

**Committee Meeting – August 4, 2008**  
**MAYOR’S REPORT**

**2008 MUNICIPAL BUDGET:**

As I’m sure most of you are aware, the estimated tax bills for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2008 arrived in the mail over the weekend. The Township was required by state statute to mail the bills out by August 1<sup>st</sup>. The amount of your bill was estimated using the budget amount that was introduced along with any deductions for veterans and/or disabilities. The final adoption of our budget will not be until October due to the fact that certain anticipated revenues will not be realized until then.

In the meantime, I have directed the administrator to find a way to reduce the municipal tax rate increase to ZERO! While the average home in Barnegat will only see an \$11.00 per quarter tax increase, I find it unacceptable that our residents be burdened with ANY additional tax levy. We must find a way, whatever it is, to give our taxpayers some relief. The administrator and I will be working closely on this over the next 30 days and I will report back to you at the next meeting on our progress of maintaining a stable municipal tax rate while also maintaining a high level of municipal and emergency services that we all rely on.

**POLICE, OEM VEHICLES & EQUIPMENT:**

The resolution to purchase one new vehicle as part of the Ordinance that was approved to purchase police equipment and a vehicle for the OEM is again on the agenda. It was my suggestion that we compromise and order a hybrid vehicle for the Chief of Police and transfer his vehicle to the OEM. I have also asked that the OEM Jeep that is being retired be transferred to the Board of Education to be used as a security vehicle within the school system. As agreed, passage of this resolution will require 4 affirmative votes.

Also on the agenda are a number of resolutions to purchase the various police department vehicles, equipment and the supporting service agreements. We need to move forward and give our officers the proper equipment to do their jobs. We have done some research since the last meeting and again, the administrator will address our findings during his report. I am again urging this Committee to pass these resolutions tonight.

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**PUBLIC WORKS FACILITIES:**

On the agenda tonight are two resolutions concerning the new public works facilities. One is for the salt dome and the other is for the fueling station. Both of these are being designed and constructed independently of the Public Works building. The administrator will address these resolutions during his report.

**OTHER EVENTS:**

Some events coming up that you may want to attend are;

1. The annual Family Carnival will again be held at the Collins School starting on Wednesday evening, August 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM and continuing each night until Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup>.
2. Also on Sunday the 17<sup>th</sup> is the third and final Atlantic Grand Prix OHV event will be held at Johnson’s pit.
3. The last flea market of the season at the public dock is scheduled for Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> from 8 AM to 4 PM.
4. I’m happy to announce that the Hurricane House will reopen after some major renovations, tomorrow, August 5<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM.
5. And finally, the Barnegat Fire Company is holding a barbecue this coming Saturday, the 9<sup>th</sup>, from 2 to 8 PM.

**Jeffrey M. Melchiondo**  
**Mayor, Barnegat Township**