



# **Committee to Establish Affordability**

# Committee Members

**Bruce Strigh, Chair**

Jennie Ayres

Peggy Capone

Vincent Corso

James Kerrigan

Bill Mangels

Mayor Roger Silva

Staff Liaison: Michael Jacobs

# Strategic Planning Initiative Overview

## **Mission Statement**

To provide essential municipal services in the most effective, efficient and affordable manner.

## **Vision Statement**

The Township of Hamilton strives to be a safe, affordable, diverse residential and business-friendly community.

# Original Findings

## Budget History

- Debt
- Salary & Wages
- Pension Costs
- Health Care Costs
- Local Purpose Tax
- Staffing levels
- Property Tax Distribution

# Original Findings

**Population Growth**

**Ratable Property Tax Base**

**Cumulative Inflation**

**Departmental Growth**

# **Establish Accountability and Sustainable Growth**

## **Purpose**

To Promote Fiscal Accountability in the Township of Hamilton through long-range budgetary planning, defining affordability and transparency.

# Goals

**1**

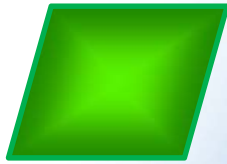
**Develop a Multi Year Fiscal Plan**

**2**

**Aggressively develop Shared Service Agreements with the county, surrounding communities; local and regional school boards**

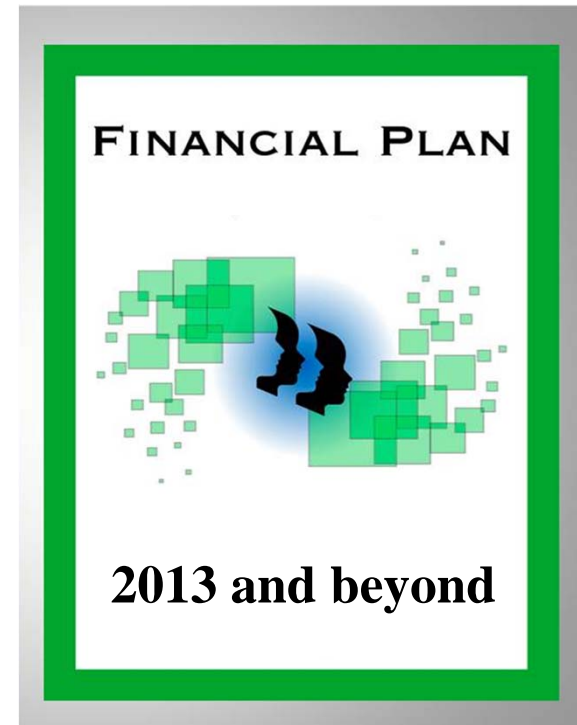
**3**

**Create a Re-evaluation Trust Fund**



## Goal 1

**Develop a  
Multi Year  
Fiscal Plan  
and  
Performance  
Benchmarks**





1

## Objective

Research, develop and adopt and ordinance that establishes annual budget standards including historical trends and future projections.

1

## Actions

1. Research, write and present to Township Committee a draft ordinance.
2. Track key performance budgetary benchmarks over prior 10 years to project spending and budget growth for the next 3 years.

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## Actions Continued

3. Annually collect, assemble and analyze key budget performance indicators to maintain affordability and present to Township Committee prior to the budget process.

