

## Message from the Mayor

MAYOR JASON F. CILENTO

July 2024

I want to dedicate this month's Message from the Mayor to the Borough's 2024 Municipal Budget, which was passed on May 6. I support this year's budget, and on pages 8 and 9 you will find easy-to-read charts that outline how the 2024 municipal budget breaks down and how it will affect your taxes in my ongoing effort to ensure transparency. This includes a visual representation of how every \$100 in taxes is split between Dunellen Public Schools, the Borough of Dunellen, Middlesex County, the Dunellen Public Library, and Middlesex County Open Space.

In recent years, our administration has worked to meet its essential obligations and invest in initiatives to propel Dunellen forward. This year includes a tax rate decrease demonstrating our commitment to fiscal discipline and responsible governance. This was accomplished by finding efficiencies in our departments and reducing costs where possible. Moving forward, we will continue to work to identify and take advantage of these efficiencies and work toward diversifying our tax base to alleviate the burden on our residents.

In addition to fiscal responsibility, the 2024 Municipal Budget also allows for critical capital infrastructure improvements including improving roads, enhancing parks, bolstering public safety, and improving economic development programs. Several road improvement projects will enhance our borough's infrastructure while increasing the efficiency of traffic flow. Gavornik Park will receive pickleball courts and playground enhancements to provide additional outdoor recreation opportunities over the next 18-24 months. Safety initiatives include traffic studies to develop a truck routing system to prevent 18-wheelers from driving down residential roads and purchasing equipment for the Police Department. Finally, the Borough of Dunellen is looking to foster economic development through a Special Improvement District analysis and preserve our historical assets at the Maurer House through a facility assessment.

I would like to thank the Finance Committee and Councilmembers Daniel Cole Sigmon who also serves as Chairman of the Finance Committee, Terri

...Continued on page 4

## Piscataway Stop & Shop Bag Purchases to Support Our Veterans Throughout July

It's time for Tri-Boro Memorial Post 5479 VFW Auxiliary Dunellen NJ to start receiving \$1 for every \$2.50 reusable Stop & Shop Community Bag purchased throughout July 2024 only at

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**Dunellen Downtown Management Organization  
 Borough of Dunellen Passes Ordinance # 2024-20**

At the June 17, 2024, Council Meeting, Ordinance # 2024-20 was approved by the Mayor and Dunellen Borough Council following an initial reading at the June 3, 2024, Council Meeting, formally establishing the Dunellen Downtown Management Organization (DDMO) as an official, ratified organization, defining the goals and responsibilities of the organization and the method of appointment of members.

"The DDMO has been an invaluable resource for the Borough of Dunellen and I'm proud that we were able to adopt Ordinance # 2024-20 to make the organization a ratified fixture for our community," said Council President Terri Albertson.

The organization advises and assists the Borough in planning and promoting economic development and various improvements within the Borough. The DDMO was originally established 14 years ago by resolution and throughout that time has helped business efforts including grand openings, business anniversaries, and local promotions, led beautification initiatives throughout our Borough, and hosts one of Dunellen's most iconic annual events, HarvestFest, which features local artists, crafters, and nonprofits, activities for kids, food, music, and more.

"The DDMO is a volunteer organization and several of our members have been on the committee since its inception. Just a few people can make a big difference in a small town, and we are very grateful for their contributions!" said Peg Lockwood, Chairperson of the DDMO.

Following the adoption of Ordinance # 2024-20, the DDMO advisory committee has expanded from 9 seats to 15 seats allowing more volunteering opportunities with the organization. Each member serves a one-year

term following their appointment by the Mayor. The committee consists of a mix of public and private members including:

- The Borough Administrator or designee (1)
- Members of the Borough Council (2)
- Member of the Dunellen Planning Board (1)
- Member of the Dunellen Historical Society (1)
- Members of the Business Community (6)
- Members that are Residents of Dunellen and/or Local Civic Leaders (4)

"The establishment of the DDMO as a formalized entity in the Borough of Dunellen is a big step for our community as having our own downtown management organization has been instrumental in promoting, attracting, and retaining businesses and boosting our economic growth. I believe that a vibrant downtown is essential for the success of any municipality and following the accomplishments of the DDMO over the years, we are excited to expand these initiatives as we assess the creation of a Special Improvement District, which would further enhance our local business community," said Mayor Jason F. Cilento.

Along with the DDMO's ongoing economic development efforts, the Borough of Dunellen has enlisted Ink Creative Strategies to conduct a Special Improvement District (SID) Assessment to look into the possibility of bringing a SID to the Borough of Dunellen. Special Improvement Districts are defined areas within a municipality where property owners and businesses collaborate to manage additional services and improvements. We look forward to sharing future updates!

