

Hunterdon Adopts Tax Freeze Budget For Third Year In Row

No Debt Capital Plan Continues for 7th Year

Spends Less Than Over Decade Ago

Hunterdon County's Board of Commissioners, at the May 18th meeting, gave final approval to the 2021 County budget that freezes the tax rate for the third year, continues the Board's no debt capital plan for the seventh year, and spends less than over a decade ago.

Board Director Susan J. Soloway stated, "This is the third budget to come before me as a member of the Board and the third consecutive time that the tax rate has remained frozen. As I have said before, that is how we put Hunterdon County first.

This is a budget document that reflects our conservative fiscal approach and lets the taxpayers know we hear you and we care about your household's bottom-line."

The \$92.3 million budget continues the 31.5 cents per \$100 valuation tax rate from 2018.

Commissioner Matt Holt, a member of the Board's Budget Committee, reported, "the budget remains substantially below the nearly \$100 million budget from 2007.

When the 2007 budget is extrapolated out with the at least 2% increases per year that almost every other county has routinely added to their budgets – that 2007 budget today would have grown to over \$130 million.

Compare that figure to the \$92.3 million budget. That is significant cost and tax avoidance for the taxpayers.

The budget also continues this Board's pay as you go no debt capital policy and contains no debt service for the seventh year in a row. Those facts demonstrate to Hunterdon County taxpayers that this Board is listening, and we take our fiscal responsibilities seriously."

Commissioner Shaun C. Van Doren, also a member of the Budget Committee, said, "The fact that the county tax rate remains the same as it was 2018, while the

county government continues to operate efficiently and effectively, sends a strong message of positivity to our taxpayers.

These achievements come from actions taken not just by this Board, but by previous Board members as well. Each budget is designed not just with the single year in mind, but with a strategy forecasting out to future years, in an effort to create sound, consistent, and stable fiscal policy.

Delivering mandated and needed services for the public is the job of county government and in Hunterdon County it is accomplished always with an eye on cost effectiveness. The 2021 budget proves that point once again.”

A copy of the 2021 Hunterdon County budget can be found on-line [here](#).