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Lashway, Lisa

From: Joseph Brochu [josephbrochu@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, April 05, 2010 1:37 PM
To: Tobey, Phil; Greenbaum, Rob; Perkins, Ray; Pat Walsh; Labow, Coleen; Roman, Alex; jmani@mtolivetwp.org; Mayor David Scapicchio; Lashway, Lisa
Cc: bsohl@mtolivetwp.org
Subject: Pending staff redcutions and budegt cuts

Mr. Mayor and Council Members;

I am writing to urge you to cut health inspection services we provide to other townships before removing staff positions dedicated to serve Mt. Olive citizens. It has come to my attention that the senior and social services position my wife Diann holds with the township may be eliminated along with a number of other township employees. This is unfortunate, although I understand this action is under consideration to keep property taxes in check.

Regardless of funding provided by other townships, services to Mt. Olive citizens should be saved first and cut last. The Mt. Olive Health Department maintains a significant staff of sanitarians (health inspectors). Some to serve Mt Olive. Some to serve other townships with health inspections in exchange for funding from those towns. If we can afford to sell health inspections service to other towns we obviously have excess staff of health inspectors. Creating budgetary safe havens for over staffed health department sanitarian functions, in exchange for cutting services for Mt. Olive seniors, will not be met well by the voters.

Health inspections should be a county function. Our town has not supported this for Morris County. On the other hand we eliminated funding for the local volunteer ambulance squad in exchange for private regional EMT support. Mt Olive should not be in the business of providing what should be a county service to other townships while we have to cut services for our residents.

Senior Citizens make up the largest single voting block in municipal elections. They are not concerned with revenues from Wharton, Mt Arlington, and Netcong. This kind of misstep affects elections. If other townships need common services it is not the Mt Olive Municipal Government's responsibility to provide it for them regardless of the funding they provide. Mt.Olive's municipal government and health department budgets should be managed to best serve the needs of Mt. Olive citizens first.

Thank You,
Mr. J. W. Brochu
12 Spring St.
Budd Lake, NJ 07828