

HARDING TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2022
IN-PERSON
EXECUTIVE SESSION at 5:30 PM
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA at 7:00 PM
Kirby Hall, Blue Mill Road, New Vernon, New Jersey

MEETING MINUTES

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – Mayor

Mayor Jones called the meeting of the Harding Township Committee to order at 5:35 pm.

ADEQUATE NOTICE of this February 14, 2022 meeting of the Harding Township Committee was sent to the Observer Tribune on January 3, 2022 and published in the Observer Tribune on January 6, 2022.

Mayor Jones announced that adequate notice of this February 14, 2022 meeting of the Harding Township Committee was called to order according to the Open Public Meetings Act.

ROLL CALL – Municipal Clerk

Ms. Chipperson, Dr. Lacz, Mr. Platt, Mr. Yates, Mr. Jones

Mrs. Sharp called the roll as follows:

Present:

Ms. Chipperson, Dr. Lacz, Mr. Platt, Mr. Yates, Mr. Jones

Absent:

None

Also Present:

Mr. Falzarano, Township Administrator; Mr. Mark Roselli, Township Counsel; Mr. James Plosia, Special Counsel

Public Present:

None

RESOLUTION TO RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Jones asked for a motion to recess into Executive Session. Upon a motion made by Township Committee Member Platt, seconded by Township Committee Member Chipperson, and with a roll call vote of all ayes, none opposed, the Township Committee recessed into Executive Session at 5:35 pm.

Resolution TC 22-069– Resolution to Recess into Executive Session

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Harding Township Committee that it shall adjourn into executive session to discuss the following subject matter(s) without the presence of the public in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 10:4-12b; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the matter(s) discussed will be made known to the public at such time as appropriate action is taken on said matter(s), and when disclosure will not result in unwarranted invasion of individual privacy or prejudice to the best interests of the Township of Harding provided such disclosures will not violate Federal, State or local statutes and does not fall within the attorney-client privilege. The Township Committee will return to public session after this Executive Session.

Contracts:

1. Potential Contract – Bayne Park

2. Bulk Collection – M. Roselli
3. PBA Contract – R. Falzarano
4. Tunis Ellick's Lease – R. Falzarano
5. Joint Court – R. Falzarano
6. KRE Update – M. Roselli

Personnel:

1. 2022 Employee Salaries – R. Falzarano
2. Finance Department Hire – R. Falzarano

Vote on Resolution:

	MOTION	FOR APPROVAL	AGAINST APPROVAL	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ms. Chipperson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Lacz	2 nd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Platt	1 st	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Yates	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Jones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC SESSION – Mayor

Mayor Jones reconvened into public session at 7:15 pm.

ROLL CALL – Municipal Clerk

Ms. Chipperson, Dr. Lacz, Mr. Platt, Mr. Yates, Mr. Jones

Mrs. Sharp called the roll as follows:

Present:

Ms. Chipperson, Dr. Lacz, Mr. Platt, Mr. Yates, Mr. Jones

Absent:

None

Also Present:

*Mr. Falzarano, Township Administrator; Mr. Mark Roselli,
Township Counsel; . James Plosia, Special Counsel*

Public Present:

30

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Mayor

Mayor Jones led members of the Township Committee and members of the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADEQUATE NOTICE of this meeting of the Harding Township Committee was given as follows: Notice was sent to the *DAILY RECORD* and the *OBSERVER TRIBUNE* on January 3, 2022, and published in the *OBSERVER TRIBUNE* on January 6, 2022; Notice was posted on the Bulletin Board in the Township Municipal Building on Blue Mill Road in Harding, NJ on January 3, 2022, and Notice was filed with the Municipal Clerk on January 3, 2022.

Mayor Jones announced that adequate notice of this February 14, 2022 meeting of the Harding Township Committee was called to order according to the Open Public Meetings Act.

RESOLUTION TC 21-070 -- RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Mayor Jones asks Township Committee Member Chipperson to proceed with Resolution TC 21-070.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding that the minutes from the following meetings are approved as prepared and shall be filed as a permanent record in the Municipal Clerk's office: **January 10, 2022; and**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding that the minutes from the following Executive Session meeting(s) are approved as prepared and shall be filed as a permanent record in the Municipal Clerk's office: **January 10, 2022.**

Township Committee Member Chipperson made a motion to approve Resolution TC 21-070 placed on this evening's non-consent agenda, seconded by Township Committee Member Platt.

Mayor Jones asked the Municipal Clerk for a Roll Call: *Mrs. Sharp called the roll as follows:*

Vote on Resolution:

	MOTION	FOR APPROVAL	AGAINST APPROVAL	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ms. Chipperson	1 st	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Lacz	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Platt	2 nd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Yates	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Jones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE – Mayor Jones

Mayor Jones announced that the Harding Township School Boys' Varsity Basketball team won their championship game at the Morris County Tournament. Mr. Falzarano, Township Administrator, will arrange for a future meeting to congratulate the Boys' Varsity Basketball Team and their coaches in person.

Mayor Jones reported that it is Harding Township's Centennial this year. Harding Township left Passaic County one hundred (100) years ago. Everyone in Town should recognize that 2022 is the Centennial for all of Harding.

Township Committee Member Chipperson reported on the Centennial. If anyone has not received their Centennial Calendar, please contact the Centennial Committee. The banners have been placed around Harding. The kickoff was scheduled for January but due to COVID will be rescheduled for March or April. The great grandson of President Harding and Rodney Frelinghuysen will be the speakers at the kickoff. The Centennial Committee is planning a dinner and a movie on April 29, 2022. The movie will be about 1 ½ hours long and is about residents who have been in town and provides their personal story. Anyone interested will be

able to choose to go to a dinner for a fixed price in Bernardsville and at 7:30 pm the showing of the video montage will be held at the Bernardsville Cinema. Invitations will be forthcoming.

A centennial event is scheduled with the help of Fran Frigerio on May 22, 2022 which will be held in combination with the Kemmerer Library. There will be a June event hosted by the Harding Land Trust. On September 1, 2022, which is the true date of Harding's anniversary, there will be a dedication at Memorial Park to dedicate a new centennial tree, a bench, and a time capsule. On October 1, 2022, there will be a festival held at Margetts Field, with hot dogs, hamburgers, music, fireworks, etc. A car show is planned.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Hesna Pfeiffer Citizen of the Year Award – Larry Wepler

Mr. Wepler - *explained he was asked to present this award to the Brown Family as a past President of the NV First Aid Squad and as a Trustee of the Civic Association. Mr. Wepler explained that each year the Civic Association awards the distinguished citizen award to an individual or group of individuals who represent the spirit of Hesna Pfeiffer. Hesna Pfeiffer was a long time trustee of the Civic Association and the publisher of the Thumbnail. To commemorate Hesna's Civic responsibility, the Civic Association's distinguished citizen award was renamed in 2014; the Hesna Pfeiffer Award for Civic Engagement. Mr. Wepler presented the Hesna Pfeiffer Award for Civic Engagement to the Brown Family (Chris, Janice, and Chris Jr.). In the world today, volunteer organizations require three things to remain relevant; Wisdom, Wealth, and Workers. A copy of Mr. Wepler's speech is appended to these minutes.*

The Township Committee thanked Mr. Wepler for the presentation and thanked the Brown Family for their commitment to Harding.

Mr. Wepler commented that the Fire Department and First Aid Squad are in urgent need of volunteers. All volunteer organizations are totally funded by community donations. The need for volunteers is critical to keeping these organizations going.

2. 2022 Preliminary Budget – Himanshu Shah / Andrew Fiore

Mr. Falzarano, Township Administrator - *reported there is a lot in the 2022 budget. Mr. Falzarano thanked the Finance Committee for work that was completed on this budget, it is complicated; Andy for the work he has done and Himanshu (CFO) for the work he has done on this budget. As the budget is presented, you will see what Mr. Falzarano is talking about. Mr. Shah will agree that this is one of the most complicated budgets Harding has assembled in recent time.*

Mr. Shah, CFO – *thanked the Township Committee and members of the public and mentioned he will give a brief overview of the budget and then turn it over to Mr. Fiore who will give the Township's annual presentation on the 2022 budget. The 2022 proposed budget calls for \$10,455,430 in expenditures. Revenues includes \$454,168, 525 in energy tax receipts, \$529,600 in municipal revenues, \$400,000 in municipal construction fees, \$90,000 from receipt of delinquent taxes, and \$6,023,815 as the amount to be raised by taxation. In anticipation of \$2,750,000 of fund balance would be required to bring the 2022 budget into the balance. This will require \$1,481,741.00 in cash fund balance to help fill in with emergencies in 2022 and stabilize taxes in 2023. The proposed Municipal tax rate is .287 in 2022 which reflects a tax increase of .005 over 2021 of \$22.82. For an average homeowner in Harding assessed at \$1,087,178.00, the proposed tax increase would be \$39 or 1.27%.*

Mr. Fiore - reported on the slide presentation of the 2022 Preliminary Budget and Capital Budget to members of the Township Committee and members of the public. A copy of both presentations are appended to these minutes

Mr. Fiore commented with regard to the slide showing capital improvement fund, it is important to recognize that Harding has adopted pay as you go rather than borrowing. The debt service analysis could be paid off in 2028.

Mr. Shah explained that when that in 2006, prior to that, there was borrowing, bonding for mall items; like vehicles, small computers, etc. Everything was placed in capital and borrowing. At that time the Township Committee was looking for a way to switch to pay as you go and the Township started plan. The only borrowing the Township Committee has conducted is for large acquisition of land, affordable housing obligations. It is important to recognize this is entirely cash funded and is not putting future in debt. This is an important decision that is made every year in the Finance Committee meetings.

Township Committee Member Yates - commented we are in an environment that the Country has not see in forty (40) years with inflation at 6%. We should thank Mr. Falzarano, all the Department heads, and all the employees, if you look, the Township has been able to put together a budget that is increasing less than 2 %. This did not just happen. It is a lot of hard work in this building looking at every penny and how the Township would keep our long standing policy of trying to keep expenses growing under 2% a year. For the employees in this building, this is remarkable. Mr. Shah commented and with only raising taxes less than 2%. Almost all towns are raising taxes higher than 2% and with all kinds of issues. Mr. Falzarano commented his concern, which is not being done in Harding, the COVID reimbursement which Harding is receiving \$337,000. The COVID money will not be regenerated. It is a one-time revenue stream which will be placed into the capital side of the budget because that is what capital expenditures are (one-time expenditures). Mr. Falzarano's concerns are that the restrictions have been loosened up with this COVID reimbursement now and as Mr. Yates mentioned that you may want to pay attention to other towns and look at their budget sheets revenue side, and see where the revenues are coming from. You may see that some of their budget is being offset by the COVID money which will not be regenerated which means those communities will need to find that money somehow and usually the place it is found is **taxation**. Township Committee Member Yates mentioned that some of our neighboring towns received 3 to 4 times the amount of money Harding received for COVID reimbursement. Township Committee Member Yates commented that we are very careful in Harding that we do not commit those sins when situations arise.

Mr. Shah commented in terms of the fund balance, it has always been the policy to be very conservative in projecting revenues in balancing the budget and ensuring that the Township has a good fund balance. This is a very important factor in the Township's AAA bond rating. Mr. Shah commented that New Jersey Law requires that a Municipality have a balanced budget, that revenues and expenses are equal, unlike the Federal Government that can borrow money to balance the budget, the Township does not have that authority. Another important statue is projecting revenue. The Township must project revenue; project what the maximum revenue was collected for last year and not over projecting.

Mr. Fiore asked if there were any questions or comments with regard to the 2022 preliminary budget and capital budget.

With no comments, the Township Committee thanked Mr. Fiore and Mr. Shah for their presentation. Let the record show that Mr. Fiore left the meeting at 8:45 pm.

3. Glen Alpin – Mayor Jones

Mayor Jones mentioned that Mr. Modi could not be here this evening for this presentation. Mayor Jones explained he cannot stress enough what a success story this is for Harding Township. Mayor Jones reported that we have successfully navigated an incredibly complex process to allow for the appropriate restoration of Glen Alpin to take place. This is what the goal always was. This slide presentation on Glen Alpin, is the whole package put together. A copy of the slide presentation is appended to these minutes.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT TIME LIMIT

Hearing of citizens during the Public Comment section of the Agenda is an opportunity for any member of the public to be heard about issues which are/are not topics scheduled for Public Hearing tonight. To help facilitate an orderly meeting, and to permit all to be heard, speakers are asked to limit their comments to a reasonable length of time.

Mayor Jones opened the meeting to the public at 9:10 pm.

Lydia Chambers, 87 Millbrook Road – is here in two capacities; one as a Harding resident and the other is as a co-founder of the Drew Forest. This is an organization that formed volunteers from several towns who are working together to preserve Drew Forest. Drew University would like to sell off property to shore up their endowment. Ms. Chambers is here this evening to ask Harding to consider joining other towns in Morris County to express support of preservation of this forest instead of seeing it be developed. Ms. Chambers believes the preservation of the forest is in the best interest of Harding Township. Ms. Chambers passed out information to the Township Committee and discussed this information. A copy is appended to these minutes.

Township Committee Member Platt – commented he fully supports this effort. Mr. Platt commented that Ms. Chambers can pass around the Environmental Commission's resolution. Ms. Chambers commented we are asking for resolutions or letters in support.

Mayor Jones thanked Ms. Chambers for her time and mentioned that the Township is aware of this and will continue to watch this.

ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING

ORDINANCE #01-2022– “AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARDING, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTER 7-34 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE”

Mayor Jones asked Township Committee Member Lacz to read Ordinance TC #01-2022.