*...Continued on page 8*

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## Dunellen Department of Public Works



### Street Sweep Schedule

DPW operates the street sweeper between April and September. If a sweep falls on a holiday, the sweep will be rescheduled for the following day. Please keep your vehicles off the street on the day of your street's sweep:

- **First Monday of the month: NORTHEAST SECTION**  
Streets north of North Avenue (Rte 28) and east of Lincoln Avenue
- **Second Monday of the month: SOUTHWEST SECTION**  
Streets south of North Avenue (Rte 28) and west of New Market Road (not including New Market Road)
- **Third Monday of the month: SOUTHEAST SECTION**  
Streets south of North Avenue (Rte 28) and east of New Market Road; the Borough does not provide this service to the streets in Dunellen Station
- **Fourth Monday of the month: NORTHWEST SECTION**  
Streets north of North Avenue (Rte 28) and west of Lincoln Avenue (not including Lincoln Avenue)



**Borough of DUNELLEN  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPT**

### DPW – Branch Pick Up

Curbside collection of branches and tree limbs occurs in March, April and September. Make sure to stack branches and tree limbs in bundles; limbs shall be no more than 6 inches in diameter and 4 feet in length. Residents may also bring branches and tree limbs to the DPW Recycling Yard year-round.

### Reminder:

On days when garbage pickup or recycling is scheduled, containers may be placed near the street, but they must be returned to their regular storage places before dawn of the following day.

### DPW – Roll Off Dates

**Free Annual Household Rubbish Disposal Service in September and October every year!**

**Saturdays, 9/7, 9/14, 9/21, 9/28, 10/5, & 10/12**

*“Roll Off” Guidelines*

- Drop off household rubbish at the DPW Recycling Yard on your street’s assigned day in September or October
- Event is for Dunellen residents only. Identification is required.
- Commercial contractors are NOT permitted.

### Rubbish disposal is limited to:

- Two carloads/minivans/small pick-up trucks; OR
- One van/full sized pick-up truck load.
- Adjustments are made for bulky items. No trailers permitted.
- Accepted materials are general household rubbish, furniture and scrap metal.
- Excluded materials are household garbage, asbestos, fuel tanks, heavy household construction debris, concrete, asphalt, hazardous waste (chemicals, insecticides, etc.), tires and auto batteries.

### Assistance for Senior Citizens & Disabled Community Members


To schedule assistance, Dunellen’s senior citizens and disabled community members who do not have the means to bring material to the disposal site should call the DPW Office at (732) 968-5455 ONE WEEK AHEAD OF THE SCHEDULED DROP OFF DATE. Pick up will be on the Friday before your street’s scheduled disposal.

### Message from the Mayor

*Continued from cover...*

Albertson, and Crisol-Iris Lantz for their hard work and dedication to helping our CFO Scott Olsen, Business Administrator Alex Miller, and my office develop a budget that is fiscally responsible and ensures that our Borough continues to grow and thrive. It is my great honor to serve as your Mayor, and I thank you for the opportunity to continue to work toward the advancement of our Miracle Mile.

**SCAN FOR MORE DETAILS**



Sincerely,



Jason F. Cilento, Mayor  
Borough of Dunellen



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## June 17 Dunellen Borough Council Meeting

At the June 17, 2024, Dunellen Borough Council Meeting, we had several presentations including the appointment of Brianna Savage to the Dunellen Shade Tree Commission and the appointment of Joseph Cummins to the Dunellen Office of Emergency Management as Deputy OEM Coordinator.

We also welcomed some of our Dunellen

students who were presented with certificates for the winning Walk to School Wednesday by Mayor Jason F. Cilento and Councilmembers Cole Sigmon and Crisol-Iris Lantz. Walk to School Wednesday is an initiative of the Mayor's Traffic and Pedestrian Task Force in collaboration with Faber School that aims to promote walking to decrease traffic congestion

around the school, while also encouraging healthy habits from an early age.

Congratulations to Brianna and Joseph, and thank you to all of our young walkers, Faber School, and members of the PTO for their participation in making this a success!



**To stay in the loop on what's happening in Dunellen, make sure to check out:**

**Borough website:** [www.dunellen-nj.gov](http://www.dunellen-nj.gov) | **Borough Facebook page:** Borough of Dunellen, NJ

**Emergency Notifications:** [www.dunellen-nj.gov/enotify](http://www.dunellen-nj.gov/enotify)

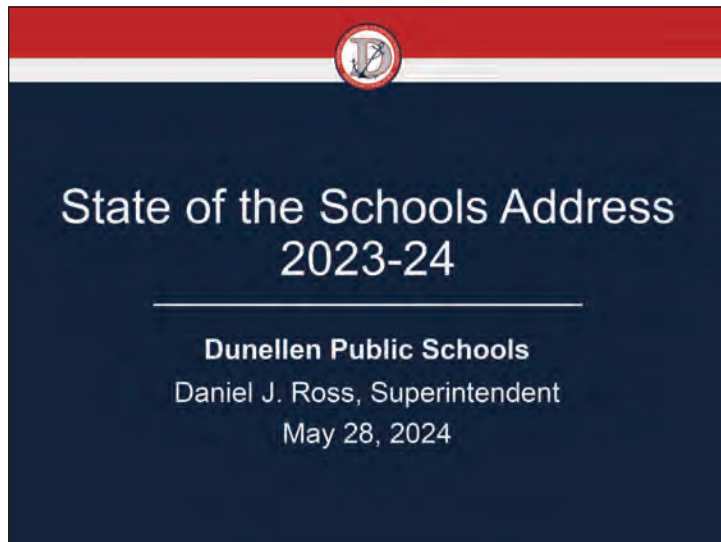
**Community Events & Programs eblasts:** Create an account at [www.dunellenparksandrecreation.com](http://www.dunellenparksandrecreation.com)

**Downtown Dunellen monthly newsletter:** Email [dunellenmanagement@dunellenborough.com](mailto:dunellenmanagement@dunellenborough.com)

## Dunellen Public Schools State of the School Address

On May 28, Dan Ross, Superintendent of the Dunellen Public Schools, presented the inaugural State of the Schools Address, which provides a broad overview on the current state of the district. The presentation aggregated information and data about enrollment, demographics, absenteeism, academics and assessment, climate survey responses, and rankings and ratings systems, all within the context of the district's goals and plans for continuous improvement.

