

2016 BUDGET – OVERVIEW

On March 9, 2016 Mayor Wilkie and the Township Council introduced the 2016 budget, and scheduled the public hearing and adoption for 8 p.m. on Wednesday, April 6, 2016.

The 2016 budget presented to Township Council by Mayor Wilkie maintains all municipal services and does not increase the local purpose tax (LPT). By keeping the local purpose tax flat in 2016 at .439, the average assessed homeowner will pay less in municipal taxes this year. The local purpose tax has remained at .439 for the last four (4) years. Mayor Wilkie and the Township Council work closely together to not only maintain services, but to expand services wherever possible throughout the community.

The Road Improvement Program for 2016 is sizeable in scope and continues the township's commitment to improving roadways in the community. Township Council recently awarded a contract for the 2016 Road Program, and work will begin in the next few months. Over the upcoming summer, the Mayor and Township Council will decide on the streets that will be designated for improvement in 2017. Once complete, the full list of roads will be posted on the municipal website.

Besides the 2016 Road Program, Florence Township applied for and was awarded a grant from the state to make improvements to Hornberger Avenue. The township recently accepted bids and awarded a contract to mill and repave Hornberger Avenue from Delaware Avenue to Parish Lane. Work will be completed this year.

Our 2016 budget also includes funding to hire 2 new police officers for the Florence Township Police Department. The Mayor and Council authorized the purchase and funding of body cameras, and the police department has also received a grant from the State of New Jersey to help defray part of the equipment costs.

As part of its efforts to address properties that need to be revitalized to improve the community, Florence Township has purchased the former Pinto's site on Hornberger Avenue and will also be acquiring the Marconi Lodge before the summer. The Marconi Lodge will be demolished and the site will be cleaned to grade level. Pinto's will also be cleaned up during 2016. In addition to these 2 sites, the township is working on improving Railroad Avenue, from Delaware Avenue to Cedar Lane. The goal is to help make this roadway an attractive streetscape into the community.

Mayor Wilkie, Township Council, Planning Board, Economic Development Commission and our professional staff continue to diligently work with commercial developers to expand business opportunities and job creation in the community. Efforts to improve the Route 130 Corridor, Cedar Lane and the former Griffin Pipe property on West Front Street are ongoing. Florence Township's goal is to ensure that economic development continues to flourish and that growth is balanced over time.

One of the challenges facing Florence Township and other municipalities is property maintenance. The Mayor and Council have authorized the hiring of additional permanent staff to implement more code enforcement efforts in the coming year. This initiative is meant to improve the quality of life for all residents of Florence Township

On-line registration for municipal recreation programs began this past fall and will be expanded for all recreation programs this year. Further, the Mayor and Council have directed the administrative staff to apply for funding under Burlington County's Recreational Grant Program. This grant program is a tremendous initiative by the Freeholders that helps townships all throughout the county. If our application is approved, the funding will be used to upgrade JAR Riverside Avenue Park, R.D. Wood Park, Riverbank Drive Tot Lot and Marter Park. Besides these improvements, the Assistant Administrator, Tom Sahol is working on a new tree planting program and other recreation improvements for our township.

This year, the Mayor and Council will be holding the Florence Township Patriotic Celebration on Saturday, July 9, 2016. Our Recreation Coordinator, Marty Eckert will be posting information about the day-long event and fireworks as we get closer to July 9th. This is a truly wonderful event that brings our community together for a day of fun, family enjoyment and patriotic appreciation for the men and women who unselfishly serve our country.

Lastly, Florence Township is exploring the possibility of starting a Farmers Market in the community. The members of the Environmental Commission initiated the idea of holding a Farmers Market and in the months ahead, Tom Sahol will be working with the Commission and staff to see if we can make this idea a reality for our residents.

In addition to this outline, there are charts and graphs done by the CFO, Sandy Blacker that give an overview of the 2016 budget. If there are any questions about the budget prior to the public hearing on April 6, 2016, residents are welcome to contact the Township Administrator, Richard Brook at (609) 499-2525.