Township Committee Member Lacz read Ordinance TC #01-2022 by title as follows:

ORDINANCE #01-2022– “AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARDING, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTER 7-34 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE”

Which said Ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at a regular Township Committee Meeting held on January 10, 2022.

Mayor Jones asked the Municipal Clerk to give a summary of the legal notice.

The Municipal Clerk States: *Mrs. Sharp reported that a legal notice was sent for publication on January 13, 2022 to the Observer Tribune indicating that Ordinance #01-2022 was introduced and passed on first reading at the January 10, 2022 meeting and indicated that the second reading and public hearing were to be held on February 14, 2022 at 7:00 pm on or at any time thereafter for consideration of final adoption. Copies of this Ordinance were made available to the general public, posted on the Township website, and posted in accordance with the law.*

Mayor Jones *opened the public meeting on the Ordinance at 9:32 pm and mentioned any member of the public may be heard.*

Township Committee Member Platt – *commented that he believes the language needs to be amended. Mr. Platt does not appreciate the idea that the Township should not make the strict membership to only members of Harding. This is something that Harding residents should expect. The residents will not appreciate people outside of Harding Township sitting on our Board of Health. Mr. Platt does not understand why we need an employee on the Board of Health. Let's work the language so it provides for one none resident or one employee.*

Mr. Roselli, Township Attorney - *reported that if the Township Committee wanted to make this change, it would be a subsequent change so the public hearing would carry to April. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the language.*

Mayor Jones: *closed the public hearing at 9:45 pm.*

Township Committee Member Lacz offered Ordinance #01-2022 and moved its adoption. Township Committee Member Yates seconded the motion.

Mayor Jones asked the Municipal Clerk for a Roll Call: *Mrs. Sharp called the roll as follows:*

Vote on Adoption:

	MOTION	FOR APPROVAL	AGAINST APPROVAL	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ms. Chipperson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Lacz	1 st	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Platt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Yates	2 nd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Jones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

ADD-ON RESOLUTIONS: NONE

**RESOLUTIONS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION AND VOTE:
NONE**

CONSENT AGENDA

M 2-14-2022

The following items are considered to be routine by the Harding Township Committee and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Township Committee Member so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the Agenda.

RESOLUTIONS TC 22-071 THROUGH RESOLUTION TC 22-079 HAVE BEEN PLACED ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

CONSENT AGENDA VOTE:

Mayor Jones asks **Township Committee Member Yates** to proceed with the Resolutions listed on the Consent agenda. Resolutions TC 22-071 through TC 22-079.

Township Committee Member Yates made a motion to approve the resolutions placed on this evening's Consent Agenda by consent of the Township Committee, seconded by Township Committee Member Chipperson.

Mayor Jones asked the Municipal Clerk for a Roll Call: *Mrs. Sharp called the roll as follows:*

Vote on Resolution:

	MOTION	FOR APPROVAL	AGAINST APPROVAL	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ms. Chipperson	2 nd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Lacz	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Platt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Yates	1 st	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Jones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

APPOINTMENTS:

TC Resolution 22-071 – Resolution to Appoint Ryan Tuck as a Full-Time Laborer with the Department of Public Works

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey that effective January 18, 2022, Ryan Tuck, is hereby appointed as a full time Public Works Laborer for the Department of Public Works at a salary of \$60,000 to be prorated for the remainder of 2022.

CONTRACTS:

TC Resolution 22-072 – Resolution to Approve PBA Contract

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding, County of Morris, State of New Jersey that the Township Committee authorizes the Mayor to execute the negotiated contract with PBA Local 340.

FINANCE:

Resolution TC 22-073 – Bill List

WHEREAS, vouchers for payment have been submitted to the Township Committee by various municipal departments.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding that all vouchers approved by the Finance Chairman be paid subject to the certification of the availability of funds by the Chief Financial Officer.

Resolution TC 22-074 – Emergency Temporary Appropriations

WHEREAS, an emergent condition has arisen in that the Township is expected to enter in contracts, commitments, or payments prior to the 2022 budget and no adequate provision has been made in the 2021 temporary budget for the aforesaid purposes; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S. 40A:4-20 provides for the creation of an emergency temporary appropriation for said purpose; and

WHEREAS, the total emergency temporary appropriation resolutions adopted in the year 2021 pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 96, P.L. 1951 (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20) including this resolution total \$4,085,570.00.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Town of Harding, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, (not less than two-thirds of all the members thereof affirmatively concurring) that in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20:

1. Emergency temporary appropriations be and the same are hereby made in the amount of \$126,400.00 as follows:

DEPARTMENT	BUDGET LINE ITEM	2022 TEMPORARY BUDGET
MAYOR AND COUNCIL	OTHER EXPENSES	\$ 26,400.00
SHARED MUNICIPAL COURT	OTHER EXPENSES	\$ 100,000.00

2. Said emergency temporary appropriations will be provided for in the 2022 budget.

3. That one certified copy of this resolution be filed with the Director, Division of Local Government Services.

Resolution TC 22-075 – Resolution to Transfer Funds

WHEREAS, there appears to be insufficient funds in certain accounts listed below to meet the demands thereon for the balance of the previous year; and

WHEREAS, there appears to be a surplus in certain accounts listed below over and above the demand deemed to be necessary for the balance of the previous year.

BE IT RESOLVED, (not less than two-thirds of all the members thereof affirmatively concurring) that in accordance with the provision of N.J.S.A 40A:4-58, part of the surplus in the accounts listed below be and the same are hereby transferred to the accounts listed below to meet the current demands; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Treasurer be is hereby authorized and directed to make the following transfers:

2021 Current Fund Budget

FROM:		TO:	
Group Insurance – Other Expenses	\$30,000	General Admin – Other Expenses	\$15,000
		Legal Services – Other Expenses	\$15,000

Resolution TC 22-076 -- Resolution to Authorize an Increase to the Professional Services Contract for Cleary Giacobbe Alfieri Jacobs LLC

WHEREAS, at the January 3, 2021 Township Committee meeting, the Township Committee authorized \$15,000.00 for the services of Cleary Giacobbe Alfieri Jacobs, LLC, under their professional services contract; and

WHEREAS, at the December 13, 2021 Township Committee meeting, the Township Committee authorized an additional increase of \$12,000.00; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to increase the authorization for the services of Cleary Giacobbe Alfieri Jacobs, LLC, under their professional services contract to perform labor council tasks; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer for the Township of Harding has certified that additional monies are available in the amount of \$9,000.00 from account number # 01-2021-1155-0155-2-00000; and

WHEREAS, the total amount shall not exceed \$36,000.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all Township employees are hereby authorized and directed to take all action necessary and appropriate to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

Labor Council	1/1/21 to 12/31/21
	Not to exceed \$36,000.00
	01-2021-1155-0155-2-00000

MISCELLANEOUS:

Resolution TC 22-077 – Volunteer Hand Book Resolution

WHEREAS, a review of policies to be included in the Harding Township Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual to meet the requirements of the Township's Joint Insurance Fund and Municipal Excess Liability Insurance was recently conducted; and

WHEREAS, this review revealed the need to update language in said manual to ensure that employees and prospective employees are treated in a manner consistent with these laws and regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Insurance Fund recommended the Township implement a Volunteer Handbook.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey that the Township Administrator is to hereby furnish a copy of the Volunteer Handbook to each volunteer, who shall each acknowledge receipt of same by way of written confirmation.

TC Resolution 22-078 – Resolution to Approve Change Order #1 (Final) for Sand Spring Road Resurfacing

WHEREAS, the Township Harding, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12a and N.J.A.C. 5:34- 7.29(d) did by Resolution TC20-109 agree to purchase certain goods or services, without advertising for bids, utilizing the Morris County Co-Operative; and

WHEREAS, in connection therewith, the Township of Harding did authorize the purchase of services from Schifano Construction Corporation, 1 Smalley Avenue, Middlesex, New Jersey 08846, specifically for the resurfacing of Sand Spring Road; and

WHEREAS, Schifano Construction Corporation and the Township Engineer have requested Change Order Number 1 (Final) to decrease the final amount of the contract by \$10,599.20, thereby decreasing the amount of the contract by 5.81%, as set forth in Change Order Number 1, a copy of which is attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, regulations governing local public contracts, specifically N.J.A.C. 5:30-11.3(a) (1), allows a governing body to authorize change orders that do not increase the original contract amount by more than 20%.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding, County of Morris, State of New Jersey that the Change Order Number 1 for the Contract with Schifano Construction Corporation be and is hereby authorized, as set forth in the Change Order Number 1 (Final) dated March 26, 2021 and signed by Paul D. Fox, P.E., Township Engineer; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Administrator is hereby authorized to sign Change Order Number 1 on behalf of the Township of Harding; and

BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED, that the modified cost of services after this Change Order Number 1 is as follows:

ORIGINAL CONTRACT	\$182,327.00
TOTAL CHANGE ORDER #1	<u>\$ 10,599.20</u>
ADJUSTED CONTRACT AMOUNT	\$171,727.80

Resolution TC 22-079 – Resolution to Approve Change Order #1 (Final) for Millbrook Road Resurfacing

WHEREAS, the Township Harding, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:1 1-12a and N.J.A.C. 5:34- 7.29(d) did by Resolution TC19-121 agree to purchase certain goods or services, without advertising for bids, utilizing the Morris County Co-Operative; and

WHEREAS, in connection therewith, the Township of Harding did authorize the purchase of services from Tilcon New York, Inc., 9 Entin Road, Parsippany, New Jersey 07054, specifically for the resurfacing of Millbrook Road; and

WHEREAS, Tilcon New York, Inc. and the Township Engineer have requested Change Order Number 1 (Final) to decrease the final amount of the contract by \$35,501.54, thereby decreasing the amount of the contract by 22.91%, as set forth in Change Order Number 1, a copy of which is attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, regulations governing local public contracts, specifically N.J.A.C. 5:30-11.3(a) (1), allows a governing body to authorize change orders that do not increase the original contract amount by more than 20%.

BE IT RESOVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding, County of Morris, State of New Jersey that the Change Order Number 1 for the Contract with Tilcon New York, Inc. be and is hereby authorized, as set forth in the Change Order Number 1 (Final) dated January 3, 2020 and signed by Paul D. Fox, P.E., Township Engineer; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Administrator is hereby authorized to sign Changer Order Number 1 on behalf of the Township of Harding; and

BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED, that the modified cost of services after this Change Order Number 1 is as follows:

ORIGINAL CONTRACT	\$154,979.75
TOTAL CHANGE ORDER #1	<u>\$ 35,501.54</u>
ADJUSTED CONTRACT AMOUNT	\$119,478.21

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING:

ORDINANCE #02-2022– “AN ORDINANCE FIXING SALARY RANGES OF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARDING INTHE COUNTY OF MORRIS AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY”

Mayor Jones asked Township Committee Member Yates to introduce Ordinance #02-2022.

Township Committee Member Yates introduced Ordinance TC 02-2022 by title as follows:

**HARDING TOWNSHIP
ORDINANCE #02 – 2022**

“AN ORDINANCE FIXING SALARY RANGES OF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARDING IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY”

Township Committee Member Yates explains the purpose of the Ordinance and moves for introduction on first reading. *Township Committee Member Yates explained this ordinance sets the salary ranges for the Township employees.*

Township Committee Member Yates read:

WHEREAS, the above ordinance was introduced and read by title at this Township Committee meeting held on February 14, 2022.

BE IT RESOLVED, that at the Township Committee meeting to be held on March 14, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. prevailing time, at the Kirby Municipal Building, the Township Committee will further consider this ordinance for a second reading, public hearing, and final passage; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Clerk is hereby requested to publish the proper notice thereof, including this ordinance, post the ordinance, and make copies available to members of the general public.

*Township Committee Member Yates offered Ordinance #02-2022 and moved its introduction.
Township Committee Member Lacz seconded the motion.*

Mayor Jones asked the Municipal Clerk for a Roll Call: *Mrs. Sharp called the roll as follows:*

Vote on Introduction:

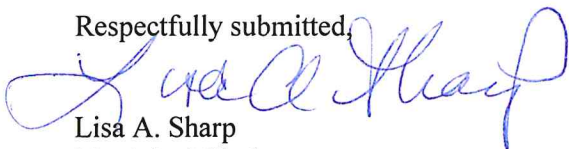
	MOTION	FOR APPROVAL	AGAINST APPROVAL	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ms. Chipperson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Lacz	2 nd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Platt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Yates	1 st	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Jones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Mayor Jones asked if there were any further comments or questions. A discussion ensued regarding whether Harding Township should send a letter or a resolution to the State of New Jersey regarding the transportation of illegal immigrants being dropped off in neighboring towns. Township Committee Member Platt asked not to be a part of a letter or resolution. Upon discussion, it was recommended that Township Committee Member Yates draft a letter for review by the Township Committee.

