

To: Interested Taxpayers and Residents  
From: Mantoloking Mayor and Council  
Re: Proposed 2013 Budget  
Date: May 12, 2013

The development of a budget for 2013 has been a particularly challenging task. Superstorm Sandy's landfall in Mantoloking created obligations this municipality has never experienced before. We have had to increase full-time, temporary, and part-time employees to meet the needs of our residents and undertake millions of dollars worth of clean-up, remediation, and restoration projects.

Municipal Finance Officer Michelle Swisher has prepared the proposed budget summarized on the reverse. This document is intended to illustrate the various functions that Mantoloking government must serve, the costs during the last two years and projected for the current year; and the impact of this proposed budget on your local tax bill.

Some things you will observe about this proposed budget:

- The budget anticipates \$2,353,000 in extraordinary revenues which may or may not recur in future budgets:
  - FEMA Community disaster loan
  - FEMA Sandy Reimbursements
  - FEMA Beach Push Grant
- The budget also appropriates \$200,000 from Capital Surplus
- The budget significantly increases the level of services the municipality has traditionally provided
  - The number of FTE employees is up from 15 to 20.5 (All of the added employees qualify for FEMA reimbursement.)
- The cost of operating the beaches has been budgeted independently to avoid any misunderstanding about beach revenues subsidizing other municipal costs
- The cost of legal services and building code enforcement are up substantially.

Nevertheless, the tax burden associated with this budget is down:

- The anticipation of extraordinary revenue has made it possible to reduce the tax levy by 23.1%
- Property value losses after the damage of Sandy has resulted in total assessed valuation in the borough being 32.9% lower than it was before the storm
- As a result, the tax rate increases by 14.6%
- But because the average tax assessment will be 32.9% lower than last year, the average tax bill will be down by 23.1%

We hope you find this information interesting. We expect to approve this budget on first reading tonight and will welcome your questions and observations before and during the public hearing scheduled for June 17.