



In 2011, the Hillsborough Township Committee completed the “Shared Municipal Court” initiative, with Montgomery Township, which will result in an anticipated savings of \$82,000.

“We continue to reduce costs and line items wherever possible.” added Finance Committee Chair Committeeman Frank DelCore after CFO Haberle’s presentation. “We are definitely doing more with less, and managing the budget prudently by not taking advantage of any tax cap loopholes that would negatively impact our taxpayers, remaining within the 2% cap and continuing to offer a superior level of service to our residents. What this means to the Hillsborough taxpayer is a \$26 annual change in the average tax bill of a home valued at \$370,000. This budget is quite an accomplishment,” stated DelCore.

“It is important to note that for 2012 the tax levy is approximately \$900,000 less by not taking the cap exceptions. If the exceptions to the 2% cap had been taken, the tax levy would have exceeded \$18M as pointed out in Ms. Haberle’s presentation,” added Mayor Suraci.

Additionally, Consolidated Municipal Property Tax Relief Aid (CMPTRA) and Energy Tax Receipts (ETR) State aid remain flat from 2011, the Township still feels the impact of the \$1.4M combined decrease in CMPTRA and ETR State aid to the municipality since 2007. Also, non-tax revenue continues to decline due to the economic downturn. For the 2012 budget, non-tax revenues are anticipated to be \$162,000 less.

“This budget is a direct result of this Township Committee’s commitment to continued fiscal responsibility; working with less while offering our taxpayers the same level of excellence they are accustomed to,” stated Mayor Suraci. Key areas of savings included Insurance & Benefits, Snow Removal, Pension contributions, Interest on Bonds, Capital Improvements and Debt Payments.

As with every budget, there are those items that are beyond local control, including health benefits, however without the employee contributions mandated by the Governor’s

## **Spending Decreased Over \$1.6M In 2012 Municipal Budget**

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Pension Reform from last year, this expense line would have been \$140,000 higher. Hillsborough is seeing real savings as a result of that initiative.

“This Township Committee has a commitment to fiscal responsibility, which includes paying down debt of prior administrations and ensuring accountability by the Departments,” added Mayor Suraci. “This budget represents a business-like approach to government,” concluded the Mayor.

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