ADJOURNMENT – Mr. Jones

With no further comments, the meeting adjourned at 9:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa A. Sharp
Municipal Clerk

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Hesna Pfeiffer Award – S. Balog
2. 2022 Budget – H. Shah
3. Glen Alpin – T. Jones
4. Friends of the Drew Forest – L. Chambers

HESNA PFEIFFER AWARD PRESENTATION:

I've been asked to make this presentation today as both a Trustee of the Harding Township Civic Association and as the past President of the New Vernon First Aid Squad. Each year the Harding Township Civic Association awards its distinguished citizen award to an individual or group of individuals who represent the spirit of Hesna Pfeiffer. Hesna was a long-time trustee of the Civic Association and the publisher of the Thumbnail, the all-volunteer newsletter published 10 times a year by the Civic Association. Tragically, Hesna was killed in a motor vehicle accident in 2013. According to Lotte Newlin, Hesna "had a sense of civic responsibility." To commemorate her civic responsibility the Civic Association's distinguished citizen award was renamed in 2014 the Hesna Pfeiffer Award for Civic Engagement. The award is intended to honor an individual or group of individuals who have given back to the Harding community by their involvement in civic and community affairs. This can be for an individual event or a lifetime of service. In the past the Civic Association has awarded the Hesna Pfeiffer award to groups, organizations and individuals and this year is awarding the Hesna Pfeiffer Award for Civic Engagement to a family of individuals.

In the world today, volunteer organizations require three things to remain relevant. The three "W's". First, volunteer organizations need wisdom. The leadership of the organization must have leaders with the wisdom to guide the organization over the arc of its history and sustain it in its mission. The Fire Department for over 100 years and the First Aid Squad for over 48 years have had the luxury of this kind of leadership which includes those individuals whom we are honoring tonight.

The second "W" is wealth. The residents of Harding have, for more than 100 years, supported the New Vernon Volunteer Fire Department.

And the third "W", which is what we are recognizing here tonight, is workers. There were multiple nominations for the Hesna Pfeiffer Award this year. The trustees after consideration determined that the Browne family best epitomized the volunteerism which the Hesna Pfeiffer Award recognizes; so this year's award is being presented to Chris Browne Sr., Janice Browne and Chris Browne Jr as a family.

The Brownes moved to Harding in 2003 and shortly after moving into their new home in Harding, Chris Browne Sr. joined the New Vernon Volunteer Fire Department where he has been an active member since that time. Chris says he joined the Fire Company to meet neighbors and become integrated into his new community.

Members of the Fire Company train weekly and attend training classes at the Morris County Fire Academy. Chris has achieved certification as a Firefighter I. He is an interior firefighter trained to enter burning buildings when necessary. In addition, Chris is the Treasurer of the New Vernon Volunteer Fire Department and a driver for the New Vernon First Aid Squad. For the last 4 years, Chris Sr. has responded to 132 calls for emergency First Aid assistance. In addition, during that same period Chris Sr. has done more than 426 Fire calls, including 36 Fire calls in one day during Sandy. Chris described the Fire Company and First Aid Squad as unique organization, with a diverse range of people who span many ages, lifestyles and backgrounds.” “We share a love for the community along with a desire to give back, to help other people and make a difference.”

For those of you not familiar with the structure of the New Vernon Fire Department, the Department consists of the Fire Company, the First Aid Squad and the Auxiliary. The Fire Department, the overall entity, is an all-volunteer organization which is totally funded by donations from the community. The Fire Department and First Aid Squad respond to 911 calls throughout Harding, including fires, medical emergencies, traffic accidents and almost any other type of an emergency you can imagine, we’ve even rescued horses. The Fire Department handles emergencies at the Great Swamp Wildlife Refuge, at Jockey Hollow National Historical Park, on the stretch of I-287 that passes through Harding and throughout the rest of Harding Township. They also provide mutual aid to our adjoining communities.

Janice Browne joined the First Aid Squad in 2016 and took her 240 hours of training to become an Emergency Medical Technician that year. In addition to the initial EMT training course, all EMT’s are required to take a minimum of 48 hours of additional training every 3 years. The First Aid Squad provides monthly training courses for its members and Janice is a regular attendee at those classes. Janice does a 12 hour shift each week and also volunteers as a member of the

Funds Drive. For the last 4 years Janice has responded to 124 calls for emergency First Aid Assistance.

Chris Jr. is 23 years old and joined the First Aid Squad as a junior member in 2014 when he was 16 years old at The Pingry School. Chris Jr. became an EMT in 2016. In addition to being a member of the First Aid Squad, he followed in his father's footsteps, and is a graduate of the Morris County Fire Academy and is a member of the New Vernon Volunteer Fire Company. Chris too has successfully complete the Firefighter I course at the Morris County Fire Academy.

Since 2018, while attending Hamilton college during breaks and summers and since his graduation, Chris Jr. has responded to 44 calls for emergency First Aid Assistance. In addition, during that same period Chris Jr. has done more than 142 Fire calls.

Even though Chris resides in New York City, he continues to come back to Harding on weekends where he pulls his weekend shifts as a member of the First Aid Squad and responds to fire calls.

Members of the Fire Company and First Aid Squad spend hours training to enhance their skills and assure that they are providing superior care and safety to Harding Township and its residents. They are on duty 24 hours a day/7 days a week to provide fire and emergency care to the residents of Harding Township. The Browne family represent the gold standard for their devotion to Harding, its residents and their wellbeing and safety. For these reasons, the 2021 Hesna Pfeiffer Award for Civic Engagement is being made to the Browne family.

Many of you have read the recent article in the Observer Tribune, describing the urgent need of the First Aid Squad for EMT's and drivers. As a past president of the First Aid Squad and a member of the Fire Department, I can attest to the urgent need and personally I would love to see a dozen more families like the Browne family join the Fire Company and First Aid Squad. You should too.

Larry Wepler



Harding Township

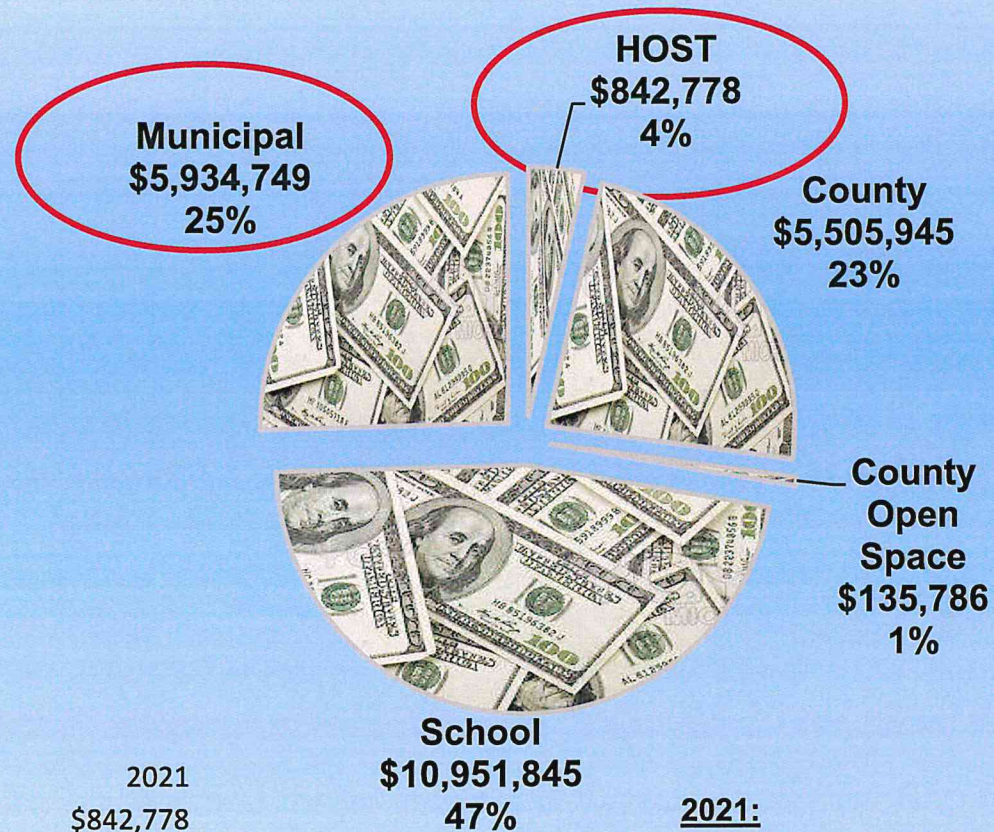
Harding Township, NJ 2022 Preliminary Budget

February 14th, 2022

Presentation

1. 2021 Taxes & Timeline
2. Township Debt Status – 2022
3. Open Space Tax
4. 2022 Budget
 1. Expenditure (Appropriation) Summary
 2. Other Expenses Details
 3. Expenditure (Appropriation) Drivers
 4. Revenue Summary
 5. Revenue Drivers
5. Assessed Value and Tax Rate

2021 Tax Revenue Allocation



	2021
HOST	\$842,778
County	\$5,505,945
County Open Space	\$135,786
School	\$10,951,845
Municipal	\$5,934,749
Total Taxes	\$23,371,103

<u>2021:</u>	
Total Taxes	\$23,371,103
Net Taxable Valuation	\$2,106,945,939
Ave. Residential Property Value	\$1,089,988
Average Residential Tax	\$11,924

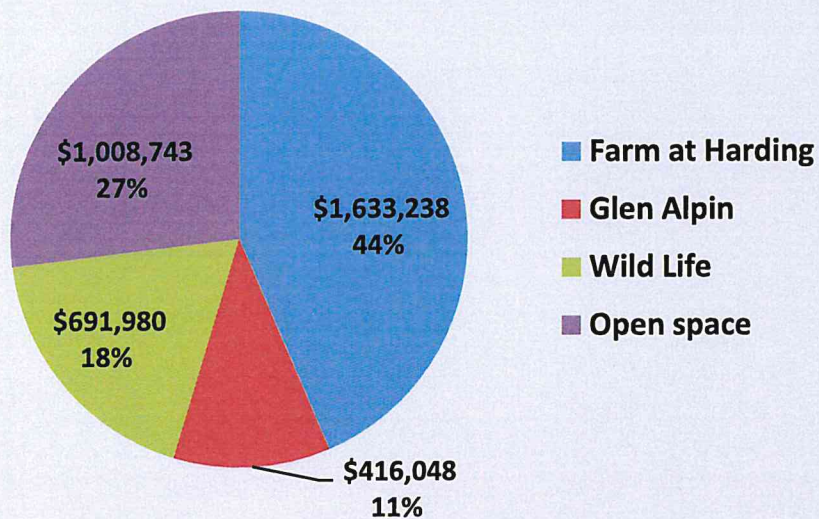
Budget Time Line

- Preliminary Budget Presentation – February 14th
- Preliminary Capital Budget Presentation – February 14th
- Introduction of Budget – March 14th
- Public Hearing and Adoption of Budget – April 11th
- Introduction of Capital Budget – March 14th
- Adoption of Capital Budget – April 11th
- Cap Bank Ordinance Introduction – March 14th
- Cap Bank Ordinance Adoption – April 11th

Township Debt

- Township policy is to pay down outstanding debt
- Harding debt rating: AAA
- Township's outstanding debt refinanced in 2017
- Savings from refinancing began being realized in 2019
- Outstanding BAN debt: \$1,662,217
- 2022 funding sources:
 - Farm at Harding : \$247,501
 - Open Space: \$215,913
 - General Budget: \$104,863

Bonded Debt Funding Purpose



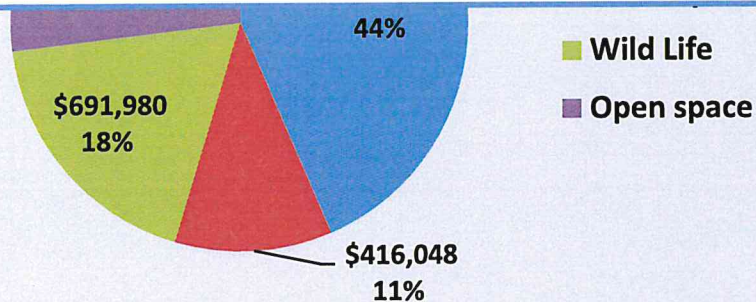
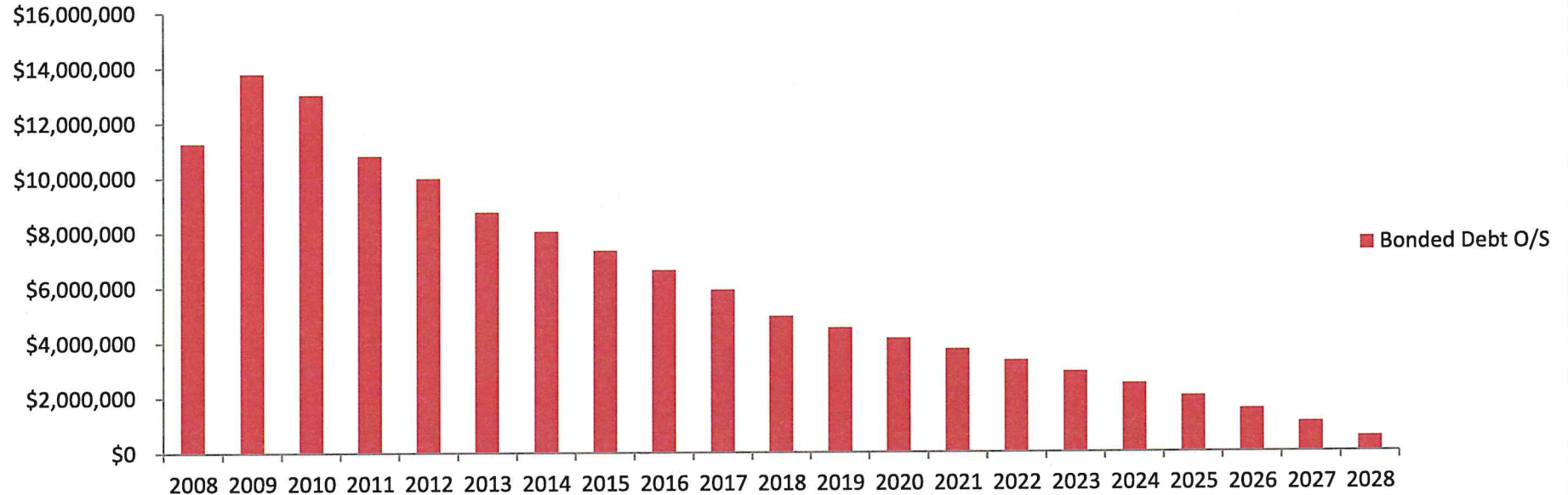
Year	Bonded Debt O/S	Principal Payment	Interest Payment	Servicing Payments
2008	\$11,252,068	\$333,836	\$283,592	\$617,428
2009	\$13,798,232	\$774,293	\$431,715	\$1,206,008
2010	\$13,023,939	\$779,489	\$406,546	\$1,186,035
2011	\$10,804,450	\$813,730	\$380,455	\$1,194,185
2012	\$9,990,720	\$762,720	\$353,354	\$1,116,074
2013	\$8,758,000	\$695,000	\$326,997	\$1,021,997
2014	\$8,063,000	\$705,000	\$300,457	\$1,005,457
2015	\$7,358,000	\$715,000	\$273,567	\$988,567
2016	\$6,643,000	\$723,000	\$246,327	\$969,327
2017	\$5,920,000	\$400,000	\$218,731	\$618,731
2018	\$4,950,000	\$415,000	\$190,813	\$605,813
2019	\$4,535,000	\$390,000	\$178,675	\$568,675
2020	\$4,145,000	\$395,000	\$167,875	\$562,875
2021	\$3,750,000	\$410,000	\$155,800	\$565,800
2022	\$3,340,000	\$425,000	\$143,275	\$568,275
2023	\$2,915,000	\$435,000	\$128,200	\$563,200
2024	\$2,480,000	\$450,000	\$110,500	\$560,500
2025	\$2,030,000	\$470,000	\$89,750	\$559,750
2026	\$1,560,000	\$495,000	\$65,625	\$560,625
2027	\$1,065,000	\$520,000	\$40,250	\$560,250
2028	\$545,000	\$545,000	\$13,625	\$558,625

