

Deputy Mayor Report :

Township last met on April 12; the budget was introduced with a modest 1.1 cent increase despite loss of significant revenue sources from COVID programs, in addition to large increases in medical and retirement costs.

All employee organized contracts are up for renewal this year and are in negotiations.

The average home property tax increase will be about \$67 for the year. The Fire District budget is now around \$3.2 million with 14 paid personnel covering 24/7. This represents no significant increase at this time

in the 5 cent tax rate for the Fire District. Library tax is steady as well. The Library now accepts applications for US Passports.

The next Township Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 25.

As we move out of COVID driven programming, more normal activities are occurring including large turnouts and registrations for recreation department events. DARE program is back again with a highly enthusiastic and

successful graduation of the 5th grade class.

No significant meeting activity in April for the Planning Board, Zoning Board, Development Review Committee and Environmental Advisory Committees.

COVID cases are down to one of the lowest levels in two years with average 300 cases daily in NJ with 1-2 deaths recorded. CDC and FDA authorized boosters for bivalent vaccines effective this week.

Township is accepting registrations for summer camps and counselors for the camps. Also advertising for patrolperson openings in the PD.

Bulk Farm Nature Trail park is ready to open on Cranbury Neck Road; improvements made at the dam for Mill Pond Park; new equipment ordered for installation this year in Community Park.

Looking forward to Founders Day on Saturday, May 6 (rain date Sunday, May 7).

