni Tax
Freehold Township	\$39,471,826.	\$21,268,969.	53.9%	.345	\$388,672.	\$1,341.
Freehold Boro	\$16,115,775.	\$10,512,697.	65.2%	1.01	\$252,000.	\$2,545.
Wall	\$40,357,247.	\$26,913,505.	66.7%	.452	\$479,700.	\$2,168.
Marlboro	\$36,867,355.	\$26,270,009.	71.3%	.366	\$494,179.	\$1,808.
Manalapan	\$33,463,803.	\$22,016,337.	65.8%	.344	\$413,820.	\$1,424.
Howell	\$48,346,160.	\$27,242,000.	56.3%	.408	\$333,000.	\$1,361.

Impact on Average Homeowners

Annual Taxes for Municipal Purposes

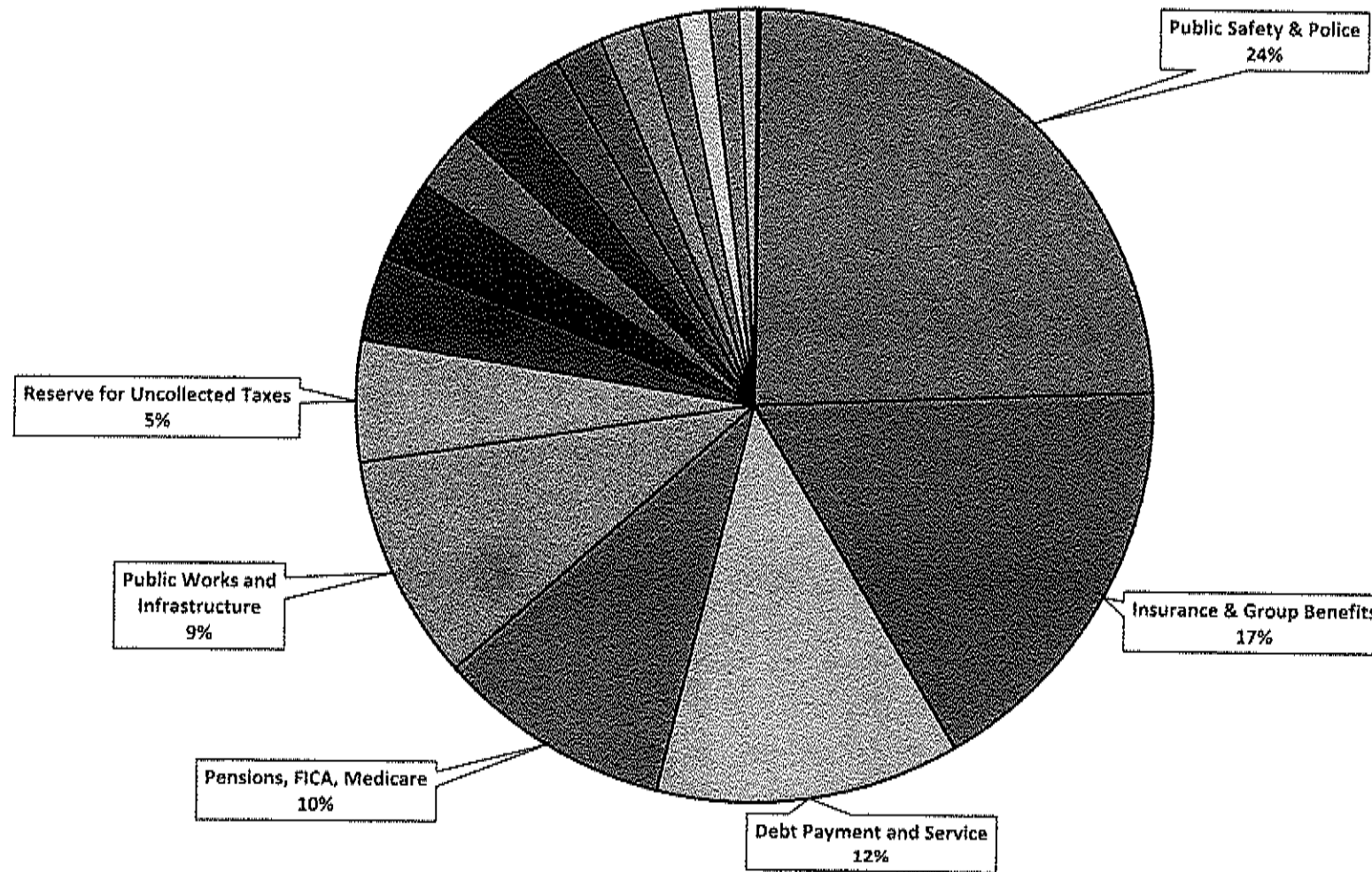
<u>Assessments</u>		<u>2016</u>	<u>Annual</u>	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>2017</u>
<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>Tax</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Total</u>
169,500	173,100	\$586	\$11	\$0.92	\$597
301,500	307,800	\$1,043	\$18	\$1.50	\$1,061
380,713*	388,672	\$1,317	\$23	\$1.92	\$1,340
521,000	531,900	\$1,808	\$25	\$2.08	\$1,833
658,000	671,800	\$2,283	\$33	\$2.75	\$2,316

*This amount represents the 2016 average assessed home
New average assessed home in 2017 is \$388,672

Municipal Expense Breakdown by Category

	<u>2017</u>	
Public Safety & Police	\$ 9,592,752.00	24.3%
Insurance & Group Benefits	\$ 6,738,722.00	17.1%
Debt Payment and Service	\$ 4,889,117.75	12.4%
Pensions, FICA, Medicare	\$ 3,735,792.00	9.5%
Public Works and Infrastructure	\$ 3,620,600.00	9.2%
Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	\$ 1,971,306.42	5.0%
Utilities	\$ 1,352,000.00	3.4%
Government & Policy	\$ 1,302,250.00	3.3%
Aid to Schools and Condos	\$ 1,068,644.00	2.7%
Shared Services	\$ 919,550.00	2.3%
Financial and Revenue Administration	\$ 919,158.00	2.3%
Parks & Recreation	\$ 759,200.00	1.9%
Engineering, Planning & Zoning	\$ 679,450.00	1.7%
Construction & Code	\$ 602,000.00	1.5%
Public Health	\$ 506,775.00	1.3%
Municipal Court	\$ 477,500.00	1.2%
Information Technology	\$ 302,000.00	0.8%
Grants - Local Share	\$ 40,750.00	0.1%
Total Budget		100.0%

Breakdown of Municipal Appropriations by Category



Water & Sewer Utility Highlights

- The Freehold Township Dedicated Water & Sewer Utility is self-liquidating, requiring funds to be used solely for the operation of the Utility.
- Total Utility budget of \$13,389,255 was a decrease of 0.34% from the 2016 budget
- The Township Committee passed Resolutions in 2014, 2015 and 2016 to freeze rates at current levels for the last three years. The rates remain among the lowest in the State.
- Revenues for the Utility were well over target, which resulted in positive surplus generation of 10.3%. Utility revenues can be largely weather dependent and can fluctuate from year to year.
- Salaries for the Utility are up, based on a plan to hire back staff lost over the past three years to return to sustainable and safe levels for a 24/7/365 operation.
- Budgeted operating expenses increased by only 0.30% from 2016.
- Estimated Treatment fees from MRRSA for sewer rose 2.49%