

## 2022 Budget Overview

The 2022 budget was introduced on Wednesday, April 6, 2022 and scheduled for public hearing and adoption on Wednesday, May 4, 2022.

The municipal tax rate will be increased by 2 cent (.02). **This will be the first increase in the municipal rate since 2012.**

**There will be no increase in the water and sewer rates in 2022.** Since 2012, the water and sewer basic rates have remained the same.

Last year (2021) was a challenging year as we dealt still with the effects of COVID-19. Through the great efforts of all employees, Mayor Wilkie and Council, Florence Township continued to keep moving in a positive direction. Sports programs and most community events (Patriotic Day, National Night Out, etc.) were able to be held again.

### **Budget Notes:**

- Municipal Tax Rate Increase by Two Cents (.02) (LPT Rate 0.459)
- 2022 the Average Home Assessment will be \$220,488. In 2021, average assessment was \$220,233.
- The average assessed home of \$220,488 will pay \$1,012 in municipal taxes. In 2021 they paid \$967.00 in municipal taxes. This is an increase of \$45.00
- 2022 Preliminary Net Valuation is \$1,293,928,300 (after county appeals & anticipated state appeals). In 2021, Net Valuation was \$1,274,379,200. The anticipated total 2022 increase in property values is \$19,549,100.
- In 2022, one cent (.01) on the tax rate is worth \$127,438.00. In 2021, one cent (.01) was worth \$ 127,437.00.
- No increase in the Water & Sewer rates
- Salary Increases: Police – 2.5%, CWA Employees – 3% & Non-Union Employees – 3%

### **Municipal Tax Rate Increase:**

- Bond/Interest Payments (Capital Projects) increased by over \$307,000.00.
- Court Revenue was down by approximately \$100,000.00. The Public Defender salary had to be added to the general budget (\$17,000).
- Health Insurance costs increased by over \$30,000.00. Note: By switching to Self-Insurance a few years ago, this year's savings over the State Health Care Benefits is over \$136,000.00.
- Utility & Fuel Costs anticipated increase is over \$20,000.00.
- Tree replacement program was increased by \$15,000.00. Total amount appropriated is \$20,000.00.

- Architect & Park Planner Services cost increased the line item by \$40,000.00. This will include the expansion of the police department, renovations to the Roebling Bank, renovations to the old public works garage, park inventory and developing plan and tree inventory (requirement for Green Team).
- Increase in election costs. Burlington County Board of Elections switched to electronic poll books which increased the cost approximately \$5,000 more than 2020. In 2021 we had to transfer funds to cover the cost increase.

**2022 Budget Highlights:**

- Potts Mill Road Phase 2 & Phase 3 be will completed in the Spring.
- Wilbur Henry Drive improvements bids were received and awarding of the contract will be in April. Hopefully completion of the project will be by the end of the summer. We were able to secure a NJDOT grant of \$307,000 for this project.
- 9<sup>th</sup> Street improvements will go out to bid late spring/early summer and hopefully the project will be done in the Fall. We were able to secure a NJDOT grant of \$235,000 for this project.
- With the retirements in the police department during 2021, we hired 1 fully certified officer and immediately assigned him to the patrol division. The second individual was hired in the beginning of 2022 and started the academy in February. The budget does make provisions for the possible hiring of 3 new officers during the year as two (2) officers are retiring during the year and 1 officer plans on retiring in the Spring of 2023.
- We will continue to not charge recreation fees for the major sports activities in the community.
- There are 2 School Resource Officers (SRO) in the Florence Township school system. One SRO is fully funded by the township and the other SRO is a joint funding arrangement between the township and school district (School District pays 10 months, township pays 2 months of salary). The SRO Program will benefit the community and children for years to come.
- Major Capital Improvements are scheduled for completion this year (Water Plant Expansion Phase 2, Sludge Press).
- 2022 & 2023 Road Program is in the design phase and funding with bidding to be done in the Spring of 2022.

# OVERVIEW OF LOCAL PURPOSE TAX

2013-2022

<u>Year</u>	<u>Average Assessment</u>	<u>LPT Rate</u>	<u>Local Purpose Tax</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Township Levy</u>
2013	\$ 227,410	0.439	\$ 998	(\$ 8.00)	\$ 5,342,292
2014	\$ 224,411	0.439	\$ 985	(\$ 13.00)	\$ 5,582,859
2015	\$ 221,014	0.439	\$ 970	(\$ 15.00)	\$ 5,524,030
2016	\$ 218,712	0.439	\$ 960	(\$ 10.00)	\$ 5,476,446
2017	\$ 218,853	0.439	\$ 961	\$ 1.00	\$ 5,480,411
2018	\$ 219,382	0.439	\$ 963	\$ 2.00	\$ 5,483,816
2019	\$ 219,441	0.439	\$ 963	-0-	\$ 5,500,591
2020	\$ 219,979	0.439	\$ 966	\$ 3.00	\$ 5,544,699
2021	\$ 220,233	0.439	\$ 967	\$ 1.00	\$ 5,595,341
2022	\$ 220,488	0.459	\$ 1,012	\$ 45.00	\$ 5,941,605



<b>Summary of Appropriations</b>		<b>2022 Budget</b>	<b>Final 2021 Budget</b>
1. Operating Expenses:	Salaries & Wages	\$ 1,661,377.00	\$ 1,679,617.00
	Other Expenses	3,670,530.00	3,572,205.00
2. Capital Improvements		-	-
3. Debt Service		1,040,000.00	1,065,000.00
4. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations		339,750.00	330,453.60
5. Surplus (General Budget)		-	-
Total Appropriations		\$ 6,711,657.00	\$ 6,647,275.60
Total Number of Employees		17	17

