

# Colts Neck Township



## Special Budget Edition April 2009

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### TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Benjamin T. Forester, Mayor  
 Kenneth F. Florek, Deputy Mayor  
 James C. Schatzle, Committeeman  
 Edward C. Eastman, Jr., Committeeman  
 Jarrett R. Engel, Committeeman

This newsletter is intended to give Township residents a general overview of the 2009 Municipal Budget. A full public hearing on the 2009 Budget is scheduled for WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2009, 7:30 P.M. at Town Hall. Residents are encouraged to attend and participate at this meeting. The total 2009 Budget is \$11,080,449.00 inclusive of the \$363,449.00 dedicated tax for farmland, open space and historic preservation overwhelmingly approved by two voter referendums.

### PROPERTY TAXES

Property taxes for municipal purposes will have a minimal increase this year. The following chart is intended to provide an ESTIMATE of all taxes to be paid by an average Colts Neck homeowner in 2009. It must be emphasized that all figures are estimates based on current information, and are subject to modification. The municipal purpose tax will increase one cent per \$100.00 of assessed valuation, or \$40.00 for the average homeowner.

<b>HOME ASSESSED AT \$400,000.00</b>					
<b>PRELIMINARY FIGURES</b>					
<b>TAX ESTIMATES</b>	<b>2008 RATE PER \$100. VALUATION</b>	<b>2009 ESTIMATED RATE PER \$100. VALUATION</b>	<b>CHANGE INCREASE (DECREASE)</b>	<b>2008 AMOUNT OF TAX</b>	<b>ESTIMATED 2009 AMOUNT OF TAX</b>
1. County of Monmouth	.610	.620	+010	\$2,440.00	\$2,480.00
2. Regional Schools	.831	.822	-009	\$3,324.00	\$3,288.00
3. Local Schools	1.392	1.431	+039	\$5,568.00	\$5,724.00
4. Municipal Purposes	.334	.344	+010	\$1,336.00	\$1,376.00
5. Municipal Open Space	.025	.025	.000	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b><u>3.192</u></b>	<b><u>3.242</u></b>	<b><u>+050</u></b>	<b><u>\$12,768.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$12,968.00</u></b>

### BUDGET PROCESS

Preparation of the Municipal Budget begins in September and ends the following Spring. Upon submission of a recommended budget by the Township Administrator, the Township Committee met on several occasions to review every line item of each Departmental budget. These reviews are intended to ensure that appropriation requests are justified, and to make any modifications to such requests as may be deemed necessary. All budget review meetings are held at Town Hall and are open to the public. Once the review process is completed, the budget is finalized by the Township Auditor, formally introduced and forwarded to the State for review, if required. A date is also set for a public hearing, and a summary of the budget must be published in the Asbury Park Press.

## BUDGET FORMAT

The Township utilized a zero-based budgeting format for preparation of the 2009 Budget. In general, this format requires Department Heads to justify and itemize, in detail, all funding requests from zero dollars to the amount requested. Simply expecting automatic increases from prior years funding is not permitted. A zero-based budget should ensure more accurate budgeting and eliminate increased spending without detailed justification.

## THE CAP LAW

State Law mandates that local governments cannot increase their total appropriations by more than 2.5 percent each year, with certain exceptions. Such exceptions include capital improvements, debt service, pensions, inter-local agreements and the volunteer Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP). The 2009 Municipal Budget is under the CAP limitations. The 2009 Budget is also within the new 4.0 percent Property Tax limitations.

## YOUR TAX DOLLAR 2009 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

### 2009 REVENUE AMOUNTS

1. Property Taxes	\$ 4,994,689.00
2 Surplus	\$ 2,236,650.00.
3. Energy Receipts Tax	\$ 2,142,061.00
4. State Revenues/Grants/Misc.	\$ 61,100.00
5. Interest on Taxes and Investments	\$ 457,000.00
6. Dedicated Open Space Tax	\$ 363,449.00
7. Fees, Permits, Recreation, etc.	\$ 245,500.00
8. Municipal Court	\$ 205,000.00
9. Delinquent Taxes	\$ 375,000.00

**TOTAL:** \$11,080,449.00

### 2009 APPROPRIATION AMOUNTS

1. Public Safety/Court	\$ 2,728,344.00
2. General Government	\$ 2,244,425.00
3. Streets and Roads	\$ 1,703,076.00
4. Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	\$ 1,279,235.00
5. Debt Service	\$ 942,105.00
6. Recreation/Education/Health	\$ 641,203.00
7. Statutory Expenses	\$ 835,899.00
8. Capital Improvements	\$ 135,500.00
9. Dedicated Open Space Tax	\$ 363,449.00
10. Deferred/Unclassified	\$ 207,213.00

\$11,080,449.00

## REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

The total 2009 Budget is \$11,080,449, compared with a 2008 Budget of \$11,118,662. This represents a decrease of \$38,213. All figures are inclusive of the 2.5 cents dedicated tax for farmland, open space, and historic preservation. The dedicated tax in 2009 will be \$363,449. State Law mandates that municipal budgets must be balanced, with revenues equaling appropriations. The following charts illustrate the main sources of revenue for the Township and, conversely, how the money is appropriated to operate the Municipality. Each chart also compares 2008 amounts to 2009.