The slides and a recording of the presentation can be located here: [www.dunellenschools.org/apps/news/article/1932524](http://www.dunellenschools.org/apps/news/article/1932524)



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## Dunellen Outings Community Committee (DOCC) DOCC Happenings - Know What's Up!

The Dunellen Outings Community Committee (DOCC) consists of five resident volunteers, working with the Dunellen Recreation Department to facilitate activities for our adult residents. DOCC activities are open to all Dunellen residents, current and past, ages 18 and over. Many of our events are family friendly.

Recently, the DOCC organized a meetup for Dunellen residents at The Grounds for Sculpture in Hamilton, NJ. We had a great time exploring the grounds, finding hidden sculptures, and spending time with our friends and neighbors. To see more pictures from all our events and stay up to date on event developments and new events, be sure to visit and like our Facebook page, "DOCC - Dunellen Outings Community Committee."



**SAVE THE DATES! Below is a list of our future events for 2024. Additional information is coming soon.**

- July 22 – Meetup at Avelino's, with dessert at Dairy Quick afterwards 5:00-7:00 PM
- August 16 – Our Third Annual Food Truck Night at Washington Park 5:00-7:30 PM
- September (TBD) – Saturday evening at Melanie's for a social event featuring snacks & an art project.
- October 20 – Meetup at the Lakota Wolf Preserve, Columbia, NJ. Tickets will be available for purchase at the end of July. A family friendly event. Terrain may be difficult for some. More information coming soon.
- November (TBD) – Monday night meetup at Mike's Subs/30 Burgers/Bubz Boba/Carl's Ice Cream. Family friendly event.
- December 7 – Sussex County German Christmas Market. A family friendly event. Shopping & lights!
- December 14 – Caroling Around Town. A family friendly event. Like to sing? We'd love to have you!

**SAVE THE DATE**

**DOCC's 3rd ANNUAL  
FOOD TRUCK NIGHT**

Friday August 16th 5pm-7:30pm  
Washington Memorial Park  
(300 North Washington Ave, Dunellen, NJ)

Featuring a variety of food trucks including:  
Cave Kitchen, Michael's Backyard BBQ, Rob's Hot Dog Stand,  
El Nacho's Cantina, Abraham's Ice Cream & Italian Ice,  
Taste of Napoli, & Ice Cream Creations  
And more to come!!!

Bring Your own chair/table or picnic blanket!

Questions?  
Email us at [dunellendocc@dunellenborough.com](mailto:dunellendocc@dunellenborough.com)

We look forward to continuing to serve our community. You can reach us at [DunellenDOCC@Dunellenborough.com](mailto:DunellenDOCC@Dunellenborough.com) with any comments or suggestions.

See you at one of our next events!

*Attention Friends  
and Neighbors:*

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OPEN!**

*We look forward to seeing  
you soon!*

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Monday	CLOSED
Tues-Thurs	11:30am-9:00pm
Fri-Sat	11:30am-10:00pm
Sunday	1:00pm-9:00pm

*\*Hours subject to change.  
Please call for updates.*



## Dunellen Recreation Department Dunellen Recreation Summer Camp is in Full Swing!

The Dunellen Recreation Department has been offering one of the best summer camps around for decades! The popular recreation camp is held at Columbia Park. It's the right combination for a perfect summer day - playtime on the playground, organized games, science fun, water play, walking trips to the ice cream shop, scavenger hunts, movie days, field trips, and more! What more could a kid ask for?

Summer Camp began on June 17 and finishes up on August 16, running Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Exciting news! Rec Summer Camp is now offering extended hours! Our extended camp day ends at 5:00 PM. Registration is still open.

Summer Camp is open for children 5-12 years old. Registration is required at least 7 business days prior to your preferred day or week of camp, space permitting. For trips, registration is required at least 14 days in advance. Register at [dunellenj.myrec.com](http://dunellenj.myrec.com).



Summer

## Dunellen Parks and Rec: Doubles Tennis Tournament Fundraiser

More than 12 teams participated in the Dunellen Parks & Recreation Doubles Tennis Tournament Fundraiser on Sunday, June 2, 2024, at Columbia Park in Dunellen.

Following an hour of hit around, the tournament began at 9:30 AM with an 8 game pro-set followed by matches for the best of three sets before wrapping up around 3:00 PM. Players from all over, from Piscataway to Edison to right here in Dunellen, enjoyed a day of friendly game playing. Special tournament entrants included tennis players from Dunellen High School, staff members from Dunellen's Schools and alumni from Dunellen. It was a great experience for the Dunellen High School varsity players to participate at a competitive level, with a bonus of watching live tennis all day.

