

PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT: Mayor's Office
861-5301

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Legislation proposed to raise necessary funds to defray costs of rural policing

Woodbine—Mayor William Pikolycky is pleased to announce that Senator Jeff Van Drew has introduced legislation to assist rural communities, such as Woodbine, in alleviating potential future property tax increases. Governor Corzine has signed a budget requiring such communities to begin in January of this coming year to pay for the cost of State Police protection. No formula or payment program had yet been established, so hopefully the legislation at hand will table these increases and negate the necessity for the suit currently being undertaken by a number of affected municipalities.

“Being as I have been serving for a number of years as a member of the New Jersey League of Municipalities Rural Policing Committee, I have asked Woodbine to take a lead in passing a resolution in support of Senate Bill 1976 and its companion Assembly Bill A-2982,” noted Mayor Pikolycky, “These bills establish alternate funding sources for “Rural Police Services Property Tax Relief Patrol Services” and “Police Services Property Tax Relief”, thus reducing the amount a municipality would be required to raise to cover the costs of providing police services. While this has been an ongoing issue for several years now, this is the first year that language relating to repayment for rural policing has been included in the State budget. Hopefully this Legislation will assist all municipalities in offsetting future tax increases related to public safety costs.”