

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**October 13, 2015**

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**MAYOR HORNIK CALLS FOR THE IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION OF  
THE MONMOUTH COUNTY  
ASSESSMENT DEMONSTRATION PILOT PROGRAM**

**MARLBORO TOWNSHIP, NEW JERSEY**– In light of information revealed in an Asbury Park Press story released on Tuesday, October 13, 2015, Mayor Jonathan Hornik called for the immediate suspension of the Monmouth County Tax Assessment Demonstration Pilot Program.

“I am heartened by the recent call by the Asbury Park Press for an investigation of the Monmouth County Tax Assessment Demonstration Pilot Program,” said Mayor Hornik. “I have been a vocal critic of this program since its inception, and I expressed, in no uncertain terms, that the program did not fairly and accurately reflect market value, that it inappropriately interfered with local tax assessors and that it had a disproportionate adverse effect on residential and senior citizen property taxpayers.”

In March, 2013, Governor Christie signed into law P.L. 2013, Chapter 15 known as the Assessment Demonstration Program. Subsequently, Marlboro Township was ordered by the Monmouth County Board of Taxation to implement the program, which requires that a local tax assessor perform a town-wide annual reassessment. It also mandates that 20% of the properties within a municipality be internally inspected annually so that 100% of all properties will be inspected every 5 years.

“The program is the brain child of the Monmouth County Tax Administrator and was passed with the overwhelming support of the Governor, and it is notable that the Monmouth County Tax Board is the only Tax Board in the State that has chosen to implement this program”, stated Hornik.

The Township has sent out numerous communications via mail and email since the Assessment Demonstration Program was announced by the Monmouth County Tax Board. The program has been met with a steady stream of complaints concerning the purpose of the program and how it was being conducted.

“The program’s impact has been to expose homeowners to annual fluctuations in the real estate market, irrespective of whether their property has even been inspected, and it has effectively eliminated their right to file an appeal”, Hornik said. “Now, adding insult to injury, we find out that the motives behind this program may have been less about government policy than about profit. It is disgraceful, and I call upon the County Tax Board to immediately suspend this program.”

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