This tournament was designed to provide a competitive experience for the Dunellen High School tennis players who spearheaded the event. Profits from this fundraiser will be used to fund youth tennis in Dunellen.

The event will be back this coming Fall in late September. If you would like to receive information about the Doubles Tennis Tournament or other Dunellen Recreation programs and events, all you need to do is create an account at [www.dunellenparksandrecreation.com](http://www.dunellenparksandrecreation.com) and you'll automatically begin receiving the Recreation Department's e-notifications.



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References Available

### Ordinance # 2024-20

Continued from page 3...

“Special Improvement Districts (SIDs) are essential in today’s economic climate to support small businesses by strengthening the entrepreneurial ecosystem,” said consultant Natalie Pineiro, Founder of INK Creative Strategies. “By offering unified management and targeted improvements, SIDs create memorable and authentic experiences for both



residents and consumers, fostering vibrant and thriving downtown areas.”

Visit [www.Dunellen-NJ.gov/Volunteering](http://www.Dunellen-NJ.gov/Volunteering) to check out all of the volunteering opportunities with the DDMO and other Borough of Dunellen committees and organizations.

### Join the REPLENISH 30 for 30 Challenge

REPLENISH is celebrating 30 years of fighting food insecurity in Middlesex County. In honor of this milestone anniversary, REPLENISH is launching a quarterly food drive that asks groups to donate 30 items from REPLENISH’s list of high-demand foods and basic necessities once per quarter in March,



May, July, and October.

Any business or group that is interested in participating in the REPLENISH 30 for 30 Challenge should contact REPLENISH’s Peter Ellison at [peter.ellison@co.middlesex.nj.us](mailto:peter.ellison@co.middlesex.nj.us). Mention that you are taking part in the 30 for 30 Challenge. REPLENISH will deliver food collection bins to participants and pick up the bins at the end of each “Challenge” month.



### National Night Out

On Tuesday, August 6, 2024, the Dunellen Police Department will host a National Night Out event at Columbia Park from 6:00-8:00 PM featuring emergency vehicles, first responders, demonstrations, free food, and activities for the little ones.

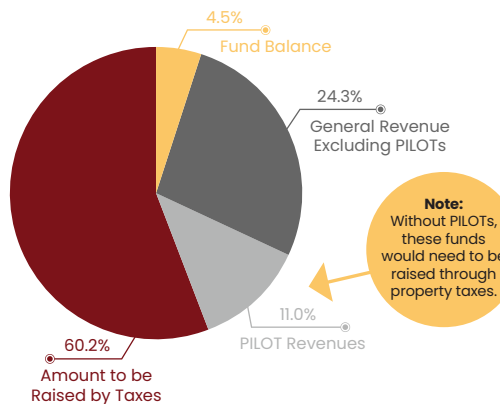
National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police and community partnerships, and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. It helps enhance the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing a true sense of community to the Miracle Mile.

National Night Out wouldn’t be possible without the support of our local businesses, volunteers, and various community organizations. If you wish to volunteer in some capacity, or are a member of a local organization that would like to have a display, provide goods, or perform a demonstration, please let us know! If anyone would like to put something on display or assist with sponsoring, please contact Sergeant Brian Robbins at (732) 968-3000 x241 or email [brobbins@dunellenpd.com](mailto:brobbins@dunellenpd.com).

## 2024 MUNICIPAL BUDGET BREAKDOWN

### How the Borough Raises Money

- General Revenue – \$2,425,530**  
Revenue collected from grants, fees, fines, state aid, etc.
- PILOT Revenue – \$1,100,000**  
Revenue collected from our redevelopment projects with financial agreements.
- Fund Balance – \$450,000**  
Money available to the borough that wasn’t used in previous years.
- Amount to be Raised by Taxes – \$5,997,626**  
Revenue generated by property taxes.

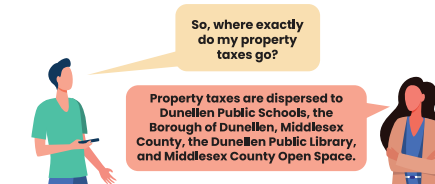


### 2024 Budget Highlights

- ✓ Tax Rate Decrease**  
Despite facing numerous challenges, we were able to achieve a \$0.066 tax rate decrease, demonstrating our commitment to fiscal discipline and responsible governance in difficult financial times.
- ✓ Cost Reduction Efforts**  
Through the implementation of cost-reducing strategies, we were able to lower healthcare expenses and enhance efficiency through various borough departments and we continue to explore shared services that may result in additional savings.
- ✓ Diversifying Tax Base**  
By diversifying our tax base through business attraction and economic development, we are able to alleviate the burden on residents while ensuring sustainable revenue streams for the borough.
- ✓ IT Security Measures**  
By increasing our investment in IT infrastructure, we were able to greatly increase cybersecurity measures and mitigate future risks while safeguarding sensitive data, ensuring uninterrupted service delivery, and keeping insurance costs down.
- ✓ Borough Restructuring**  
A Communications Coordinator was appointed to improve transparency and the establishment of a Department of Community Development to support economic growth efforts will result in additional revenue for the borough and improved operations overall.

