

2015 BUDGET – OVERVIEW

On March 4, 2015 the Mayor and Township Council introduced the 2015 budget, and scheduled the public hearing and adoption for 8 p.m. on Wednesday, April 1, 2015.

The 2015 budget maintains all municipal services without increasing the local purpose tax (LPT). The local purpose tax for 2015 remains the same as the local purpose tax for 2013 and 2014. A breakdown of the actual tax rate and budget numbers is outlined below.

Florence Township will be initiating another Road Improvement Program this year and a list of the roads scheduled to be repaved this summer is contained on the municipal website. The Mayor and Township Council will also be approving an additional Road Program for the spring of 2016. A complete listing of the roads to be improved in 2016 will be identified on the website by late summer or early fall. It is the goal of Mayor Wilkie and Township Council to implement a Road Improvement Program every year for the foreseeable future.

The 2015 budget funds the hiring of two additional police officers. Also included in the budget are funds to implement a landlord registration and inspection program later this year. The goal is to improve the condition of properties in the community through increased code enforcement and inspections. The Mayor and Township Council are also pleased to announce that the Patriotic Celebration will take place on Saturday, July 11, 2015. More detailed information about the parade and fireworks display will be forthcoming in the coming months. The Patriotic Celebration is an event that celebrates the heritage and community spirit of Florence Township.

In 2015, Florence Township will continue to upgrade recreational parks in the community with the assistance of a grant from Burlington County Freeholders. The Mayor and Township Council are committed to upgrading and improving all parks in the community. In addition, the Marcella L. Duffy School will be fully renovated for senior housing this spring or summer. The Duffy School is being transformed into a place where seniors can live near their families in comfort and the company of a beautifully renovated building.

What follows are key outlines and charts that provide an overview of the 2015 budget. If there are any questions about the budget prior to the public hearing on April 1, 2015, residents are welcome to call the Township Administrator, Richard Brook at (609) 499-2525.

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<u>2014 Total Appropriation w/o Reserve</u>	<u>2015 Total Appropriation w/o Reserve</u>	<u>Difference</u>
\$ 10,408,968	\$ 10,487,413	\$ 78,445
<u>2014 Total Appropriation w/Reserve</u>	<u>2015 Total Appropriation w/Reserve</u>	<u>Final Difference</u>
\$ 11,008,968	\$ 11,111,413	\$ 102,445
<u>Amount to be Raised by Taxation 2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>Difference</u>
\$ 5,582,859	\$ 5,524,030	(\$ 58,829)

Local Purpose Tax

	<u>Average Assessment</u>	<u>LPT Rate</u>	<u>Local Purpose Tax</u>	<u>Difference</u>
2013	\$ 227,410	.439	\$ 998	(\$ 8.00)
2014	\$ 224,411	.439	\$ 985	(\$ 13.00)
2015	\$ 221,014	.439	\$ 970	(\$ 15.00)