

# Borough of Wanaque

PASSAIC COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

MUNICIPAL OFFICE  
579 RINGWOOD AVENUE  
WANAQUE, NJ 07465



MAYOR DANIEL MAHLER  
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August 11, 2020

Dear Fellow Residents,

I hope that everyone has recovered from the latest disaster that 2020 has bestowed upon us. JCP&L has assured us that power has now been restored to 100% of Wanaque. If anyone's power has not yet been restored, please immediately contact the police dispatch desk at 973-835-5600.

The primary reason for the electrical outages in Wanaque was a failure at JCP&L's Haskell Substation. We have been told that a surge in the incoming transmission lines resulted in major equipment failure at the Substation. We are requesting that JCP&L make the appropriate upgrades to the Substation to prevent this type of problem in the future.

Third Quarter 2020 real estate taxes were due Monday, August 10<sup>th</sup>. At our Council meeting on Monday, we decided to extend the grace period for an additional 7 days from August 11 to August 17 due to the recent power outage. This means that if your Third Quarter taxes are paid by August 17, there will be no interest charge. For anyone paying after August 17, the interest charges will be calculated from the original due date.

In addition, since there was some confusion in May regarding the due date of the Second Quarter real estate taxes, we decided to retroactively extend the grace period for 7 days to May 18, 2020. Anyone who paid interest during the period from May 12 to May 18 will have this interest credited to their Fourth Quarter tax bill. For anyone paying after May 18, the interest charges will be calculated from the original due date.

With regard to the 2020 tax bill, the Municipal budget was passed in July with a 1.98% increase in the Municipal tax levy. Of the increase, 1% was related to increased costs and the balance was the result of decreased revenues due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Municipal budget accounts for approximately 23% of the tax bill. The remaining 77% is attributable to the budgets passed by the two school systems and Passaic County. Details of the 2020 budget are available on [www.wanaqueborough.com](http://www.wanaqueborough.com).

The transmission rate of Covid-19 has slowed down quite a bit in New Jersey. However, the risk of spreading this disease still remains. We must continue being vigilant, maintaining social distancing and wearing a face covering when in public. Stay safe and stay healthy.

Sincerely,

Mayor Dan Mahler