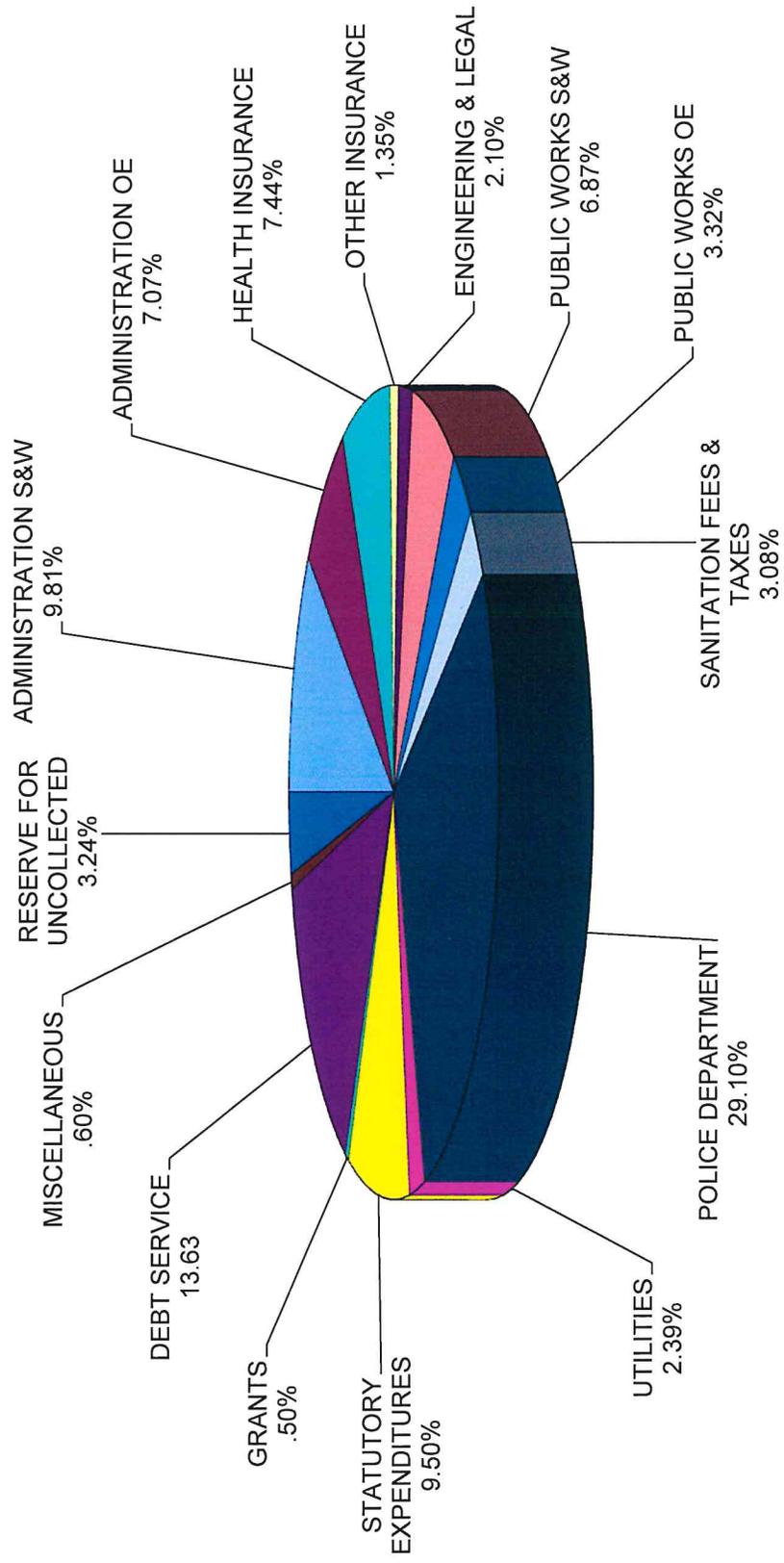
<b>Balance of Outstanding Debt</b>			
	<b>General</b>	<b>WATER/SEWER</b>	
Interest	\$ 388,965.64	\$ 1,183,575.13	
Principal	20,096,950.00	13,763,000.00	
Outstanding Balance	\$ 20,485,915.64	\$ 14,946,575.13	

Notice is hereby given that the budget and tax resolution was approved by the \_\_\_\_\_ **COUNCIL MEMBERS**  
of the \_\_\_\_\_ **TOWNSHIP** \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ **FLORENCE** \_\_\_\_\_, County of  
\_\_\_\_\_ **BURLINGTON** \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ **April 6** \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

A hearing on the budget and tax resolution will be held at \_\_\_\_\_ **711 Broad Street, Florence NJ** \_\_\_\_\_, on  
\_\_\_\_\_ **May 4** \_\_\_\_\_, 2022 at \_\_\_\_\_ **7:00** \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock PM at which time and place  
objections to the Budget and Tax Resolution for the year 2022 may be presented by taxpayers or  
other interested parties.

Copies of the budget are available in the office of \_\_\_\_\_ **the Municipal Clerk** \_\_\_\_\_ at  
the Municipal Building, \_\_\_\_\_ **Florence** \_\_\_\_\_ **New Jersey**,  
\_\_\_\_\_ **08518** \_\_\_\_\_ during the hours of \_\_\_\_\_ **9:00 AM** \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ **4:30pm** \_\_\_\_\_.

# 2022 CURRENT FUND BUDGET



# 2022 WATER & SEWER BUDGET

