



TOWNSHIP OF HILLSBOROUGH

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News Release

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Hillsborough Township Has Lowest Per Capita Spending of Area Municipalities

Debt Reduction and “Pay as You Go” Continue to Save Taxpayer Dollars

Despite declining revenue, resulting primarily from the economic downturn, coupled with the losses in State Aid, the Hillsborough Township’s 2012 Municipal Budget reflects nearly a 6% decrease. The combined result yields the lowest per capita spending in 2012 as compared to four (4) similar municipalities, as outlined in the 2012 CFO Report released earlier this week.

“We continue to take a hard line on spending and do not waiver on our commitment to our residents and protecting their interests,” stated Mayor Carl Suraci, when asked about the 2012 CFO Report.

“As I stated when we introduced this budget, with a \$1.6M decrease in spending, this Township Committee has a firm commitment to fiscal responsibility, which includes paying down debt of prior administrations and ensuring accountability by the Departments,” added Mayor Suraci.

“Our business-like approach to government is reflected in this report and our budget,” added Deputy Mayor Gloria McCauley

The report further highlighted the 21 line items that were reduced in the budget, along with the continued reduction in headcount by 8% over the last 5 years with “NO loss of services to homeowners”.

Other areas of savings included the shared services agreements, particularly with the regards to the Hillsborough / Montgomery Municipal Court and the participation in Purchasing

Cooperatives and State Contracts. In general, those groups help municipalities purchase items at a reduced cost as opposed to procuring those items on an individual basis.

The 2012 CFO Report is available on the Township's website at www.hillsborough-nj.org.

Hillsborough Township Mayor Frank DelCore announced that Hillsborough has met the state's best practices criteria for the 4th consecutive year, qualifying for 100% of the eligible state aid.

"The Best Practices Inventory Questionnaire, which began four years ago, is issued by the state to determine whether a municipality is using the best management and fiscal practices on behalf of taxpayers. Hillsborough has an outstanding record for best practices when it comes to municipal finances. The fiscal responsibility and business-like operations of our local government is once again reflected in the Township gaining best practices approval by the state again," stated Mayor DelCore during his remarks at Tuesday's Township Committee meeting.

"Best Practices helps to ensure that a system of checks and balances is in place for purchasing, financial transactions and payroll processing through policies and procedures set by the Township. The annual audit is a confirmation of our compliance with the financial standards set by this document," commented Township CFO, Nancy Haberle.

Hillsborough Township has consistently found ways to save tax dollars, including implementing policies on debt reduction and pay as you go financing for routine capital improvements which are examples of best practices.