Township Debt

- Township policy is to pay down outstanding debt
- Harding debt rating: AAA
-
-
-
-

Year	Bonded Debt O/S	Principal Payment	Interest Payment	Servicing Payments
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Harding Outstanding Debt by Year



2027	\$1,065,000	\$520,000	\$40,250	\$560,250
2028	\$545,000	\$545,000	\$13,625	\$558,625

Open Space Finances

Background

- Township Referendum: Open Space tax rate (“OS Rate”) can be set by Township Committee on yearly basis from 0¢ to 5¢ per \$100 assessed valuation.
- Rate History

OS Rates: Cents per \$100				
Year	Harding	Amount	County	Amount
2014	3.50	\$ 709,761	1.40	\$ 222,745
2015	4.00	\$ 808,458	1.10	\$ 220,515
2016	4.00	\$ 802,856	1.10	\$ 194,490
2017	4.00	\$ 802,620	1.00	\$ 193,528
2018	4.00	\$ 799,809	1.00	\$ 193,500
2019	4.00	\$ 802,018	0.90	\$ 170,433
2020	4.00	\$ 847,281	0.80	\$ 168,121
2021	4.00	\$ 842,778	0.70	\$ 136,456
2022	4.00	\$ 840,606	-	\$ -

* 2022 County Rate has not been finalized

2021 Year End Balance	
\$	2,727,825

Expenditure (Appropriation) Summary

2022 vs 2021

Current Fund Appropriation	2022 Recommended	2021 Adopted	Chg. Over 2021	% Chg.	% of Total
Salaries & Wages	\$3,757,600	\$3,529,700	\$227,900	6.5%	36.7%
Health Insurance	\$1,403,183	\$1,341,967	\$61,216	4.6%	13.7%
Social Security	\$308,000	\$265,200	\$42,800	16.1%	3.0%
Pension-PFRS	\$447,000	\$413,000	\$34,000	8.2%	4.4%
Pension-PERS	\$184,000	\$172,000	\$12,000	7.0%	1.8%
Pension-DCRP	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
Total Employee Comp	\$6,103,783	\$5,725,867	\$377,916	6.6%	60%
Other Expenses	\$1,799,600	\$1,670,410	\$129,190	7.7%	17.6%
Interlocal Services	\$271,000	\$338,000	(\$67,000)	-19.8%	2.6%
Capital Improvements	\$773,600	\$587,100	\$186,500	31.8%	7.5%
Debt Service & Def. Charg.	\$379,600	\$388,333	(\$8,733)	-2.2%	3.7%
Emergency Approp.	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
Resrv. For Uncoll. Taxes	\$920,000	\$918,707	\$1,293	0.1%	9.0%
Total Non-Employee Comp	\$4,143,800	\$3,902,550	\$241,250	6.2%	40%
Total Appropriations	\$10,247,583	\$9,628,417	\$619,166	6.4%	100%
Public & Private Grants	\$207,847	\$162,250	\$45,597	28.1%	
Total Appropriations+Grant	\$10,455,430	\$9,790,668	\$664,763	6.8%	

2022 Other Expenses Breakdown

Other Expenses	Amount
Building/Road/Park Maintenance	\$255,050
Miscellaneous Other Expenses	\$747,700
Utilities	\$162,000
Joint Insurance Fund	\$150,000
Legal	\$140,000
Technology (MIS)	\$83,850
Engineering	\$32,500
Legal – Tax Appeal	\$30,000
Library	\$40,000
Private Community Reimbursement	\$50,000
Audit	\$31,000
Snow Removal	\$77,500
Total	\$1,799,600

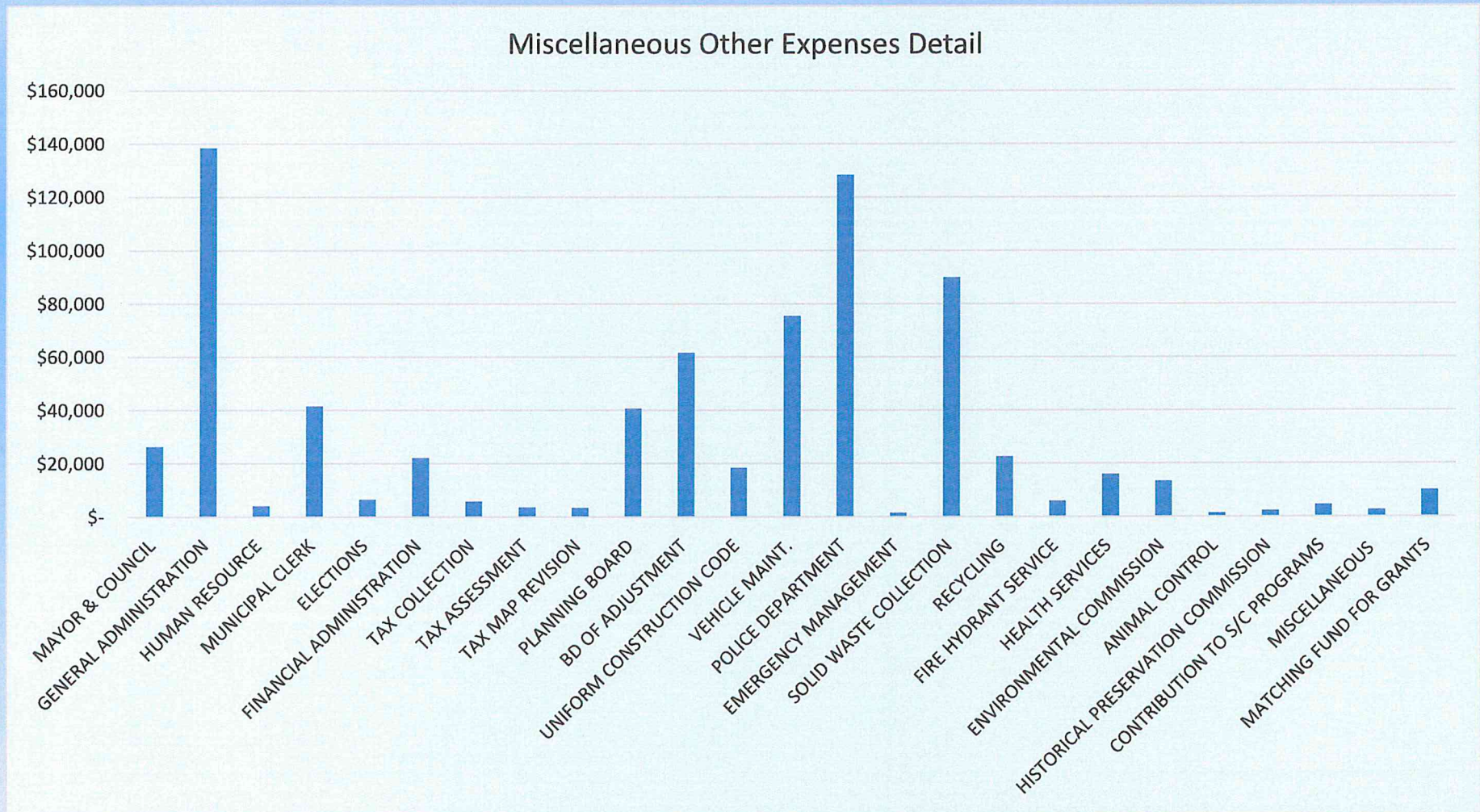
2022 Other Expenses Breakdown

Miscellaneous Other Expenses Detail	2022
MAYOR & COUNCIL	\$ 26,400
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION	\$ 138,400
HUMAN RESOURCE	\$ 4,150
MUNICIPAL CLERK	\$ 41,650
ELECTIONS	\$ 6,500
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION	\$ 22,250
TAX COLLECTION	\$ 5,900
TAX ASSESSMENT	\$ 3,650
TAX MAP REVISION	\$ 3,500
PLANNING BOARD	\$ 40,700
BD OF ADJUSTMENT	\$ 61,700
UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE	\$ 18,375
VEHICLE MAINT.	\$ 75,500
POLICE DEPARTMENT	\$ 128,475
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	\$ 1,500
SOLID WASTE COLLECTION	\$ 90,000

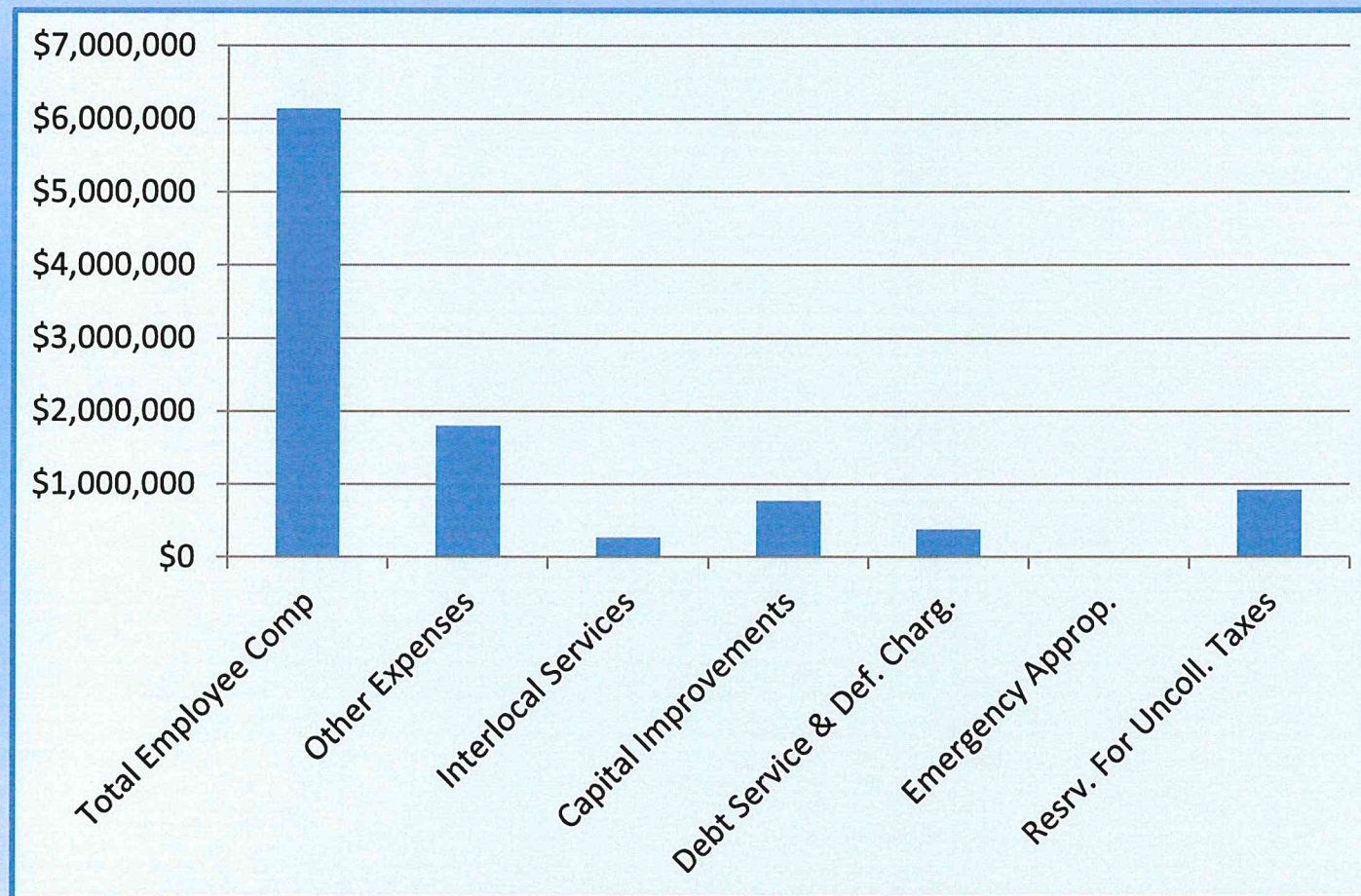
2022 Other Expenses Breakdown

Miscellaneous Other Expenses Detail	2022
RECYCLING	\$ 22,750
FIRE HYDRANT SERVICE	\$ 6,000
HEALTH SERVICES	\$ 16,100
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION	\$ 13,400
ANIMAL CONTROL	\$ 1,400
HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMISSION	\$ 2,300
CONTRIBUTION TO S/C PROGRAMS	\$ 4,500
MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 2,600
MATCHING FUND FOR GRANTS	\$ 10,000
Total	\$ 747,700