### Goals for 2024

- ◆ Road Improvement Projects**  
NJDOT improvements on Second Street, a mill and pave program, and a wayfinding project for downtown aim to enhance infrastructure and improve traffic flow.
- ◆ Park Improvements**  
Design and engineering phase for Gavornik Park improvements, including pickleball courts and playground enhancements to enrich recreational opportunities for residents.
- ◆ Safety Improvements**  
Traffic studies to develop a truck routing system to prevent 18-wheelers from driving down residential roads, an analysis of key intersections for safety enhancement, and police department investments.
- ◆ Community Development Initiatives**  
A Special Improvement District evaluation and a Maurer House assessment underscore our commitment to fostering economic development and preserving historical assets within our borough.



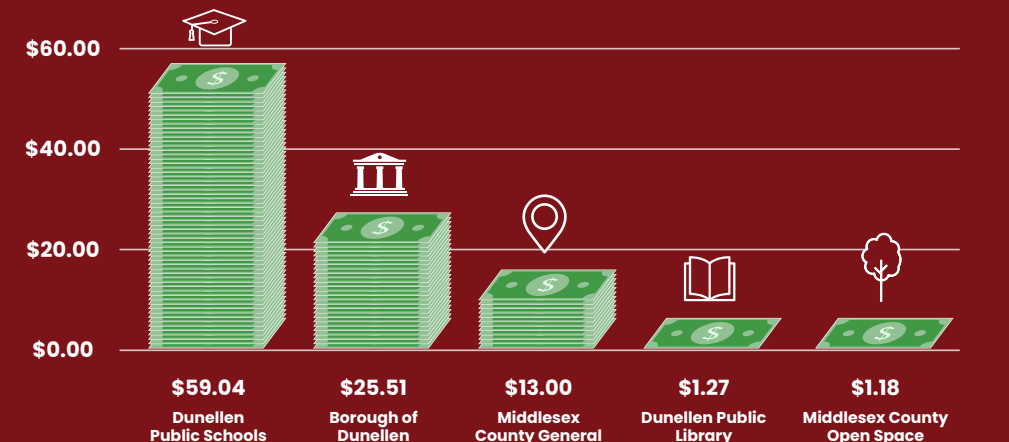
### Where Do My Taxes Go?

#### Did You Know?

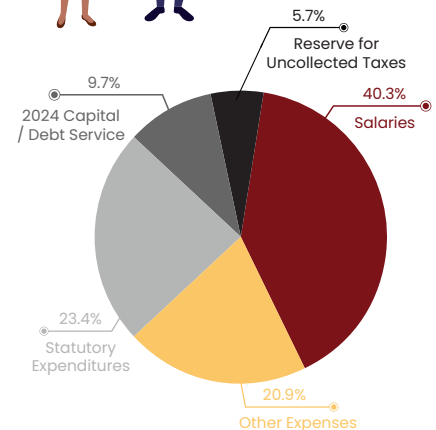
While the Borough is required to collect all property taxes, only 26% goes toward municipal services. A majority of the taxes are dispersed to Dunellen Public Schools, Middlesex County, the Dunellen Public Library, and the Middlesex County Open Space Trust Fund, all of whom independently set their own budgets which impacts taxes beyond the Borough’s control.

TAX	59%	26%	13%	1%	1%
	Dunellen Public Schools	Borough of Dunellen	Middlesex County General	Dunellen Public Library	Middlesex County Open Space
<b>Total Taxes</b>	<b>\$13,877,991</b>	<b>\$5,997,626</b>	<b>\$3,055,955</b>	<b>\$299,625</b>	<b>\$277,592</b>
<b>Average Home Breakdown</b>	<b>\$6,446</b>	<b>\$2,786</b>	<b>\$1,419</b>	<b>\$139</b>	<b>\$129</b>

### Breakdown of Where Every \$100 in Taxes Goes



### How the Borough Spends Money



- Salaries – \$4,014,646**  
How we pay staff, provide services, negotiate contracts, etc.
- Other Expenses – \$2,084,798**  
These expenses cover the day to day operations of the Borough of Dunellen.
- Statutory Expenditures – \$2,330,495**  
Required expenses such as pensions, unemployment insurance, social security, etc.
- 2024 Capital / Debt Service – \$973,216**  
These funds are used to improve infrastructure throughout the Borough of Dunellen.
- Reserve for Uncollected Taxes – \$570,000**  
A budget for taxes that may not come in on time.

The average Dunellen home pays about \$7.63 per day in municipal taxes. For about the price of a Happy Meal, you get...

