



# Township of Branchburg

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**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

[WWW.BRANCHBURG.NJ.US](http://WWW.BRANCHBURG.NJ.US)

Fellow Residents:

July 2015

Enclosed you will find your 2015-2016 property tax bill which shows how your tax dollars are being spent. The Township has taken careful steps over the last few years to ensure that our financial "house" is in order.

While the State and other communities are experiencing a decline in their tax base and a reduction in their financial ratings, Branchburg has seen an increase in local employment and an improved ratable base. We are especially proud that our bond rating has been upgraded to "AAA" status. The best any town can receive. There are only 18 communities in the State of New Jersey and only 250 nationwide and who have earned this prestigious financial status. This ranking was conferred upon us by independent bond rating firms and is a result of a solid financial plan, a healthy ratable base and sound management both fiscally and administratively. Achieving this financial ranking will result in lower borrowing rates and therefore save countless taxpayer dollars.

Your local municipal tax dollars are being used for many worthwhile projects and services. For the second year in a row, the Township will invest over \$1 million dollars to improve our road infrastructure. This year those funds have come from additional revenues brought in from our new and expanding corporate presence in the community. As such we have been able to keep the municipal portion of your tax bill limited to an increase of only \$36 for the average household while continuing to improve our roads and parks.

Your tax dollars help, but by no means fully fund, our volunteer fire and rescue squad services. These volunteer organizations are the heart of our emergency management team and are fully staffed by your friends and neighbors. Please remember to support these volunteers during their annual fundraising activities.

The members of the Township Committee, and the Township staff, recognize the trust you have placed in us to manage your local government. We have made it our daily goal to produce the most cost effective and efficient organization possible. Should you have questions on any portion of your tax bill please contact the following agencies:

- Branchburg Board of Education: Theresa Linskey, Business Administrator 908-722-3335
- Somerset County Taxes: Robert Vance, Tax Administrator 908-541-5701
- Branchburg Local Taxes: Diane Szakacs, Tax Collector 908-526-1300 x121

My Township Committee colleagues and I stand ready to assist you in any way possible. We encourage your participation in our local government and look forward to hearing your comments. Please visit our website, [www.branchburg.nj.us](http://www.branchburg.nj.us), for more information about the Township and the work we are doing for the community.

Sincerely,

John Sanford, Mayor