2016 BUDGET – OVERVIEW

2015 Total Appropriation	2016 Total Appropriation	
<u>w/o Reserve</u>	<u>w/o Reserve</u>	<u>Difference</u>
\$ 10,487,413	\$ 11,561,856	\$ 1,074,443

2015 Total Appropriation	2016 Total Appropriation	Final
<u>w/Reserve</u>	<u>w/Reserve</u>	<u>Difference</u>
\$ 11,111,413	\$ 12,189,856	\$ 1,078,443

<u>Amount to be Raised by Taxation</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>Difference</u>
<u>2015</u>		
\$ 5,524,030	\$ 5,476,446	\$ (47,584)

Local Purpose Tax

	<u>Average Assessment</u>	<u>LPT Rate</u>	<u>Local Purpose Tax</u>	<u>Difference</u>
2013	\$ 227,410	.439	\$ 998	(\$ 8.00)
2014	\$ 224,411	.439	\$ 985	(\$ 13.00)
2015	\$ 221,014	.439	\$ 970	(\$ 15.00)
2016	\$ 218,712	.439	\$ 960	(\$ 10.00)

**TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE
2016 MUNICIPAL BUDGET
Revenue and Appropriation Summaries**

Summary of Revenues	Anticipated	
	2016	2015
1. Surplus	\$1,416,600.00	\$1,600,000.00
2. Total Miscellaneous Revenues	4,906,810.00	3,815,912.74
3. Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	390,000.00	420,000.00
4. a) Local Tax for Municipal Purposes	5,476,446.00	5,524,030.00
b) Addition to Local District School Tax	0.00	0.00
Total Amt to be Raised by Taxes for Support of Municipal Budget	5,476,446.00	5,524,030.00
Total General Revenues	\$12,189,856.00	\$11,359,942.74
Summary of Appropriations	2016 Budget	Final 2015 Budget
1. Operating Expenses: Salaries & Wages	\$5,046,824.00	\$4,852,475.00
Other Expenses	3,773,837.92	3,676,099.73
2. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations	913,689.08	863,675.01
3. Capital Improvements	25,000.00	75,000.00
4. Debt Service (Include for School Purposes)	1,802,505.00	1,268,693.00
5. Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	628,000.00	624,000.00
Total General Appropriations	\$12,189,856.00	\$11,359,942.74
Total Number of Employees	89	89

2016 Dedicated Water & Sewer Utility Budget		
Summary of Revenues	Anticipated	
	2016	2015
1. Surplus	\$354,036.00	\$342,506.00
2. Miscellaneous Revenues	5,280,000.00	5,230,000.00
3. Capital Surplus	0.00	0.00
4. Deficit (General Budget)	0.00	0.00
Total Revenues	\$5,634,036.00	\$5,572,506.00
Summary of Appropriations	2016 Budget	Final 2015 Budget
1. Operating Expenses: Salaries & Wages	\$1,303,548.00	\$1,259,825.00
Other Expenses	2,464,060.00	2,206,190.00
2. Capital Improvements	120,000.00	132,000.00
3. Debt Service	1,526,225.00	1,767,210.00
4. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations	220,203.00	207,281.00
5. Surplus (General Budget)	0.00	0.00
Total Appropriations	5,634,036.00	5,572,506.00
Total Number of Employees	13	13

