**Beach Haven is Fiscally Responsible: Here are the Facts**

In the week leading up to the recent election, the Beach Haven Council was highly criticized on social media, and a NO vote was recommended on the Green Acres question. These internet communications unfairly maligned the Borough Council, questioning and challenging its “ability to effectively manage the funds created by participation in this program”. Just the opposite is true, when you examine Beach Haven Borough Council’s exemplary job, with great fiscal responsibility, rebuilding and improving the Borough in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy.

Here are the facts:

1.     **The Borough Debt will be reduced**to $14,166,334. This is $752,596 less than it was in 2015 and takes into account the new Municipal building construction cost ($7 million) , the related Grant and loans. This level of debt is very very low by NJ State Standards.

2.     **The Borough Surplus has been increased** to $6.9 million dollars in 2018, which is $2.7 million dollars more than in 2015.

3.     **The Water Utility Fund** **Surplus has been increased**, up 35 percent to $3,025,259.

4.     **The Municipal Tax Rate for 2018 has been lowered**to 0.406 in 2018 from 0.452 in 2015.

5.     **There were no increases in the Borough’s municipal taxes** in both 2017 and 2018.

The above accomplishments were achieved by disciplined spending and hard work. Because of this effort, Beach Haven is better able today to self-fund projects, further reduce its debt, and receive very favorable bond ratings when securing loans. A town that does not invest for its future will slowly decline.

A further statement after the election, indicating that it was good news that the Green Acre Fund question was rejected, was plainly wrong. Turning down a 50 % match for money that could only be used for parks and their improvements (saving many hundreds of thousand dollars) does not benefit Beach Haven.

Falsely accusing Beach Haven Council of not effectively managing public funds was a blatant untruth. As a community, we need to seek the truth, taking into consideration the benefits that would be realized by everyone who owns a piece of Beach Haven and not be swayed by a few individuals.

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Beach Haven NJ