

DiCarlo: 2014 Budget Violates Gov. Christie's "Best Practices"

Chintall budget increases debt and spending, raises taxes 8 cents and plugs the deficit by spending \$1.5 million in school taxes!

On May 1, 2014, the Municipal Budget was introduced via a 4 to 1 vote, with Committee-woman Denice DiCarlo casting the lone "no" vote. DiCarlo's main objection was the reckless use of \$1.5 million of school taxes as "one shot" revenue to close the 2013 Budget deficit and temporarily replenish 2014 revenue.

DiCarlo characterized the move as an "accounting gimmick that is not in line with Governor Christie's Best Practices for local government budgeting"

Here is what we know about the proposed 2014 Budget:

- Takes and spends \$1.5 million of Deferred School Taxes as "one time" revenue to plug the gaping hole in the 2014 Municipal Budget. **Without this one-time revenue gimmick available next year, a tax increase of 13 cents will be unavoidable.**
- By using the State Health Benefits Plan for employee healthcare insurance, the cost to taxpayers for healthcare coverage could be reduced by at least 18%. Instead, Chintall has awarded a no-bid insurance broker contract to political donor AJM Insurance. Prior to being hired as Acting Administrator, Brandon Umba worked for AJM Insurance! **Umba publicly confessed that he and Mayor Chintall didn't even consider switching to the State Health Benefits Plan. Estimated waste of tax dollars: \$495,000!**
- **Legal costs increased 32% (\$110,000)** despite Gloucester County assuming all legal costs related to defense of tax appeals. Where is this money going?
- Five-year Capital Plan completely lacks any specifics, and only approves adding debt in the amount of \$400,000 per year for road and storm drain repair, purchase of emergency service vehicles, maintenance of parks and buildings, including Riverwinds Community Center. **There are no funds actually "banked" for needed projects or unexpected emergencies. \$400,000 is barely enough to fix storm drains and pave one municipal street.**
- Despite terrible leaf collection last fall, the **Leaf Collection budget is slashed 80%.**

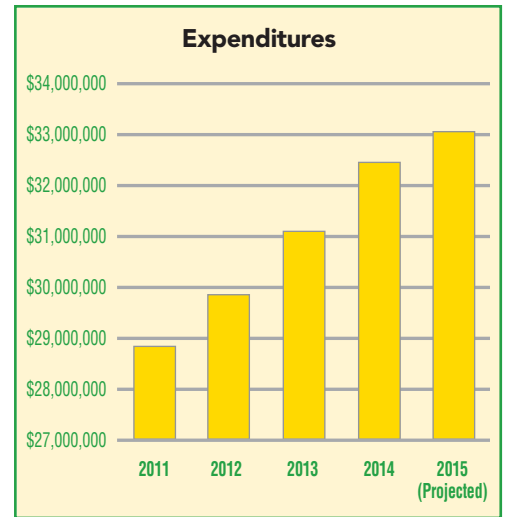
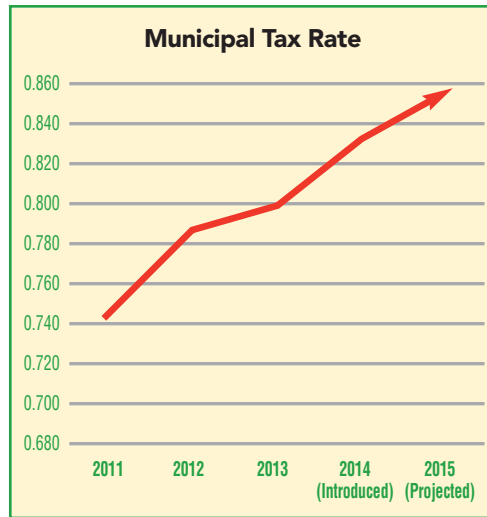
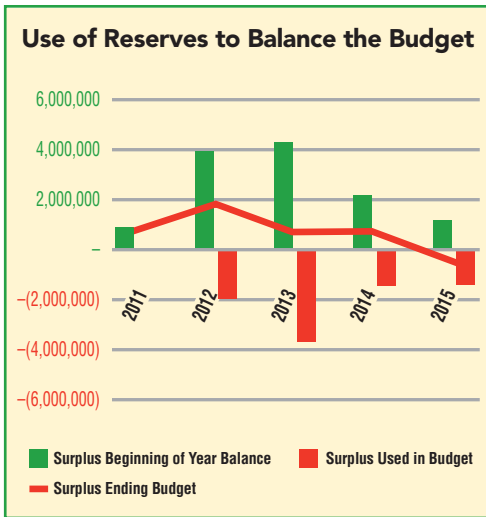
"Keeping You Informed!"

Committeewoman
Denice DiCarlo



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These charts illustrate that West Deptford finances are going in the wrong direction!



“This is what you get when the budget is a product of Chintall’s closed-door meetings that shut out the public. This is an irresponsible “Re-Elect Ray Chintall” budget thrown together by Acting Administrator/Campaign Manager Brandon Umba. The budget is balanced by an irresponsible \$1.5 million dollar raid on school revenue, fails to fund basic services like leaf collection, but fattens the bank accounts of political donors.”
said DiCarlo

“As strongly recommended by Governor Christie and the New Jersey Inspector General, over 60 percent of municipalities use the State Health Benefits Plan to provide health insurance coverage for their employees. West Deptford taxpayers could have saved over \$500,000 a year. I recommended this alternative last year, and was ignored. This year I again proposed studying the move, but Mayor Chintall said “NO,” said DiCarlo

“Instead Mayor Chintall rammed through a no-bid contract with AJM Insurance, even after he and Mr. Umba admitted they never considered the state health plan. Prior to his being named Acting Administrator, Mr. Umba was employed by AJM Insurance, a blatant ethical conflict. West Deptford taxpayers are the losers when government is mismanaged this badly.” said DiCarlo.