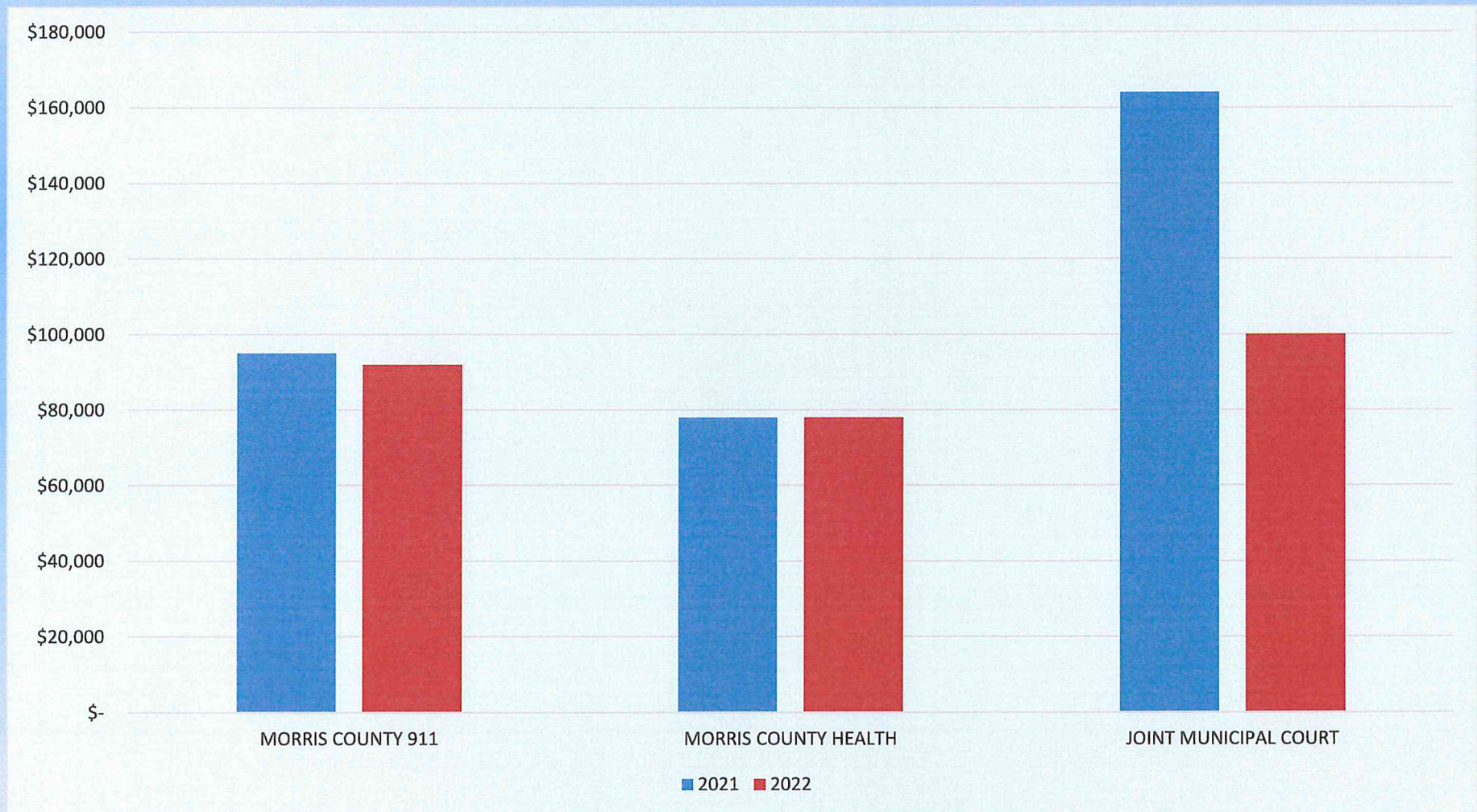
2022 Other Expenses Breakdown



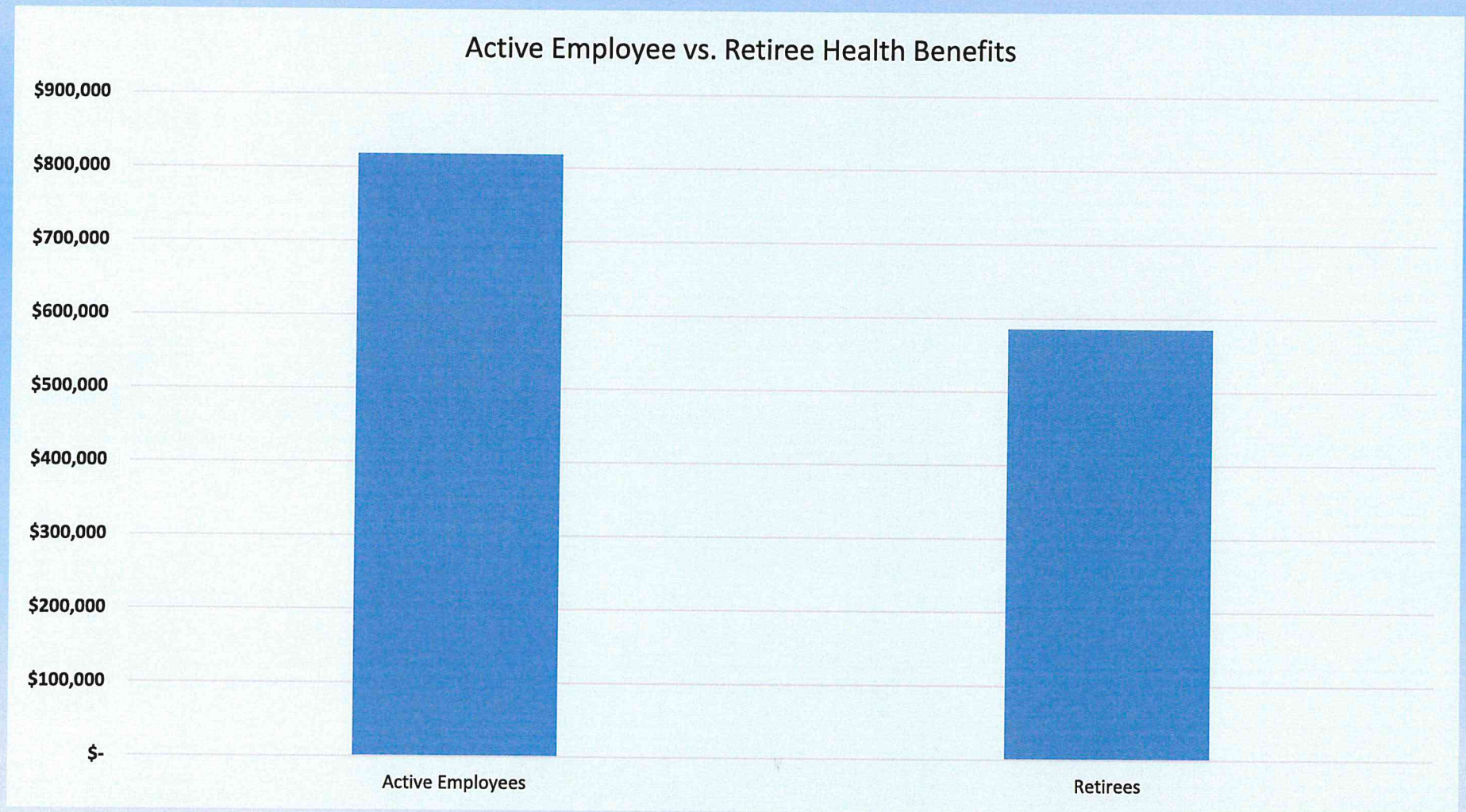
2022 Expenditure (Appropriation) Summary



Interlocal Services



Health Benefits



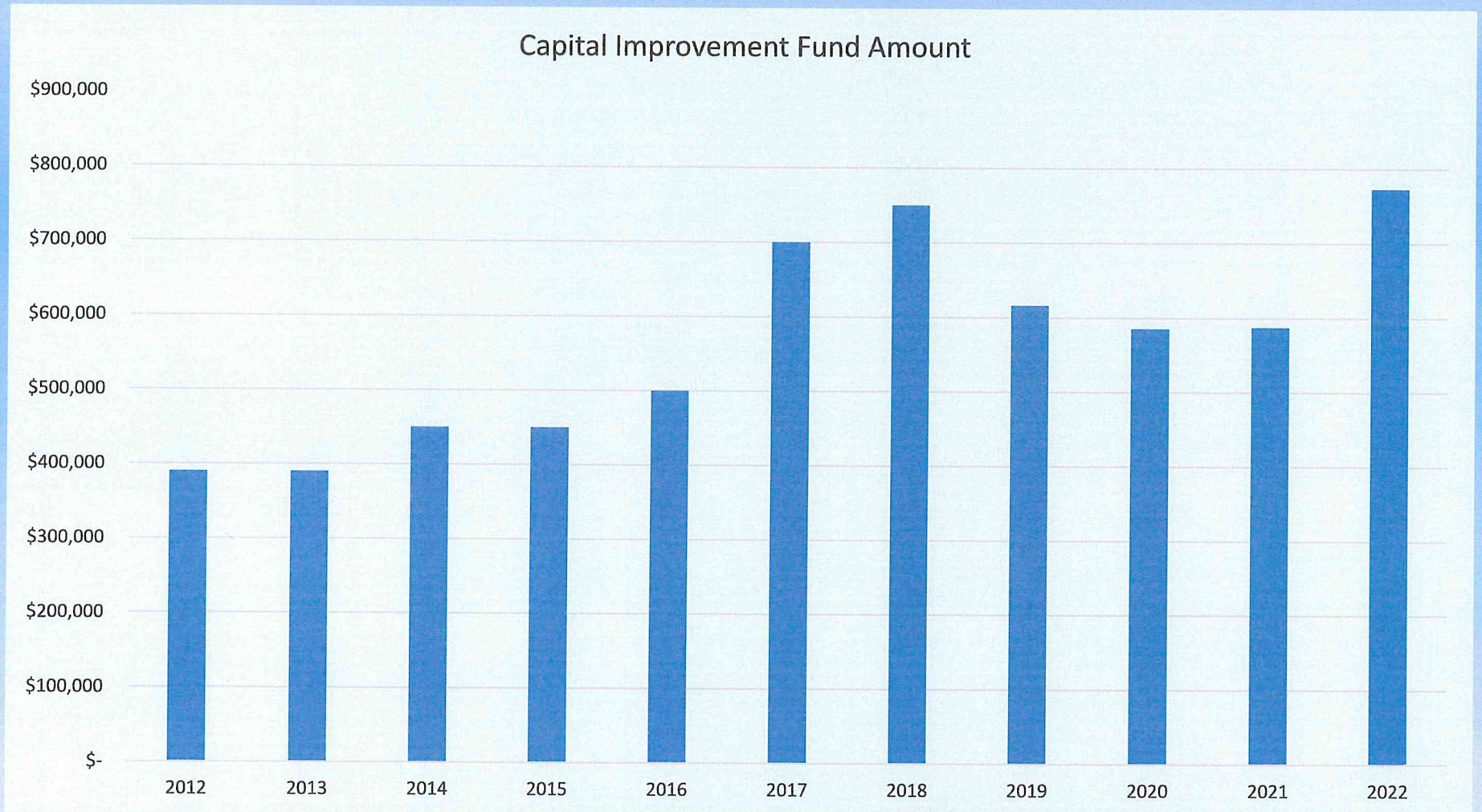
Appropriation Drivers

- Full time DPW operator (\$60,000)
 - Approved in 2021
- Full time police administrative assistant employee (\$72,800)
- Health insurance increase (\$61,216)
- Increase funding of annual capital expenses through Capital Improvement Fund (\$186,500)
- One time redevelopment (sale of Glen Alpin) expenses (\$100,000)
 - To be reimbursed by redeveloper
- Pension increase (\$46,000)
- Shared municipal court decrease (-\$67,000)
- Labor contract included

Capital Improvement Fund

Capital Improvement Fund	
Year	Amount
2012	\$ 390,000
2013	\$ 390,000
2014	\$ 450,000
2015	\$ 450,000
2016	\$ 500,000
2017	\$ 700,000
2018	\$ 750,000
2019	\$ 616,000
2020	\$ 585,000
2021	\$ 587,100
2022	\$ 773,600