<b>Public Safety</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Police Protection</b> – Responded to over 18,762 calls for service in 2023</li> <li>• <b>Fire &amp; First Aid Support</b> – Groundbreaking on a brand-new firehouse</li> <li>• <b>Building &amp; Code Enforcement</b> – Over 1,797 inspections</li> </ul>	<b>Public Works</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recycling Service</li> <li>• Curbside branch and leaf bag pick up</li> <li>• Park, courts, and ball field maintenance</li> <li>• Street Sweeping</li> <li>• Plowing and winterizing streets</li> <li>• Inspection and cleaning of all 304 catch basins</li> </ul>
<b>Emergency Response</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lost / Missing Persons</li> <li>• Tree Removal &amp; Clearing</li> <li>• Flooding Mitigation</li> </ul>	<b>Administration of Government</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management of Elections</li> <li>• Insurance &amp; Utilities</li> <li>• Equipment &amp; Supplies</li> <li>• Vital Statistics – Birth, Marriage, &amp; Death</li> <li>• Pet Licensing</li> </ul>
<b>Community Events &amp; Programming</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth Sports and Summer Camp</li> <li>• Senior Programs &amp; Bus Service</li> <li>• Music, Movies, &amp; Plays in the Park</li> <li>• Memorial Day Parade, Halloween Parade, Tree Lighting Ceremony</li> </ul>	<b>Infrastructure</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance and service repairs to sanitary and stormwater systems</li> <li>• 11 Culverts cleaned out in 2023</li> <li>• Installation of 10 ADA-compliant sidewalk ramps in 2023</li> <li>• 760ft of sidewalk replaced in 2023</li> <li>• Enhanced pedestrian and traffic safety</li> <li>• Road repaving</li> </ul>

## Dunellen Arts, Inclusion and Culture Commission (DAICC) Events

### Plays in the Park:

Join the Dunellen Arts, Inclusion and Culture Commission (DAICC) as we welcome the Adams Theatre Company back to Washington Park for a 4th season.

Based on the novel and the hit-movie of the same name, *Legally Blonde: the Musical* chronicles the journey of the famously perky Elle Woods, a fashion-savvy, UCLA sorority girl who finds her life turned upside down when she is dumped by her boyfriend Warner. In an effort to prove to Warner that she is more than just some blonde sorority girl, she follows him to Harvard Law, where she struggles to fit in and do well. Ultimately, she defies expectations and manages to stay true to her delightfully pink personality.

### Performances

- Saturday, July 20: 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM
- Sunday, July 21: 7:00 PM

Free admission. Please bring your own chairs. Visit one of Dunellen's great restaurants before or after the show.

### Music in the Park:

Music in the Park is back! The Dunellen Arts, Inclusion and Culture Commission, along with our concert series sponsor Blue Foundry Bank, invite you to bring a chair, bring a meal (great restaurants downtown!), and most importantly, bring your love of live music!

The concerts are every other Thursday in July and August. Music starts at 7:00 PM. In the event of a postponement due to inclement weather, the concerts are typically rescheduled

for the following Thursday. The decision to postpone will be made around 4:00 PM on the day of the show and will be posted on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DunellenDAICC>. For additional information regarding the concerts, visit: <https://tinyurl.com/daicc2024concerts>

- July 11: Kolor Blynd
- July 29: MPACK
- August 8: This Old Engine
- August 22: Retro Ravin'

### Art Camps:

The Dunellen Arts, Inclusion and Culture Commission's Summer Art Camp is a fun and creative art enrichment program for ages 6 through 12. The instructor has developed student-friendly lessons that change daily and have been differentiated to meet the needs of all students and age levels. There will also be a teacher assistant in the classroom daily. A parent/student camp orientation will take place before camp where you can meet the instructor and partake in a Q&A session. The orientation date will be provided to all registered campers.

**Location:** Dunellen Senior Center in Columbia Park, 216 Orange Street, Dunellen

**Fee:** \$120/week

**Week 1:** August 19 to August 23  
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Week 2:** August 26 to August 30  
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

### Summer Art Camp for Teens:

The Dunellen Arts, Inclusion and Culture Commission's Summer Art Camp for Teens will focus on various mediums including acrylic paint on canvas, watercolor painting, clay sculptures, and participate in the creation of a new town mural.

**Location:** Dunellen Senior Center in Columbia Park, 216 Orange Street, Dunellen

**Fee:** \$40/week

**Week 1:** August 19 to August 23  
1:00-3:00 PM

**Week 2:** August 26 to August 30  
1:00-3:00 PM

*Grant funding has been provided by the Middlesex County Board of County Commissioners through a grant award from the Middlesex County Cultural and Arts Trust Fund.*

Registration is through the Dunellen Recreation program portal: <http://tinyurl.com/daicc2024camps>

**DUNELLEN ARTS, INCLUSION & CULTURE COMMISSION'S**  
**SUMMER CONCERTS**  
*in Washington Park*

**2024**

**KOLOR BLYND**  
 FUNK, R & B  
 Thursday, July 11 • 7:00 pm

**MPACK**  
 MOTOWN, FUNK, R & B  
 Thursday, July 25 • 7:00 pm

**THIS OLD ENGINE**  
 GRATEFUL DEAD  
 Thursday, August 8 • 7:00 pm

**RETRO RAVIN'**  
 ROCKABILLY, R & B, POP  
 Thursday, August 22 • 7:00 pm

CHECK FACEBOOK TO SEE IF POSTPONED  
 DUE TO WEATHER. RAIN DATES ARE THE  
 FOLLOWING THURSDAYS

BRING YOUR CHAIR  
 AND DANCING SHOES

MUSIC IN THE PARK SPONSOR  
**Blue Foundry Bank**  
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## Dunellen Fire Department



