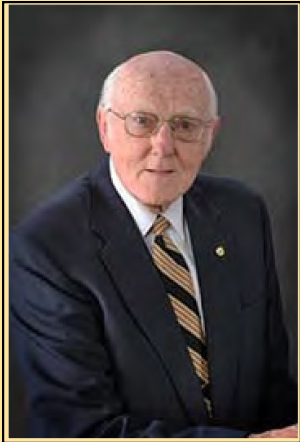


THE

SPECIAL EDITION II, MAY 2023

STRATFORD TIMES



Mayor's Message

ZERO MUNICIPAL TAX INCREASE

On behalf of our Municipal Council

At the Council Meeting on May 8, 2023, Director of Finance Councilwoman Tina Lomanno announced that the 2023 budget was introduced with **NO MUNICIPAL TAX INCREASE**.

Councilwomen Lomanno further clarified that the budget that contained no municipal increase, also contains no cuts to valuable municipal services such as police, fire, ambulance, trash pick-up, snow plowing, roadway improvements and all other customary services that improve our quality of life.

Over recent years, the goal of redevelopment in the Borough has been a long-term solution for stabilizing municipal taxes for our residents. This began with my first year in office and our vision of responsible changes to certain redevelopment areas.

With the help of Councilmembers Tina Lomanno, Linda Hall, Pat Gilligan, Mike Tolomeo, Steve Gandy and Jim Kelly, we have been able to advance redevelopment projects. Now, with these new projects coming to fruition, it is our desire to hold the line on taxes by adding new tax paying entities to our tax base.

As of today, we cannot speak to any rate increases from our local school district, the regional school district nor from Camden County. These are all taxing authorities unto themselves; unfortunately, the Borough of Stratford has no ability whatsoever to govern those budgets.

The budget's public hearing and final passage will be at the Borough Council meeting on Tuesday June 13, 2023 at 6:30pm.