Capital Improvement Fund

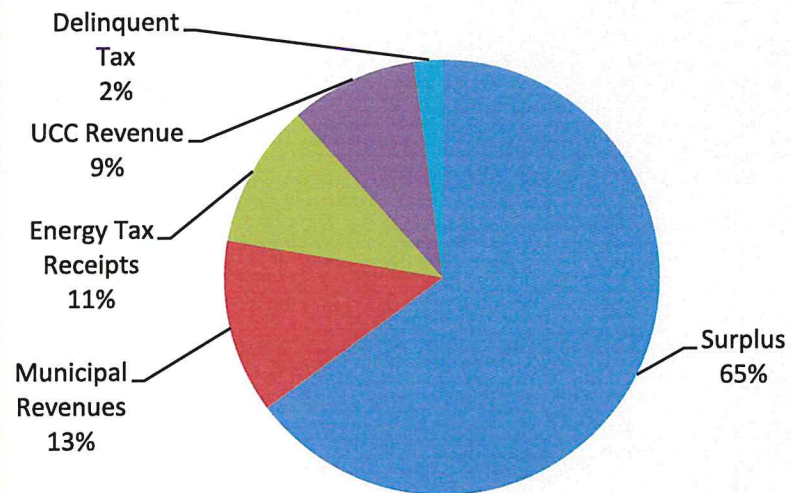


Budget Revenue - 2022

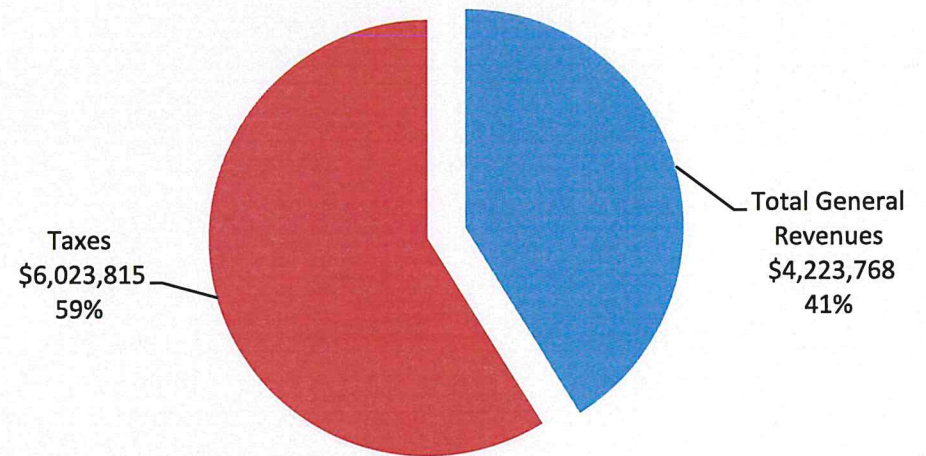
General & Tax Revenues	2022	2021	2022 - 2021	% Chg	% of Total
Surplus	\$ 2,750,000	\$ 2,400,000	\$ 350,000	14.6%	27%
Municipal Revenues	\$ 529,600	\$ 449,500	\$ 80,100	17.8%	5%
Energy Tax Receipts	\$ 454,168	\$ 454,168	\$ -	0.0%	4%
UCC Revenue	\$ 400,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 100,000	33.3%	4%
Delinquent Tax	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ -	0.0%	1%
Total General Revenues	\$ 4,223,768	\$ 3,693,668	\$ 530,100	14.4%	41%
Taxes	\$ 6,023,815	\$ 5,934,749	\$ 89,066	1.5%	59%
Total Revenues+Tax	\$ 10,247,583	\$ 9,628,417	\$ 619,166	6.4%	100%
Public & Private Grants	\$ 207,847	\$ 162,251	\$ 45,596	28.1%	2%
Total Revenues + Grant	\$ 10,455,430	\$ 9,790,668	\$ 664,762	6.8%	102%

Budget Revenue - 2022

Total General Revenues



General & Tax Revenues



Revenue Drivers

- Energy Tax Receipts – State has not released the amount (\$457,905; unchanged from 2021)
- Increase in surplus anticipated (\$350,000)
- Increase in municipal revenues anticipated (\$80,100)
- Increase of UCC revenues anticipated (\$100,000)

Assessed Value & Tax Rate

	# of units	Assessed Value
2022 Residential/Commercial	1932	\$2,100,196,800
2022 Utility	1	\$1,318,028
2022 Total	1933	\$2,101,514,828
Average Assessed Value 2022		\$1,087,178
Average Assessed Value 2021		\$1,091,116
2022 Tax Rate / AA Valuation	0.287	\$3,116
2021 Tax Rate / AA Valuation	0.282	\$3,077
Increase (2022 vs. 2021)	0.005	\$39
% Increase	1.77%	1.27%

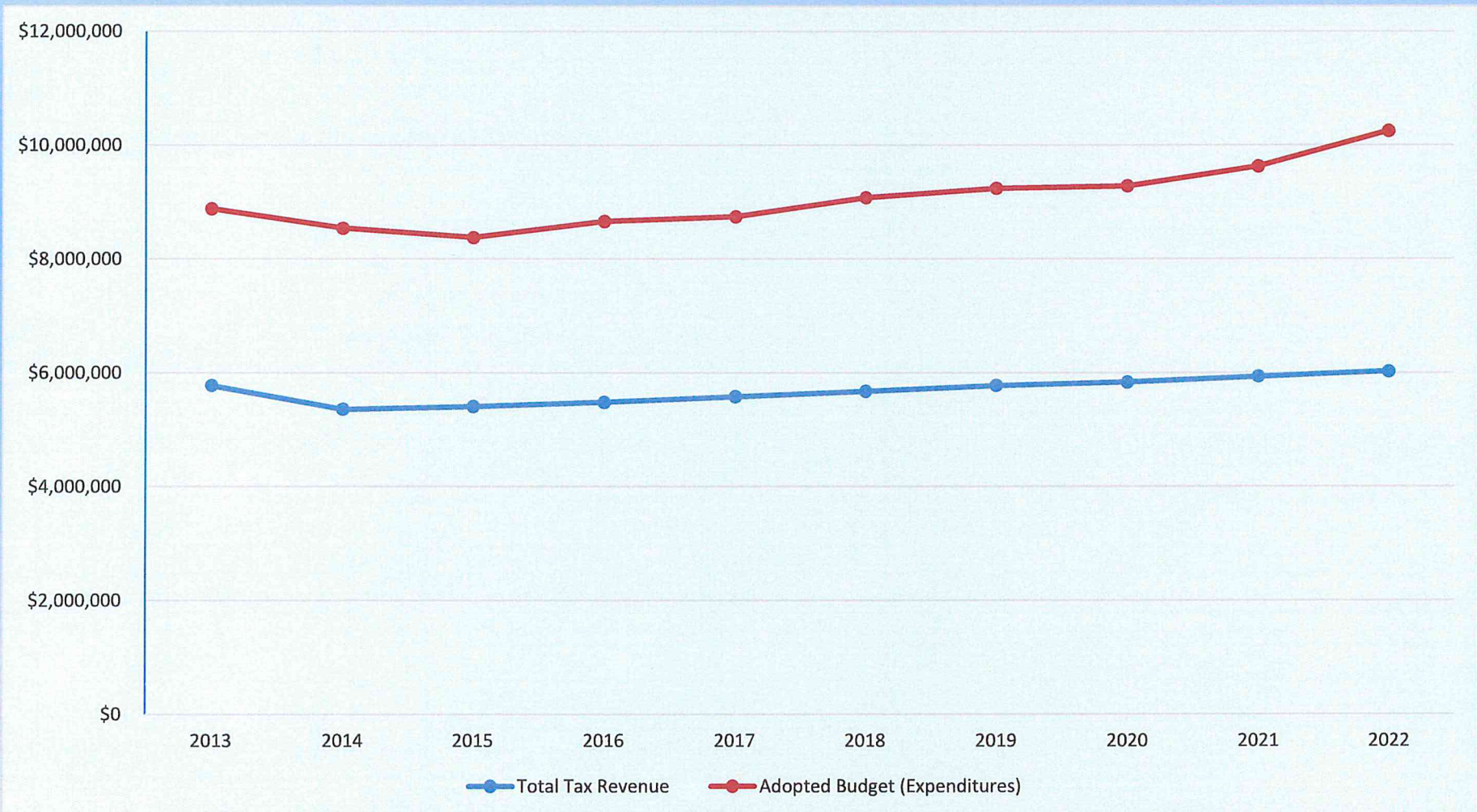
Year	Municipal Tax	All Agency Tax	%
2017	\$5,578,016	\$ 22,537,450	24.75%
2018	\$5,675,195	\$ 22,592,449	25.12%
2019	\$5,777,133	\$ 23,093,703	25.02%
2020	\$5,835,587	\$ 23,156,767	25.20%
2021	\$5,934,749	\$ 23,371,104	25.39%
2022	\$6,023,815	-	-

	Assessed Value
2022	\$2,101,514,828
2021	\$2,106,945,939
Change	-\$5,431,111.00
Change %	-0.26%

Tax vs Expenditure

Year	Total Tax Revenue	Adopted Budget (Expenditures)	%
2013	\$5,775,218	\$8,881,140	65.03%
2014	\$5,357,091	\$8,540,273	62.73%
2015	\$5,405,442	\$8,377,044	64.53%
2016	\$5,481,529	\$8,661,656	63.29%
2017	\$5,578,016	\$8,741,889	63.81%
2018	\$5,675,195	\$9,073,978	62.54%
2019	\$5,777,133	\$9,239,014	62.53%
2020	\$5,835,587	\$9,278,492	62.89%
2021	\$5,934,749	\$9,628,417	61.64%
2022	\$6,023,815	\$10,247,583	58.78%

Tax vs Expenditure



Tax Rate History

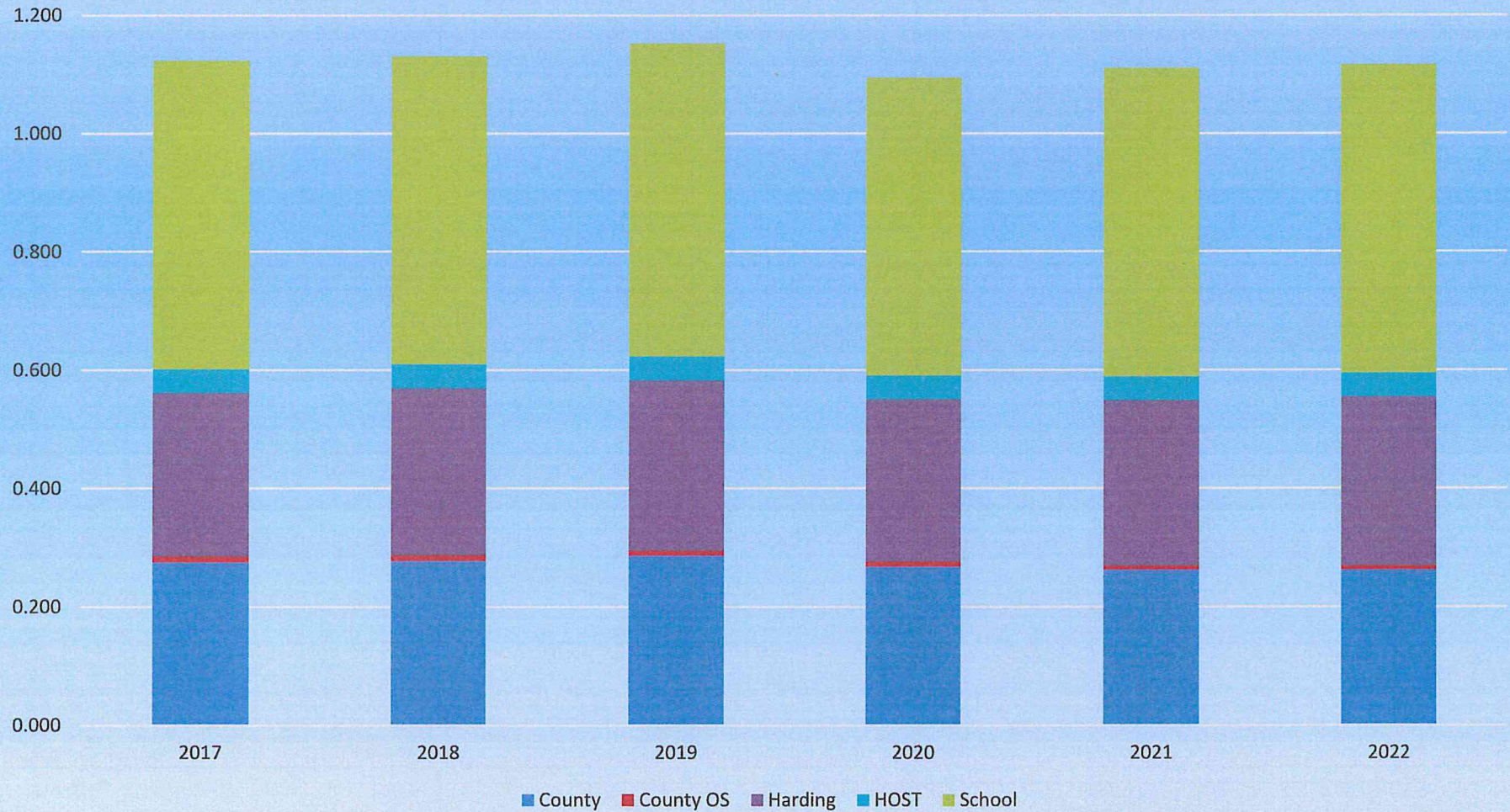
Rates

Year	Net valuation	County	County OS	School	Harding	HOST	Total
2017	\$2,006,548,979	0.275	0.010	0.521	0.277	0.040	1.123
2018	\$1,999,521,290	0.277	0.010	0.52	0.283	0.040	1.130
2019	\$2,005,044,756	0.286	0.009	0.529	0.288	0.040	1.152
2020	\$2,118,202,974	0.268	0.008	0.503	0.275	0.040	1.094
2021	\$2,106,945,939	0.262	0.007	0.520	0.281	0.040	1.110
2022	\$2,101,514,828				0.287	0.040	

