Letter from John Havrilek November, 2018

Borough Budget

I really encourage the Borough Assembly to listen to the voters in last October's vote. It was overwhelming in its affirmation that seniors should not pay sales taxes and the Borough needs to cut their budget/expenses. I know that the Borough cut a million dollars last year and with our new governor promising to cut the state budget we will need to cut much deeper this coming year. Hardest hit with the new state budget will probably be education and the ferries and if SB 91 goes away the police budget/jail costs will be increased and with decreased state support, we will have to come up with the extra monies.

I feel the voters again told us no taxes and cut spending. To follow voter wishes we need to cut borough support to the assisted living program, the manor and senior meal programs. These are all excellent programs and managed extremely well but the voters have spoken. It would be totally ridiculous and unfair to cut funding to the schools, library, parks and rec. public works, etc. since the people that pay taxes use all these services.

The numbers and commentaries were clear. The Borough contributes about 500k to support these senior programs and that is how much we lose by seniors not paying sales tax so it equals out and balances the budget cutting these senior programs.

Please use the voter results in planning your upcoming budget.