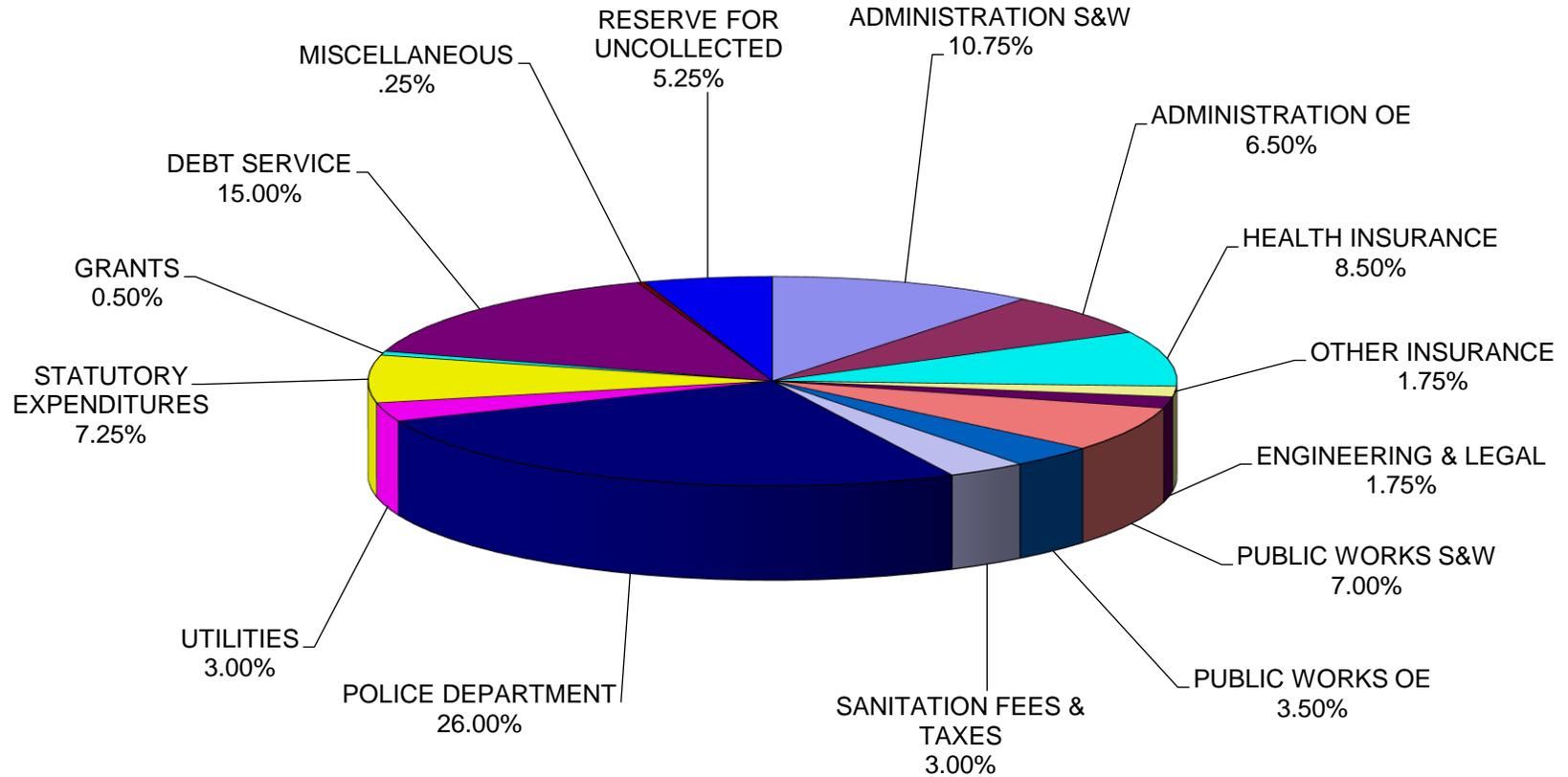
Balance of Outstanding Debt		General	Water & Sewer Utility
Interest		614,623	693,195
Principal		4,716,848	5,618,000
Outstanding Balance		\$5,331,471	\$6,311,195

Notice is hereby given that the budget and tax resolution was approved by the Township Council of the Township of Florence, County of Burlington on March 9, 2016.

A hearing on the budget and tax resolution will be held at the Municipal Building on April 6, 2016, at 8:00 o'clock p.m. at which time and place objections to the Budget and Tax Resolution for the year 2016 may be presented by taxpayers or other interested persons.