Taxes

Year	Sample Value	County	County OS	School	Harding	HOST	Total
2017	\$1,000,000	\$2,750	\$100	\$5,210	\$2,770	\$400	\$11,230
2018	\$1,000,000	\$2,770	\$100	\$5,200	\$2,830	\$400	\$11,300
2019	\$1,000,000	\$2,860	\$90	\$5,290	\$2,880	\$400	\$11,520
2020	\$1,000,000	\$2,680	\$80	\$5,030	\$2,750	\$400	\$10,940
2021	\$1,000,000	\$2,620	\$70	\$5,200	\$2,810	\$400	\$11,100
2022	\$1,000,000				\$2,869	\$400	

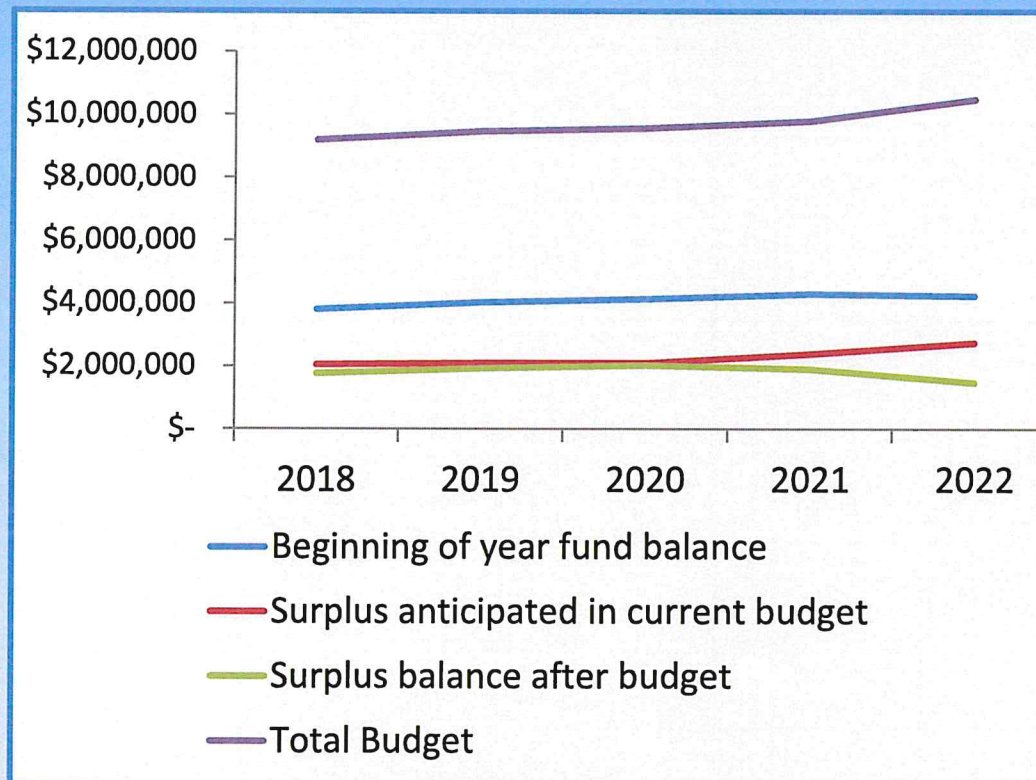
Tax Rate History



*For comparison purposes, no change in county, county OS, and school rates assumed in 2022

Fund Balance & Surplus Analysis

Item	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Beginning of year fund balance	\$ 3,804,887	\$ 4,022,213	\$ 4,135,850	\$ 4,300,010	\$ 4,231,741
Surplus anticipated in current budget	\$ 2,041,512	\$ 2,100,000	\$ 2,100,000	\$ 2,400,000	\$ 2,750,000
Surplus balance after budget	\$ 1,763,375	\$ 1,922,213	\$ 2,035,850	\$ 1,900,010	\$ 1,481,741
Total Budget	\$ 9,189,478	\$ 9,455,772	\$ 9,565,578	\$ 9,790,667	\$ 10,455,430
Surplus Balance as a percent of budget	19.19%	20.33%	21.28%	19.41%	14.17%
Total results of current yr operations	\$ 2,258,838	\$ 2,213,638	\$ 2,264,160	\$ 2,331,731	\$ 2,267,091
Ending surplus balance	\$ 4,022,213	\$ 4,135,850	\$ 4,300,010	\$ 4,231,741	\$ 3,748,833





Harding Township

Thank You

Harding Township

2022 CAPITAL BUDGET SUMMARY

Introduction – March 14th 2022

Adoption – April 11th 2022

Harding Township

2022 Capital Ordinance

<u>Projects</u>		<u>Total Estimated Costs</u>	
A	Exterior and Interior Improvements at Township facilities	\$	20,000
	-Tunis-Ellicks house	\$	2,500
	-Gate House	\$	2,500
	-Municipal facilities	\$	10,000
	-DPW General Improvements	\$	5,000
B.	Acquisition of Vehicle	\$	148,000
	-Purchase of vehicle - Construction	\$	38,000
	-Purchase of vehicle - Police	\$	55,000
	-Purchase of vehicle - Police	\$	55,000
C.	Public Works - Acquisition of Various Equipement	\$	275,000
	-Full size 5-7 yard 4WD dump truck	\$	225,000
	-4WD full size tractor	\$	50,000
D.	Road Improvements including as design, work, materials, & appurtences	\$	270,000
	-General Road Improvements	\$	70,000
	-Road Reconstruction	\$	200,000
E.	Police Department - Acquisition of Various Equipment	\$	60,600
	-In-car tablet computer with docks	\$	13,100
	-Body Cams (required by statute)	\$	47,500
Totals for General Capital		\$	773,600

Harding Township

6 Year Capital Plan

<u>PROJECT TITLE & DESCRIPTION</u>		<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
TOWNSHIP FACILITIES		\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
	<i>Tunnis-Ellick house</i>	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
	<i>Gate House</i>	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
	<i>Municipal facilities</i>	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
	<i>DPW</i>	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
POLICE EQUIPMENT		\$ 60,600	\$ 40,100	\$ 41,550	\$ 43,100	\$ 71,550	\$ 88,100
	<i>Shotguns/Handguns/Rifles and accessories</i>	\$ -	\$ 7,000	\$ 35,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	<i>In-car tablet computer with docks</i>	\$ 13,100	\$ 13,100	\$ 6,550	\$ 13,100	\$ 6,550	\$ 13,100
	<i>Body Cams (required by statute)</i>	\$ 47,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	<i>Fit testing instrument</i>	\$ -	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	<i>AED's</i>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30,000	\$ -	\$ -
	<i>Mobile video upgrade</i>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75,000
	<i>Livescan</i>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45,000	
	<i>Emergency Response Equipment</i>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,000	\$ -
PUBLIC WORKS		\$ 275,000	\$ 259,000	\$ 245,000	\$ 210,000	\$ 185,000	\$ 150,000
	<i>Full size 5-7 yard 4WD dump truck</i>	\$ 225,000	\$ -	\$ 245,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	<i>4WD full size tractor</i>	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	<i>2-3 yard 4x4 mason dump truck</i>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150,000
	<i>Rubber tire wheel loader</i>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 185,000	\$ -
	<i>4WD medium size tractor</i>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,000	\$ -	\$ -
	<i>Truck Lift</i>	\$ -	\$ 55,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	<i>Trailer</i>	\$ -	\$ 7,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	<i>Tire mounting machine</i>	\$ -	\$ 12,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	<i>Hook lift truck</i>	\$ -	\$ 185,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	<i>Backhoe</i>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 175,000	\$ -	\$ -

Harding Township

6 Year Capital Plan

<u>PROJECT TITLE & DESCRIPTION</u>		<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
ROAD IMPROVEMENTS		\$ 270,000	\$ 320,000	\$ 370,000	\$ 370,000	\$ 370,000	\$ 370,000
	<i>Road improvements</i>	\$ 70,000	\$ 70,000	\$ 70,000	\$ 70,000	\$ 70,000	\$ 70,000
	<i>Road Reconstruction</i>	\$ 200,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000
			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
VEHICLE REPLACEMENT		\$ 148,000	\$ 53,000	\$ 92,000	\$ 106,000	\$ 93,000	\$ 53,000
	<i>Purchase of vehicle - Construction</i>	\$ 38,000	\$ -	\$ 39,000	\$ -	\$ 40,000	
	<i>Purchase of vehicle - Police</i>	\$ 55,000	\$ 53,000	\$ 53,000	\$ 53,000	\$ 53,000	\$ 53,000
	<i>Purchase of vehicle - Police</i>	\$ 55,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 53,000	\$ -	\$ -
MIS		\$ -	\$ 21,500	\$ -	\$ 25,000	\$ -	\$ -
	<i>Plan review software</i>	\$ -	\$ 8,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	<i>Digital plan storage</i>	\$ -	\$ 7,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	<i>Server Upgrade</i>	\$ -	\$ 6,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	<i>Digitize Records</i>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000	\$ -	\$ -
Total		\$ 773,600	\$ 713,600	\$ 768,550	\$ 774,100	\$ 739,550	\$ 681,100
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND- BALANCE		\$ 71,408	\$ 121,995	\$ 159,332	\$ 141,719	\$ 118,556	\$ 129,943
CAPITAL FUND - FUND BALANCE		\$ 25,937	\$ 25,937	\$ 25,937	\$ 25,937	\$ 25,937	\$ 25,937
CAPITAL - OPERATING BUDGET		\$ 773,600	\$ 725,000	\$ 725,000	\$ 725,000	\$ 725,000	\$ 700,000
TOTAL CAPITAL FUNDS AVAILABLE		\$ 870,945	\$ 872,932	\$ 910,269	\$ 892,656	\$ 869,493	\$ 855,880
PROJECTED CAPITAL EXPENSES		\$ 748,950	\$ 713,600	\$ 768,550	\$ 774,100	\$ 739,550	\$ 681,100
PROJECTED CAPITAL BALANCE		\$ 121,995	\$ 159,332	\$ 141,719	\$ 118,556	\$ 129,943	\$ 174,780

Harding Township

2022 CAPITAL BUDGET DISCUSSION

Introduction – March 14th 2022

Adoption – April 11th 2022

The Glen Alpin Story

**Financial
Diversion
Accomplishments
Next Steps**

Acquisition Contributions

Municipal	175,000
Harding Land Trust (HLT Green Acres Allocation)	200,000
NJ Green Acres	450,000
Morris County Park Commission	75,000
Morris County Preservation	<u>500,000</u>
² Total	1,400,000

Expenses 2004 – 2021
(Diversion Expenses Listed On Page 5)

Maintenance	1,911,948
Professionals	341,494
Utilities	37,671
Debt Service	1,086,572
Harding Land Trust	<u>5,800</u>
Total	3,383,485

Replacement Properties, Tax & Bond Payments

DOT Property

Acres 12.652

Taxes -0-

Purchase Cost \$20,886

140 Blue Mill Road

Acres 5.351

Taxes 100

Purchase Cost \$1,280,074

2017

Remaining Bond Payments 684,929

2021

Remaining Bond Payments 381,000

2017 Anticipated Lost Tax Revenue prop acquired 12,022

2021 Actual Lost Tax Revenue Property Acquired 100

Diversion Expenses

April 10, 2017 Projections

Payback of grant holders

Morris County Acquisition Grant	500,000
MC Historic Preservation – 2005	223,000
MC Historic Preservation – 2006	200,000
MC Historic Preservation – 2007	78,100
MC Historic Preservation – 2007	150,000
<u>NJ Historic Trust – 2008</u>	<u>750,000</u>
Total	1,901,100

Replacement Land Costs (4:1 replacement)

Acres Diverted	3.196 x 4 = 12.79
\$286,198/acre	3,658,755
<u>Professional Expenses</u>	<u>525,351</u>
Total	4,184,106

Net Cost To Harding 6,085,206

February 14, 2022 Actual

Payback of grant holders

<u>MC Historic Preservation</u>	<u>305,600</u>
Total	305,600

Replacement Land Costs (4:1 replacement)

Acres Diverted	18.02
\$72,196/acre	1,300,960
<u>Professional Expenses</u>	<u>525,351</u>
Total	1,826,311

Net Cost To Harding Township 2,131,911

Below Projection April 2017 (3,953,295)

Not Diverted
10 Year Financial Forecast

Maintenance	670,560
Professionals	200,000
Utilities	20,190
Landscaping	250,000
Est. Historic Restoration	5,000,000 (w/o Prevailing Wage)
<u>Septic System</u>	<u>150,000</u>
Total	6,290,750

Accomplishments & Next Steps

WHERE WE ARE

- Green Acres Restrictions Have Been Removed From Glen Alpin Home
- County Conservation Restrictions Have Been Removed From Glen Alpin Site
- County Historic Restrictions Have Been Removed From Glen Alpin Site
- Front 6+ Acres of Glen Alpin Remain as Publicly Owned Open Space
- Approximately 18 acres of New Publicly Owned Open Space Acquired
- Trailhead and Parking for Patriot's Path to be Established at Glen Alpin
- Trail Connection to Jockey Hollow to be Created Through Hurstmont
- Township Relieved of Financial Burden of Glen Alpin Home
- Glen Alpin Home to be Restored by Selected Redeveloper

