



BOROUGH OF HAWTHORNE

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Mayor

Richard S. Goldberg

July 13, 2021

Dear Resident,

The past year has been a difficult one for Hawthorne and the entire country due to the COVID-19 health emergency. Fortunately, the worst appears to be behind us, with the number of positive cases dropping and vaccines widely available. Our community responded admirably to this crisis in its adherence to social distancing measures, helping to minimize the spread of the disease. The broader impact has been to residents who lost jobs, and to businesses which had to close. For people still wrestling with COVID-related financial issues, we have provided information for grant and loan programs by the state and federal governments on the Borough website at www.hawthornenj.org.

Programmatically, the Borough has again scheduled activities it chose to cancel last year to reduce the chance of transmission: recreational sports, bandshell events, the Lincoln Middle School Leadership Camp and Hawthorne Day. Regrettably, Cel-Earth-Bration and the Memorial Day Parade were canceled again this year before the number of COVID cases dropped. While the summer recreation program had to be canceled because the Board of Education was using its facilities for summer school, a partnership among the Board of Recreation, the Municipal Alliance and the Boro Bandshell Committee brought enhanced family entertainment to the bandshell. The Municipal Building and the Library have fully re-opened to the public after remaining at least partially open during most of the pandemic, and meetings of the Borough Council and other local boards are now being conducted in person as we see a return to normalcy.

The Borough has received Local Fiscal Relief Funds appropriated by the federal American Recovery Plan Act that will pay additional costs necessary to keep the public and our employees safe, replace lost revenues and fund water or sewer infrastructure projects. Details on the specific uses of these funds are still being worked out between my administration and the Borough Council.

In light of what's going on, it seems almost insignificant to report that, once again, my administration has worked closely with the Borough Council to produce a fiscally-responsible budget with a modest 2% tax increase.

This year the Borough received two separate \$75,000 Open Space Grants from Passaic County which will fund half the cost of each of two projects: pathway lighting by the Boro Bandshell, and installation of playground equipment on the pool property, which will complete a series of improvements to the pool property undertaken during my administration.

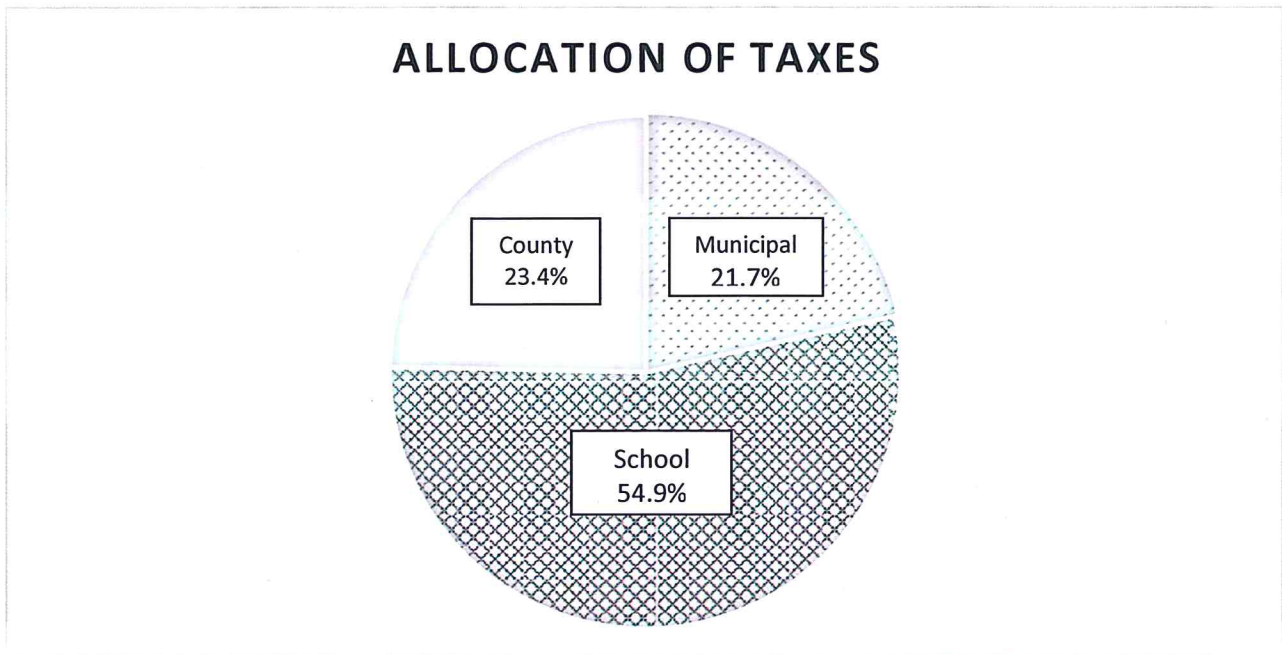
The municipal portion of the tax bill, including the amount for the Library, represents the smallest share of the total, just 21.7%. Passaic County accounts for 23.4% of the total, and the local schools 54.9%.

As I approach the end of my tenure as Mayor, I am proud of the work I have done with the Council to put the Borough in a strong financial position. I thank the residents of Hawthorne for their support during my twenty-four years of service.

Sincerely,

Richard S. Goldberg
Mayor

YOUR 2021 TAXES AND HOW THEY'RE SPENT



WHAT YOU GET FOR YOUR MUNICIPAL TAX DOLLARS:

- Police
- Library
- Garbage, Recycling, Yard Waste & Leaf Pick-up
- Sewer Service
- Roads: Cleaning, Snow Plowing, Traffic Lights, Street Lights & Shade Trees
- Budget Supports Volunteer Fire & Ambulance Services
- Recreation: Pool, Summer Recreation, Youth Sports & Adult Senior Bus Trips
- Zoning & Code Enforcement