## REVENUES

<u>REVENUE SOURCE</u>	<u>2008 AMOUNT</u>	<u>2009 ANTICIPATED</u>
Property Taxes	\$ 4,819,821.00	\$ 4,994,689.00
Energy Receipts Tax	\$ 2,254,801.00	\$ 2,142,061.00
Surplus	\$ 2,405,050.00	\$ 2,236,650.00
State Revenues, Grants, Misc.	\$ 96,788.00	\$ 61,100.00
Interest on Taxes/Investments	\$ 475,000.00	\$ 457,000.00
Dedicated Farmland, Open Space, Historic Preservation Tax	\$ 360,702.00	\$ 363,449.00
Fees, Permits, Recreation, etc.	\$ 221,500.00	\$ 245,500.00
Delinquent Taxes	\$ 275,000.00	\$ 375,000.00
Municipal Court	\$ 210,000.00	\$ 205,000.00
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<u>\$ 11,118,662.00</u>	<u>\$ 11,080,449.00</u>

## EXPENDITURES

2008 AMOUNT

2009 AMOUNT

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT** (This function includes such departments as Administration, Elections, Finance, Tax Assessing, Tax Collection, Legal Services, Engineering, Planning, Zoning, Insurance, and Buildings and Grounds.)

Salary and Wages	\$ 568,759.00	\$ 581,515.00
Other Expenses	\$ 1,576,460.00	\$ 1,662,910.00

**PUBLIC SAFETY** (This function includes such departments as Police, Fire, First Aid, Construction, Emergency Management, Code Enforcement, Court, and Fire Prevention)

Salary and Wages	\$ 2,202,300.00	\$ 2,240,655.00
Other Expenses	\$ 459,105.00	\$ 487,689.00

**RECREATION AND EDUCATION** (This function includes such departments as Recreation, Parks, Library and Public Events, such as the Memorial Day Parade, July 4th fireworks, etc.)

Salary and Wages	\$ 192,256.00	\$ 207,113.00
Other Expenses	\$ 321,620.00	\$ 268,420.00

**STREETS AND ROADS** (This function includes such departments as Streets and Roads, Snow Removal, Street Lighting, Recycling and Buildings and Grounds.)

Salary and Wages	\$ 1,065,493.00	\$ 1,099,576.00
Other Expenses	\$ 728,730.00	\$ 603,500.00

**HEALTH AND WELFARE** (This function includes costs for the Health Department, Environmental Commission, Drug and Alcohol Alliance, Animal Control and Welfare.)

Salary and Wages	\$ 121,480.00	\$ 95,120.00
Other Expenses	\$ 63,900.00	\$ 70,550.00

**UNCLASSIFIED** (This function includes costs for such areas as Contingencies, Farmland/Open Space Committee, Historic Preservation, Shade Tree Commission, Business Advisory, Architectural Review, Grants, Clean Communities, Affordable Housing and LOSAP.)

Salary and Wages	\$ 4,950.00	\$ 3,950.00
Other Expenses	\$ 98,270.00	\$ 122,263.00

**STATUTORY EXPENDITURES** (This function includes the costs for Employee Pensions and Social Security.)

Other Expenses	\$ 722,904.00	\$ 835,899.00
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**CAPITAL EXPENSES** (This function includes the costs for the purchase of equipment, vehicles, property, road improvements, etc., with a minimum life span of five years and down-payments for future bonds.)

Other Expenses	\$ 470,900.00	\$ 135,500.00
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**DEBT SERVICE** (This function includes the cost for payment of principal and interest on Township Bonds and Notes.)

Other Expenses	\$ 831,833.00	\$ 942,105.00
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**DEFERRED CHARGES** (This function includes the cost for payment of special projects, such as property revaluation over a five-year period, and emergencies.)

Other Expenses	\$ 81,000.00	\$ 81,000.00
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**RESERVE FOR UNCOLLECTED TAXES** (This function includes a mandatory appropriation to reserve funds caused by any failure to collect property taxes.)

Other Expenses	\$1,248,000.00	\$1,279,235.00
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**DEDICATED FARMLAND, OPEN SPACE, AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION TAX** (This function includes dedicated taxes approved by voter referendum for the exclusive use of farmland, open space, and historic preservation.)

Other Expenses	<u>\$ 360,702.00</u>	<u>\$ 363,449.00</u>
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<b>TOTAL - ALL FUNCTIONS:</b>	<b><u>\$11,118,662.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$11,080,449.00</u></b>
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