

Borough of Matawan
201 Broad Street, Matawan New Jersey 07747



Honorable Joseph Altomonte
Mayor
(732) 566-3898 ext. 605 Fax (732) 290-7585
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Dear Matawan Resident:

Technology is growing around us at an incredible rate, when we notice technology that will save Borough property owners money we are quick to investigate the use of that technology for services that residents have come to rely upon years in the past. In this case, past mayors have included a letter in their yearly tax bill that costs the taxpayer a considerable amount of money for printing supplies and postage. We realize the first time we offer a new technology some residents will miss the traditional methods, but we assure you in the long run the savings outweigh the slight inconvenience. If you would like a traditional printed copy of this year's tax letter please do not hesitate to call Borough Hall 732- 566-3898 ext. 609 and request a printed copy that we will gladly mail to your address.

I am very happy to announce, the budget process for 2016 has resulted in a budget of \$11,447,876.28. The Borough's Finance Committee has recommended this year's spending plan that calls for a local purpose tax rate of \$0.836 for 2016. The Borough was faced with mandatory increases for legal expenses, increases in a new five-year solid waste and recycling contract, State Pension increases, Public Library, and increases in your County Taxes.

The Borough continues to nullify many of these costs by aggressively negotiating contracts in other areas, such as using local contractors whenever possible, a combination of fiscally responsible use of surplus, along with Zero Based budgeting, and use of best practices, grant funds, stable debt service, increased tax collection rate, and expanding shared services. All allowed the Borough to continue to maintain a zero percent increase for 2016. The following is a small list of our shared services agreements:

- The Joint Court in Hazlet
- A leaf recycling program with Aberdeen Township
- County Emergency Dispatch Services
- County Board of Health
- Vehicle repair services
- Paving services by County employees
- Joint fuel purchasing agreement with Aberdeen Township the Borough of Keyport and the Regional School District
- The Borough continues to be a member of the SEM Group that uses its power to purchase the majority of its utilities.

This budget maintains the same level of services that Borough residents have received in past years. The Borough collects a total tax levy of approximately \$27,548,924.46; of that amount, the Borough retains only \$8,478,149.40 that represents approximately 31% of your total tax bill. The Borough continues to budget well below a state-mandated 2% in certain spending for the Borough.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy summer.

Sincerely,

Joseph Altomonte
Mayor Joseph Altomonte