### Volunteers Needed!

Did you ever want to help your community by joining the fire department? Now is your opportunity! The Dunellen Fire Department is accepting new applicants. If you're at least 16 years old, you can join with us in one of the following categories:

### Junior Firefighter

Our Junior Program is for high school students 16-18 years old and offers a taste of what volunteering on the fire department is all about. Don't worry moms and dads, your baby won't be going into any burning buildings just yet, but they will get the opportunity to start learning about the different types of calls we go on, the equipment we use, the apparatus we have, and how to hone in those people skills while helping the people in their community. Junior Members are also part of our company side where they can help with fundraising activities and help plan for upcoming events.



### Active Firefighter

The Active Firefighter is responsible for answering the calls. If you don't have any previous experience, don't worry, most of us didn't when we first started out either. The Fire Department will pay for all training. We also hold monthly in-house trainings to keep our skills sharp as well as monthly truck checks to make sure all of our equipment and vehicles are in tip-top, response-ready shape. The Active Firefighter is also an active member on our company side where we have our monthly meetings, do fundraisers, and plan for any upcoming events.

### Associate Member

If running into burning houses and helping people whose fire alarm went off at 3:00 AM isn't your thing, then we have a category for you! Our associate members are responsible for coming to our monthly meetings, helping plan and run any fundraisers, attending community



events and giving input during the meetings. This is the perfect support role position without being directly on the front lines.

If any of this sounds interesting to you, we encourage you to check out our website at [www.dunellenfd.com](http://www.dunellenfd.com) and email us at [Joinfd@dunellenfd.com](mailto:Joinfd@dunellenfd.com)

We look forward to hearing from you!

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## Sgt. Prescott Chin Walkout

On Friday, May 31, 2024, the Dunellen Borough Police Department celebrated the retirement of Sergeant Prescott Chin with the department's first-ever Walk Out Ceremony. Sgt. Chin joined the Dunellen Borough Police Department on December 15, 1997, following two years with the Rutgers University Police Department – Newark. Throughout his 27-year career in our Miracle Mile, he held many responsibilities including D.A.R.E. Officer, Juvenile Officer, Firearms Instructor, Firearms / Licensing Investigations, Megan's Law Registration, Sex Crimes Investigations, Child Abuse Investigations, and most recently, Dunellen Police School Resource Officer.

Sgt. Chin's walkout was attended by Mayor Jason F. Cilento, members of the Dunellen Borough Council, the Dunellen Fire Department, the New Market Fire Department, New Jersey State Police, the New Jersey State PBA, students from Dunellen schools, and more. Sgt. Chin is a true pillar of our community, and we wish him a happy and healthy retirement.



## Dunellen Police Department Special Olympics Torch Run

On Friday, June 7, 2024, officers and supporters of the Dunellen Borough Police Department once again assisted in transporting the Flame of Hope from Plainfield to Middlesex on its journey to kick off the 41st Annual Special Olympics.

Thank you to the many residents and business owners who turned out to show support for this great tradition!



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# DUNELLEN GOVERNMENT DIRECTORY

[www.dunellen-nj.gov](http://www.dunellen-nj.gov)

All council meetings are held in the Municipal Council Chambers, on the first and third Monday of the month, located at 355 North Ave, Dunellen. Meetings commence at 7:00pm, unless otherwise noted.

## Elected Officials:

**Jason F. Cilento, Mayor**

732-882-4551

[jcilento@dunellen-nj.gov](mailto:jcilento@dunellen-nj.gov)

**Teresa Albertson, Council President**

[talbertson@dunellen-nj.gov](mailto:talbertson@dunellen-nj.gov)

**Crisol-Iris Lantz, Councilmember**

[clantz@dunellen-nj.gov](mailto:clantz@dunellen-nj.gov)

**William Scott, Councilmember**

[wscott@dunellen-nj.gov](mailto:wscott@dunellen-nj.gov)

**Trina Rios, Councilmember**

[trios@dunellen-nj.gov](mailto:trios@dunellen-nj.gov)

**Daniel Cole Sigmon, Councilmember**

[dsigmon@dunellen-nj.gov](mailto:dsigmon@dunellen-nj.gov)

**Harold VanDermark, Councilmember**

[hvandermark@dunellen-nj.gov](mailto:hvandermark@dunellen-nj.gov)

## Business Administrator, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation, Superintendent of Department of Public Works:

**Alexander Miller**

732-968-3033

[amiller@dunellenborough.com](mailto:amiller@dunellenborough.com)

## Municipal Clerk:

**Lauren Staats, RMC**

732-968-3033 (Phone)

732-968-8605 (Fax)

M-F: 9:00am-4:30pm

## Communications

### Coordinator:

**William George**

[communications@dunellenborough.com](mailto:communications@dunellenborough.com)

## Registrar:

**Lauren Staats, CMR**

M-F: 9:00am-3:00pm

*Marriage License Applications are  
by appointment only.*

## Tax Collector:

**Dawn Hutchison**

[dhutchison@dunellenborough.com](mailto:dhutchison@dunellenborough.com)