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## Actions Continued

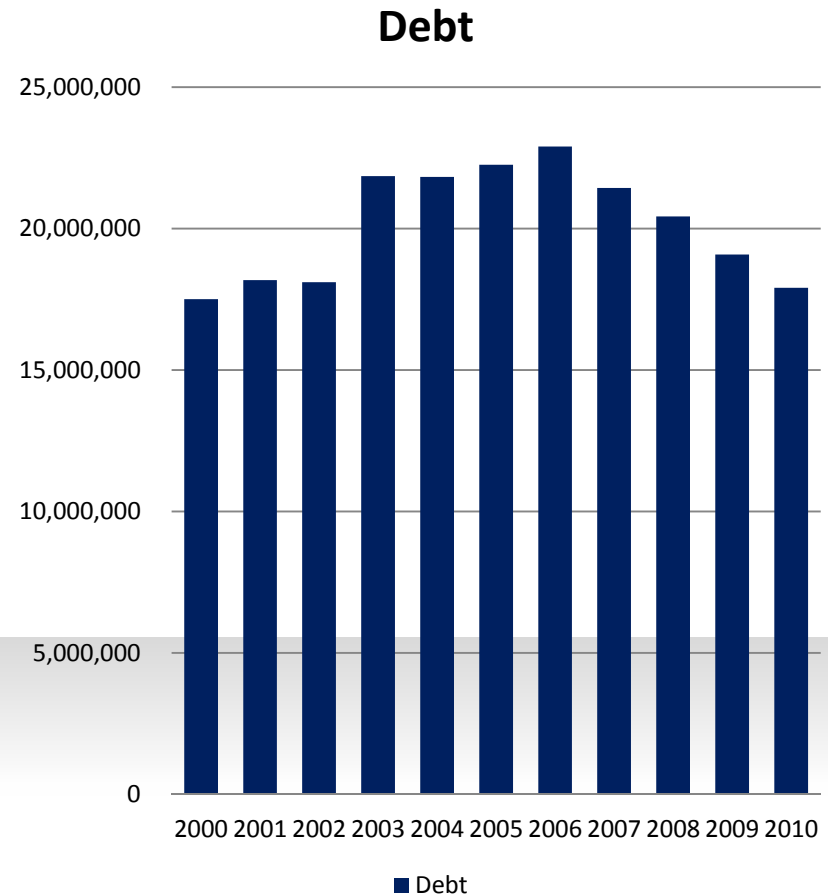
4. Recommend long term options for paying off current debt and reducing property taxes.(Ex. Pay as you go)

# Municipal Debt

- Analysis

Average Debt:  
\$20,136,103 over the 10  
year period.

Taxpayer Paid :  
7.5 Million Dollars in  
Interest over the 10 Year  
Period



1

## **Actions Continued**

5. Adopt current staffing levels as the baseline for future staffing.

# Full Time Employees

Year - Total

2001 - 134

2005 - 151

2006 - 171

2007 - 183

2008 - 176

2009 - 173

2010 - 164

2011 - 118

*Township of Hamilton*



1

## Actions Continued

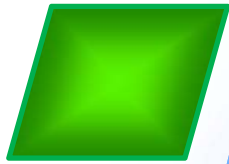
6. All new exempt employees, including department heads and deputies hired after the adoption of this ordinance will be required to work a 40 hour work week.



1

## Actions Continued

7. Annually meet with representation from Atlantic County, Hamilton Township and Greater Egg Harbor School districts to proactively discuss common ground and shared services to stabilize Hamilton Township's overall tax rate.



## Goal 2



**Aggressively develop Shared Service Agreements with the county, surrounding communities; local and regional school boards**

2

## Objective 1

Continue to monitor the most cost-effective way to provide Township Services, including but not limited to:  
Building Maintenance, Vital Statistics, Grounds Maintenance, Road Maintenance, Snow Removal and Payroll.  
Seek bids and utilization of state contracts where applicable.

2

## Objective 2

Inventory Township and County municipalities, businesses and non-profit programs that could participate in shared services, revenue sharing or revenue generating programs.

**ACTION:** Inventory and identify current, new and/or potential revenue streams and partners.

## Goal 3

**Establish a  
Re-evaluation  
Trust Fund**



3

## Objective

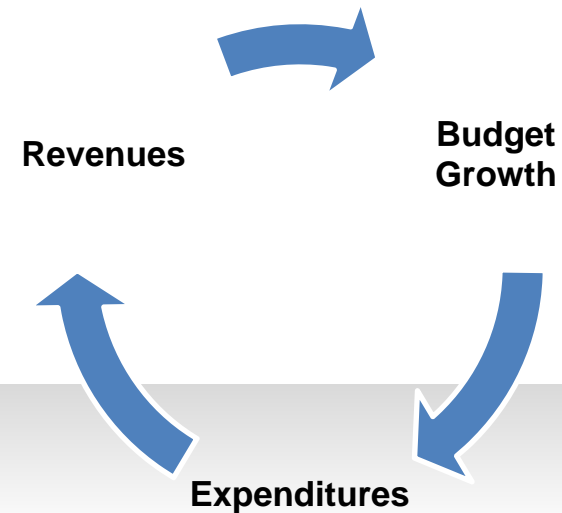
To eliminate potential borrowing and to maintain stable budget. *(These funds will be used to offset a one year expense thus promoting a policy of pay as you go.)*

### **ACTION**

Research the legal and fiscal possibilities of establishing such a trust fund.

# Closing

Sustainable growth is built on accountable budget forecasting and responsible spending, which will assure fiscal vitality for the future of our community.



**Thank you !**