



HH Public Works Analysis

March 18th , 2008

Mayor Scott Alexander

Tad Fetter – Chair, Finance Committee

Public Works Committee: Lee Wentz – Chair,
Gordon Shoppe
Don Witzig

Introduction

1. Property taxes are at unacceptable levels with borough residents, and cuts across municipal budgets by the State have created a crisis
2. The Governing Body's has been looking at ways to find cost savings, therefore a thorough analysis of the Department of Public Works has been completed.
3. The savings realized from this effort are included in the proposed 2008 municipal budget.

Labors Savings in other Towns

- Lumberton: 1/3rd of municipal work force, 9 employees
- Barrington: Not made a determination yet, but being considered.
- Collingswood: Strong possibility, still to be determined.
- Mt. Ephraim: Possibility
- Haddon Twp: Laid off 4 positions: Deputy Clerk, Supt. of DPW, 1 clerical, 1 clerical made PT
- Haddonfield: Not at this time due to recent retirements, (Police Lt. will not be filling position. Deputy Tax Collector retired, will hire someone at lower rate.)
- Runnemede: As of April 1: 2 Police Dept. Officers, 1 PT fire secretary, 1 PT Bd. of Health Sec., Deputy Clerk retired, not rehiring, PT college student helper not rehiring, bus driver laid off along with 1 PT DPW employee. Cut \$300k from budget before layoffs.
- Waterford: Working with skeleton crew now. Have a good surplus, deferring school tax this year, taking from surplus.
- Magnolia and HiNella - no layoffs, but tax rate is increasing.

Methodology

- Gather data from Gary Geserick, Superintendant of Public Works to understand current operations and manpower needs
- Gather DPW data from surrounding towns for comparison purposes and to determine if a more thorough analysis was warranted
- Obtain input and recommendations from public works consultant through onsite analysis, and in-person interviews
- Obtain analysis from the Haddon Heights CFO to determine cost savings from privatizing recycling

Top-Level Findings

- Haddon Heights is overstaffed versus Haddonfield (HF) and Barrington (BA)
- Privatizing recycling provides a net savings of approximately \$81,000 per year
- Haddon Heights can realize total annual savings in the range of \$500,000 to \$600,000 by implementing recommendations
- Haddon Heights can maintain all services levels with new operational model



Finding Details

Staffing

Haddon Heights has more EFTs along every metric versus HH and BA. HH uses less seasonal, and have more supervisors than HF and BA.

	Full-time*	Seasonal (hours/yr)	EFTs	EFTs per Square Mile	EFT per 1,000 Residents	EFTs per 1,000 Housing Units
HH	16	2 (3,120)	17.5	10.9	2.3	5.6
HF	17	12 (4,800)	19.3	6.7	1.6	4.2
BA	11	6 (2,400)	12.0	7.5	1.7	4.0

* Figures DO NOT include secretaries

	Supervisor	Foreman	Mechanics	Seasonal	Secretary
HH	1	2	2	2	0
HF	1	1	1	12	1
BA	1	1	2	6	1

Collection Operations

	HH	HF	BA
Brush Collection	In House (weekly) 2007 – 418 tons	In House (weekly) 2007– 390 tons	In House
Recycle	In House (weekly) 2007 – 1,067 tons	In House (weekly) 2007 – 1,777 Tons	Privatized (weekly)
Grass Clippings	In House (weekly) 2006 – 377 tons	In House (weekly) 2006 – 860 tons	In House
Leaf Collection	In House (4 times/yr) 2006 – 2,017 tons 2007 – 5,689 yds	In House (10 times/yr) 2006 – 4,300 tons 2007 – 13,000 yds	In House (4 times/year)
Trash Collection	Privatized* (weekly)	In House 2007 – 7,000 tons (weekly)	Privatized (weekly)

* In addition to EFTs, Haddon Heights spent \$182,035 in 2007 for garbage & trash removal.

Recycling Analysis

• Direct Cost – Salary & Wages:	\$131,539
• Employee Service Expense:	\$67,902
• Depreciation/Repair/Fuel:	\$30,700
• <u>Administration:</u>	<u>\$26,391</u>
• Total Cost – In-house Recycle:	\$256,533
• <i>Quote 1: Waste Management</i>	<i>\$175,000</i>
◦ <i>Bi-weekly full town pick-up</i>	
• <i>Quote 2: SJ Sanitation</i>	<i>\$180,000</i>
◦ <i>Weekly full town pick-up</i>	
• Approximate Savings:	\$81,000

Recommendations

- Reorganize the DPW department
- Privatize recycling and tree work
- Auction off unneeded equipment
- Maintain/increase the level of service to residents