

PATRICK H. McHALE
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In God We Trust

June 6, 2009

Dear Bogota Taxpayers,

At the council meeting of June 4, 2009 your Borough Council authorized the Tax Collector to issue estimated tax bills for the quarter due August 1, 2009. This year, I am insuring that this letter is included with the estimated tax bill unlike last year. We have learned that last year without a letter such as this, we created uncertainty in the minds of many and will not repeat that mistake.

The reasons for the estimated tax bill are simple; the State of New Jersey has not yet set a budget. We anticipate aid from the State and until we are notified as to the status of that aid, we cannot set our budget. In addition, without the estimated tax bill the Borough would run out of money for both the Municipality and the School District.

The Bogota School District's increase below has been certified and shall not change. For the purposes of this estimated tax bill we have prepared this analysis for you.

Source of Taxes	Increase in Points	Estimated Tax Increase in Average Home
Bogota Schools	7 points	\$238.70
Bogota Municipal	4 points	\$136.40
Bergen County	<u>1 point</u>	<u>\$ 34.10</u>
Total	12 points	\$409.20

When we refer to points, it is the amount of spending that will increase tax rates by one cent. In this year, each point is approximately \$83,000 of spending. **No deductions or tax board judgments are reflected in this bill. It will be reflected in the final bill.**

No one is happy to send out tax bills with increases, your Mayor and Council have no control over the spending of either the Bogota School District or the County of Bergen. Your governing body has struggled with both revenue and expenses in this budget. We are implementing changes in both revenues and expenses that we believe shall better control municipal costs in future budget years.

We continue to strive to seek grants to offset the cost of local government and believe that we shall begin to benefit from that effort.

I am available to answer any question you may have if you leave a message at Borough Hall, (201) 342-1736 with the Borough Clerk's office.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick McHale", with a stylized flourish extending to the left.

Patrick McHale

Mayor