732-968-1226 (Phone)

732-968-3903 (Fax)

M-F: 9:00am-4:30pm

## Tax Assessor:

**Dawn Guttschall**

[dguttschall@dunellenborough.com](mailto:dguttschall@dunellenborough.com)

1st & 3rd Monday of the month

5:00-7:30pm (or by appointment)

732-289-8131 (Phone)

732-968-3903 (Fax)

## Construction Office:

**Michael Rossi**

101 Prospect Ave, off Skinner Plaza

M-F: 9:00am-4:30pm

**Inspections:** Monday: Building

Inspection 3:00pm-6:00pm

**Tuesday: Fire, Electrical, & Plumbing**

**Inspections** 3:00pm-6:00pm

**Thursday: Building, Fire,**

**Electrical & Plumbing Inspections**

3:00pm-6:00pm

**Wednesday & Friday:** No inspections

732-968-3323 (Phone)

732-968-3872 (Fax)

## Recreation Program

### Coordinator:

**Kelly Seader**

[kseader@dunellenborough.com](mailto:kseader@dunellenborough.com)

## Planning Board:

Regular meetings - 4th Monday of each month at 7:00pm, Municipal Building

## Office of Emergency

### Management:

732-968-3033 ext. 126

**Homer Mosley, OEM Coordinator**

[hmosley@dunellenborough.com](mailto:hmosley@dunellenborough.com)

**Bill Carlson, OEM Deputy**

**Coordinator**

[wcarlson@dunellenborough.com](mailto:wcarlson@dunellenborough.com)

**Joseph Cummins, OEM Deputy**

**Coordinator**

[jcummins@dunellenborough.com](mailto:jcummins@dunellenborough.com)

## Code Enforcement:

**George Deene**

908-672-2593

[gdeene@dunellenborough.com](mailto:gdeene@dunellenborough.com)

**Ken Baudendistel**

[kbaudendistel@dunellenborough.com](mailto:kbaudendistel@dunellenborough.com)

## Public Works

M-Sat: 8:00am-2:00pm

235 Hall Steet, 732-968-5455

Paint Drop Off: 2nd Saturday each month (8:00am-12:00pm)

## Municipal Attorney:

**William P. Robertson**

## MCIA – Division of Recycling

Call MCIA for any questions or concerns regarding bi-weekly Recycling

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## Dunellen High School's 2023-2024 Scholarship Program



Students at Dunellen High School came out to the annual Award & Scholarship Night. Students were awarded a plethora of awards including The Math League Award, President's Education Award, and The New Jersey State Seal of Bi-literacy to name a few. Seniors that applied to the Dunellen High School Scholarship Program received scholarships totaling over \$50,000 from over 20 various scholarship sponsoring organizations. The application process is blind to give as many students as possible an opportunity. Students that apply write essays, get recommendations, and some finalists are interviewed. The show of support by local businesses and organizations, as well as ones that are not in town, sends a signal to our students that they are valued and supported. Despite including over 20 participating organizations, we are always looking for new ones. We have all heard stories of scholarship money going unclaimed as organizations receive few to no qualified applicants. Organizations participate in the scholarship program as they know there will be a guaranteed, qualified, applicant pool. If you are interested, you can contact Dr. Best, the Scholarship Coordinator, via electronic mail at [BestL@Dunellenschools.org](mailto:BestL@Dunellenschools.org).

## Education for Parenthood Preschool Program



Dunellen High School is offering an exciting Education for Parenthood class that has storytelling, learning, and craft activities as everyday events, where the students are the teachers! It is an accredited course taught during 3rd and 4th periods at the high school that will educate students in effective parenting skills. High school students work with Preschool age children from ages 2-5, two days a week, and plan, run, and evaluate the entire program. The year ends with a graduation ceremony.

Dunellen High School is currently taking applications for the 2024-2025 Preschool Program. Only Dunellen residents are eligible for the program, and it is free of cost.

The preschool runs two days a week, Wednesday and Friday from 9:20-10:45 AM. The tentative dates for 2024/25 are October through June 1. Applications are available on the school website and in the main office of the Dunellen High School. Visit [www.DunellenSchools.org](http://www.DunellenSchools.org) or email Tammy Del Rosario at [delrosariot@dunellenschools.org](mailto:delrosariot@dunellenschools.org) for the application.

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<p><b>\$1,000 OFF</b> Complete Kitchen/Bath Remodeling</p> <p>Not valid on current contracts. Cannot be combined. Expires 09-30-24 DUN</p>	<p><b>15% OFF</b> Aluminum Awnings</p> <p>Up to \$250 Maximum</p> <p>Not valid on current contracts. Cannot be combined. Expires 09-30-24 DUN</p>	<p><b>\$500 OFF</b> Complete Deck Job</p> <p>Not valid on current contracts. Cannot be combined. Expires 09-30-24 DUN</p>	<p><b>up to \$500 OFF</b> Steel Entry or Storm Door</p> <p>Not valid on current contracts. Cannot be combined. Expires 09-30-24 DUN</p>	

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