



# New 2015 Budget Stabilizes Spending and Taxes

## Long-term Debt Down \$5 Million, Debt Payments Reduced \$562,000

On May 6th, the Township Committee amended and adopted the proposed 2015 Budget cutting spending by approximately \$700,000 and **reduced the proposed municipal tax increase from 5.7 cents to 3.5 cents.**

The original executive budget put forth by the former Administrator called for a total spending increase of \$1,935,000, and would have required a 10-cent increase in municipal taxes. "This was an unacceptable budget for our taxpayers," said Mayor Denice DiCarlo.

*"West Deptford residents deserve a responsible budget that did not spike municipal taxes, and after working with our finance professionals, that is what we have achieved,"* stated DiCarlo.

Highlights of the amended budget include:

- **Cuts annual employee and retiree health care costs by \$935,000 by switching to the NJ State Health Benefits system.**
- **Debt payments reduced by \$562,000. The township's long-term net debt further reduced by \$5 million.**
- **Legal costs reduced by \$4,000.**
- **Increases Aid to Volunteer Fire Companies by \$40,000.**

### 2015 Budget Appropriations

ITEM	EXPENSE	% OF TOTAL
Debt	9,497,900	29.8%
Public Safety	4,712,371	14.8%
Insurance	3,234,128	10.2%
Public Works	2,777,934	8.7%
Parks and Recreation	2,526,810	7.9%
Statutory Expenditures	2,280,724	7.2%
Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	1,517,600	4.8%
General Government	1,379,877	4.3%
Landfill Solid Waste Disposal	1,061,000	3.3%
Utilities and Bulk Purchases	850,165	2.7%
Education (including Library)	768,748	2.4%
Uniform Construction Code	319,350	1.0%
Capital	285,000	0.9%
Court and Public Defender	260,750	0.8%
Unclassified	260,541	0.8%
Land-Use Administration	78,300	0.2%
Health and Human Services	33,800	0.1%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31,844,997</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### 2015 Budget Revenues

ITEM	EXPENSE	% OF TOTAL
Local Tax for Municipal Purposes	19,578,687	61.5%
Other Special Items	3,335,259	10.5%
State Aid (without offsetting appropriation)	2,009,241	6.3%
Additional Revenue Offset by Appropriations	1,893,152	5.9%
Local Revenue	1,822,199	5.7%
Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	1,224,210	3.8%
Minimum Library Tax	768,748	2.4%
Surplus	564,596	1.8%
Uniform Construction Code Fees	389,100	1.2%
Public and Private Revenue	259,805	0.8%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31,844,997</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**“ We have cut spending wherever we could, and we plan on using the employee health insurance savings by re-investing some of those tax dollars into properly maintaining public assets like town hall, roads and storm drains, our parks and playing fields, including Union Field and RiverWinds Community Center. These community assets help make our neighborhoods great, and by maintaining them we are protecting West Deptford taxpayers' investment. ”**  
stated DiCarlo.

# Mayor Cuts Water and Sewer Rates 3%

After being sworn-in as Mayor on January 1st, Mayor DiCarlo inherited a mess in the Water and Sewer Department budget, but has made real progress in straightening out the billing, collection, and associated financial issues.

**Billings are now more accurate** and collection of water revenue has been greatly improved. As a result of the progress made this year in billing and collection, **water and sewer rates** will be **cut 3%**, a **savings of \$35** a year for the average residential customer.

For questions about water and sewer billing call 856.845.4004.

WELCOME

## Mayor's Door Always Open

I have been Mayor for almost five months now, and by far the best part of the job is being able to help West Deptford residents. If you need help or have a question, my door is always open. Email me at [ddicarlo@westdeptford.com](mailto:ddicarlo@westdeptford.com) or call 856-845-4004.

**MAYOR DENICE DICARLO**

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**Deputy Mayor James Mehaffey**  
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**Committeeman Adam Reid**  
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## West Deptford SPOTLIGHT

Information, Insight, and Opinion for West Deptford Taxpayers

[www.wdpride.com](http://www.wdpride.com)

"Keeping You Informed!"

Mayor Denice DiCarlo



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## Private Donations Fund Union Field Bleacher Repairs

Last December, township officials learned that the Union Field concrete bleachers had deteriorated to the point where Little League and West Deptford High School baseball fans and families could not safely use the bleachers. The low bid for the repair work was \$43,672, but Committeemen Hansen and Maher initially voted against the emergency spending resolution that would fund the project. Their opposition effectively blocked the repairs.

Determined to get West Deptford baseball back on Union Field, Mayor DiCarlo went to work lining up contributions to fund the project. In less than a month, she obtained the following contributions:

<b>West Deptford Energy</b>	<b>\$ 20,000</b>
<b>West Deptford Board of Education</b>	<b>\$ 8,000</b>
<b>Johnson Matthey</b>	<b>\$ 2,000</b>
<b>Solvay Solexis</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>
<b>Gigliotti Family</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>
<b>TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	<b>\$ 40,000</b>

**Mayor DiCarlo's fundraising initiative has moved the Union Field bleacher repairs forward,** and

West Deptford youth and high school baseball will soon return to Union Field, one of the premier baseball venues in South Jersey.