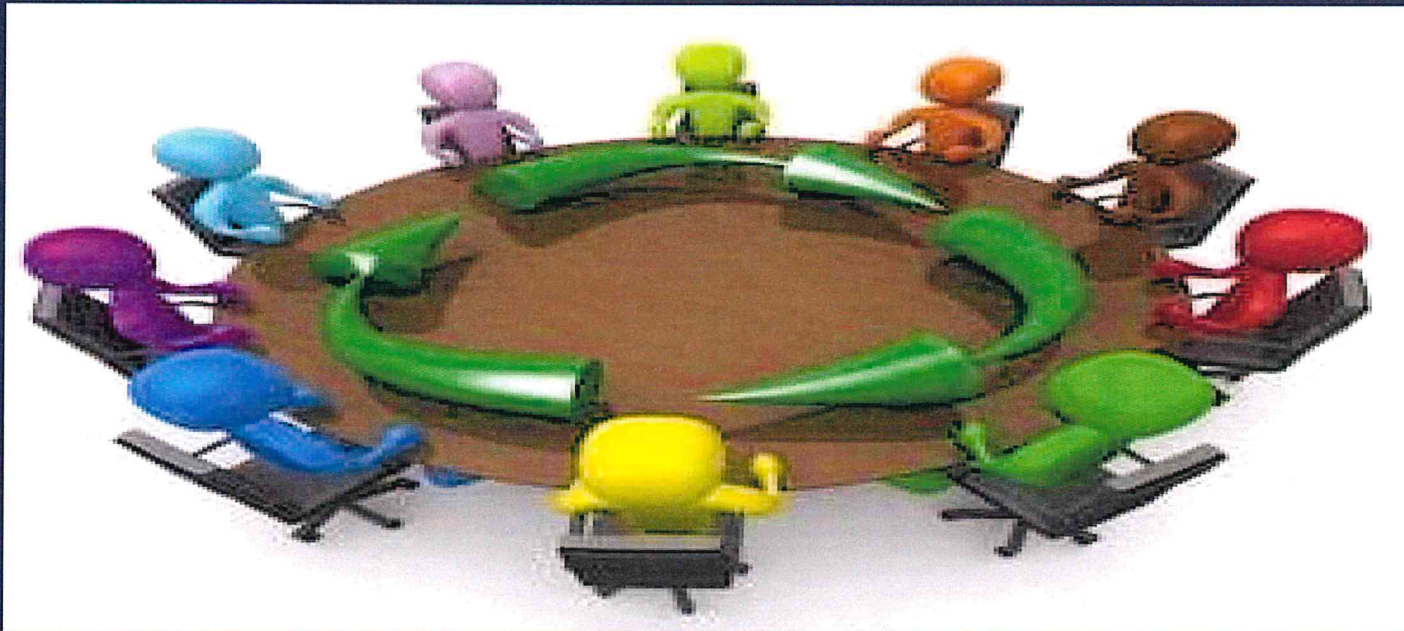
WHAT IS LEFT

- Filing of Documents to Perfect the Process
 - New Conservation Easements
 - Release of Historic Restrictions
 - New (Replacement) Historic Restrictions
 - Transfer of Interests Between Harding Township & HLT
- Repayment of Historic Grants

NEXT STEPS

- Township Utilizing Redevelopment Process
 - Provides Flexibility in Design (Freedom from Existing Zoning)
 - Control of Next Owner
 - Control Over Process
 - Better Option Than Local Land & Buildings Law
 - Choose Redeveloper for Glen Alpin
 - Development Specifications Have Been Developed
 - Preferred Uses Defined (Likely Restaurant/Catering Facility)
 - Candidate Re-developers Contacted
 - Awaiting Detailed Proposals for Site
 - Draft/Approve Redevelopment Plan for Glen Alpin Site
 - Sale/Transfer of the Glen Alpin Home and Adjacent 3+ Acres

Discussion





About the Drew Forest Preserve

- Comprised of 53 acres, the preserve is an intact area of an estate once called the Forest. In 1867, Daniel Drew purchased the land, including its historically significant homestead (now [Mead Hall](#)). The Forest has been a hallmark of Drew University ever since.
- The Forest includes two glacial ponds, deep dells and important vernal pools. Its unique topography mitigates flooding, as documented after [Hurricane Ida](#).
- Since 2012, 22 acres have been fenced from deer and restored thanks to the muscle, funding and expertise provided by students, professors, community volunteers and groups such as the Garden Club of Madison and the US Fish and Wildlife Service.
- The Forest now showcases a rare understory of native trees and native plants (many of them labeled). Migrating warblers, herons, egrets, turtles, raptors, fox and other wildlife can be seen along [walking trails](#). To find a similar healthy understory, you'd need to travel to preserved areas of the Catskills.
- The Forest is a wildlife corridor that connects to Giralda Farms Preserve (purchased with the support of county, municipal and other funds), Loantaka Brook Reservation and the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. Migrating birds depend on it as a stopover.
- The Forest captures and purifies approximately 71.5 million gallons of rainfall each year (based on 48" average). This "ecosystem service" directly benefits the Buried Valley Aquifer where 13 towns get their drinking water. According to a 2007 report by the NJDEP, the price tag on this ecosystem service is [\\$19,803 PER ACRE, PER YEAR](#) (today's dollars: \$28,912). Multiplied by 53 acres: **\$1,532,336 in value per year.**

Why a conservation sale is a regional benefit

- Drew University is struggling financially. Its campus, including the Forest, is zoned "university." In order to sell land, it needs zoning relief from the town.
- 11,000 people have signed a [petition](#) to support a conservation sale.
- This win-win solution will provide open space for Morris County and stabilize a university whose students, professors and approximately 500 employees support area restaurants, shops, businesses (home improvement/tax payments, gyms, theaters, etc.), doctors, medical services, Morristown Medical Center and more.

What is happening now

- Appraisals of the Forest are currently underway. The matter will soon move to the County decision-makers, who will have a once in a lifetime chance to preserve an intact Forest with some of the oldest trees in northern New Jersey.
- Given the shared ecosystem benefits for wildlife, water, clean air and public enjoyment, we welcome the support of our neighboring ECs and Town Councils.

A Forest that Protects Our Land

Morris Twp

53-acre
Drew Forest

Harding

Loantaka
Brook
Reservation

Giralda
Farms
Preserve

Drew
University









Loantaka
Brook
Reservation

Great Swamp
National Wildlife Refuge



FRIENDS OF THE DREW FOREST

MAP LEDGEND

-  ZUCK ARBORETUM AND HEPBURN WOODS
-  UNFENCED FOREST AREAS
-  VERNAL POND
RESEARCH PERMANENT PLANTS FOR WILDLIFE
-  DESIGNED BIODIVERSITY GARDENS
(90 SPECIES)
-  INTENSIVELY PLANTED MATURING
FOREST ON VINE TANGLES
-  OTHER RESTORATION: TREE/SHURB
PLANTINGS AND INVASIVE PLANT REMOVAL
-  PLOTS: INVASIVE MAPLE RESEARCH
-  RESEARCH PERMANENT PLOTS
WILDLIFE ECOLOGY
-  SPRINGFOREST POLLINATOR
-  SPRING FOREST POLLINATOR PLANTINGS
-  STEEP SLOPES

KEY PLAN



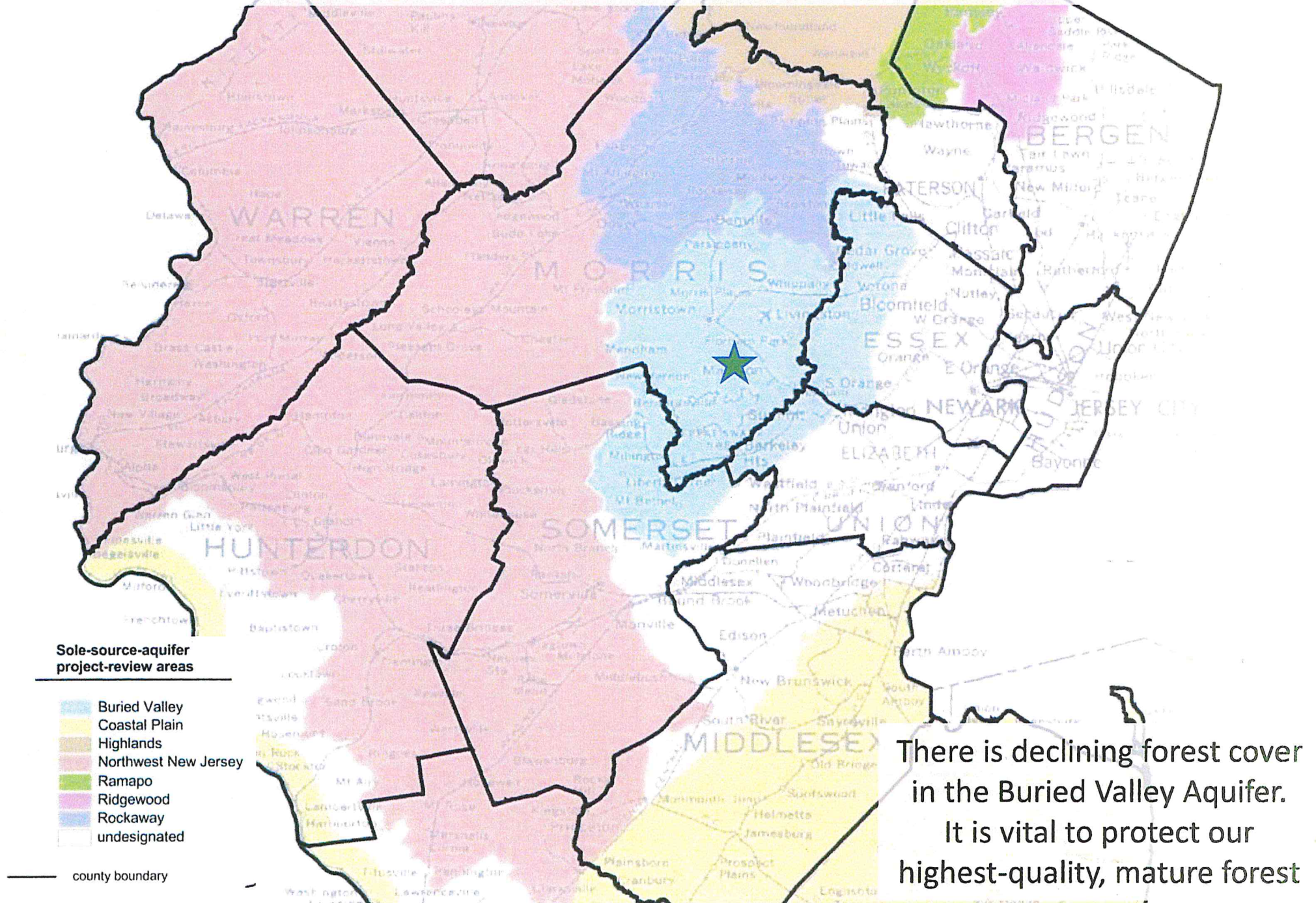
FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN HELP PRESERVE THE FOREST

WWW.FRIENDSOFTHEDREWFOREST.ORG



<< scan with your phone camera

The Drew Forest ★ is in the heart of the Buried Valley Aquifer, which provides clean, inexpensive water to residents of 30 towns, thanks in large part to remaining mature forests





Harding Township Environmental Commission



Resolution Re: Drew Forest Conservation

Feb 2, 2022

The Harding Township Environmental Commission supports a conservation purchase of the 53-acre Drew Forest, which is notable for its deep dells, glacial ponds and public walking trails. We recognize that preserving this rare, intact forest will support Drew University financially while providing numerous community benefits. The Forest is an educational resource with its labeled trees and pollinator plants. And its restored ecosystem supports wildlife in neighboring parks, including the Giralda Farms Preserve, Loantaka Brook Reservation and the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. Of special interest to Harding residents, the Forest is a critical recharge area for the Buried Valley Aquifer. This aquifer is the source of water for wells in Harding Township

Furthermore the Environmental Commission recommends that the Harding Township Committee adopts a resolution to support conservation of the entire 53 acres of the Drew Forest.

RESOLUTION 2022-066

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
CHATHAM SUPPORTING THE PRESERVATION OF THE DREW FOREST
PRESERVE**

WHEREAS, the Township of Chatham supports the effort of other municipalities, the County of Morris and concerned citizens to preserve the 53 acre forest in the Borough of Madison known as Drew Forest Preserve; and,

WHEREAS, the Forest on the property of Drew University is a wildlife corridor that connects Giralda Farms Preserve which was purchased with the support of County, Township of Chatham and other funds to Loantaka Brook Reservation and the Great Swam Wildlife Refuge; and


WHEREAS, since 2012, 22 acres of the Drew Forest Preserve have been fenced from deer and restored thanks to the sweat, muscle, funding and expertise provided by students, professors, community volunteers and groups such as the Garden Club of Madison and the US Fish and Wildlife Service; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Chatham supports the efforts to find a way to preserve the Drew Forest Preserve which is a regional treasure enjoyed and relied upon by residents of Morris, Union, Somerset and Essex counties as well as students and alumni of Drew University.

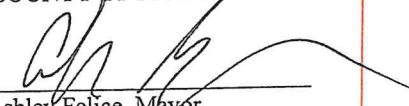
Adopted: February 8, 2022

TOWNSHIP OF CHATHAM IN
THE COUNTY OF MORRIS

Attest:


Gregory J. LaConte, Clerk

By


Ashley Felice, Mayor