Copies of the budget are available in the office of the Township Clerk at the Municipal Building,
711 Broad Street, Florence, New Jersey (609)
499-2525
during the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

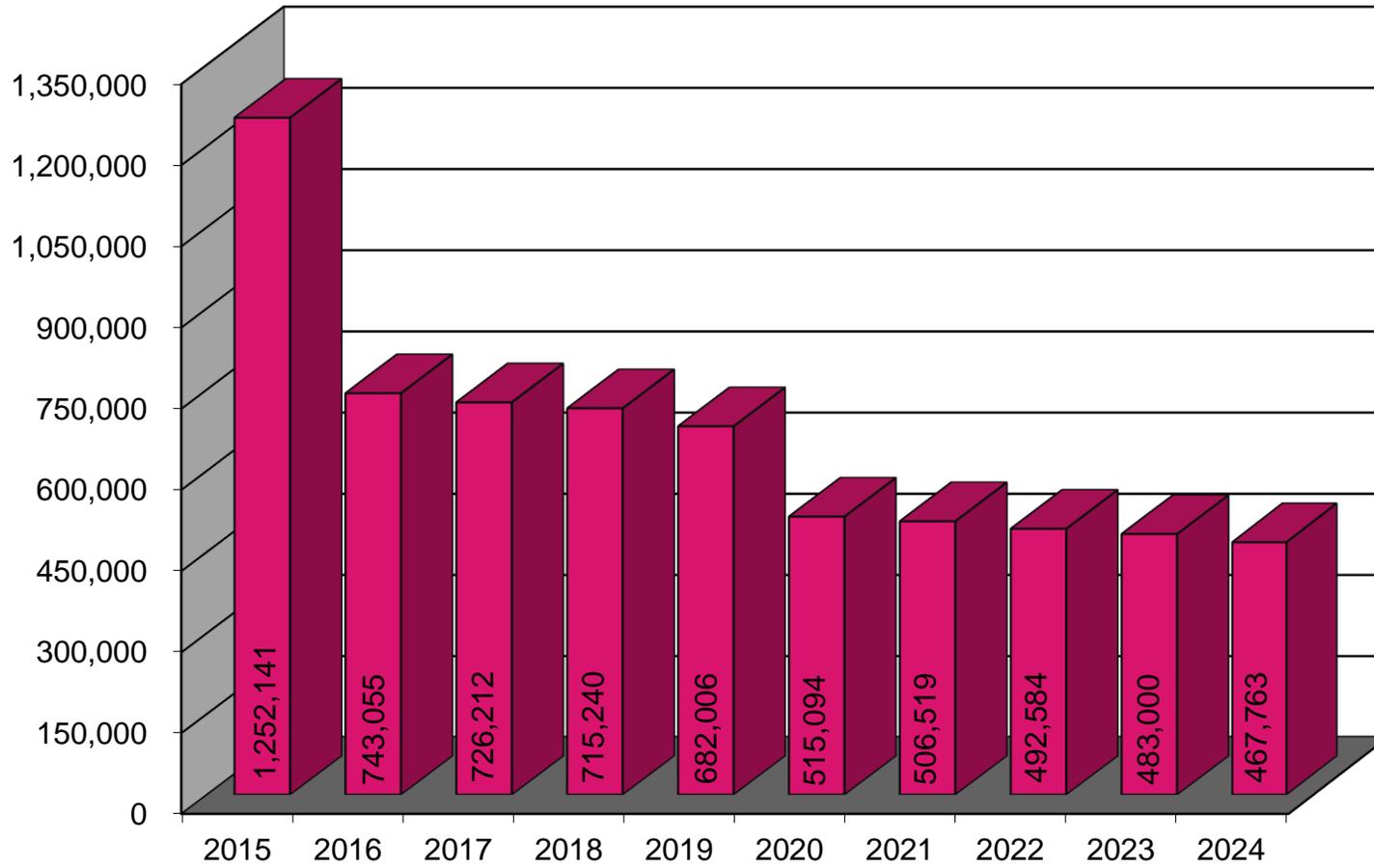
2016 CURRENT FUND BUDGET



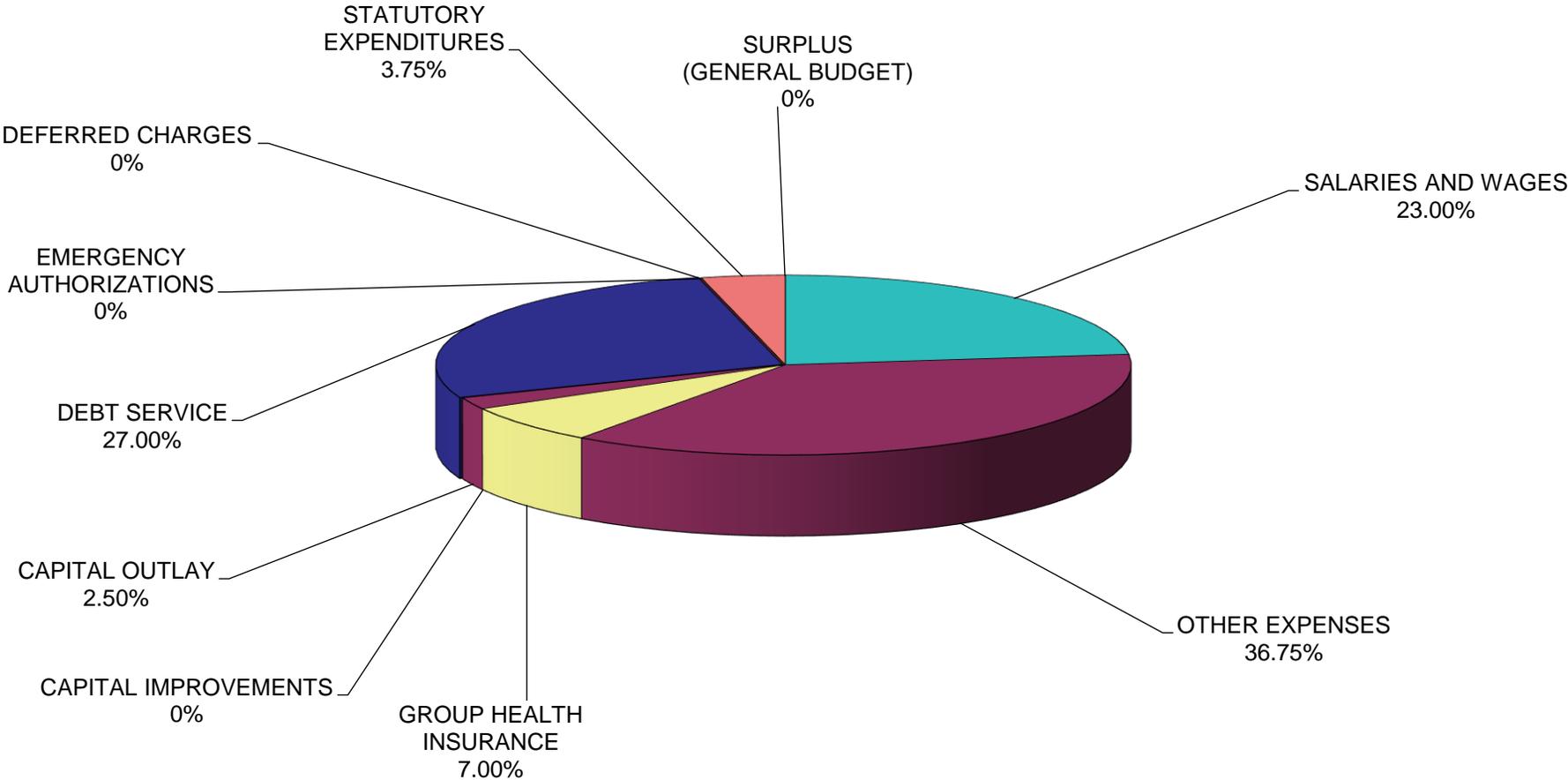
POLICE DEPARTMENT
Salaries 24.00%
Other Expenses 2.00%

TOTAL 2016 BUDGET
12,189,856

Current Debt Service



2016 WATER & SEWER BUDGET



TOTAL 2016 BUDGET
\$5,634,036

Water & Sewer Utility Debt Service

