



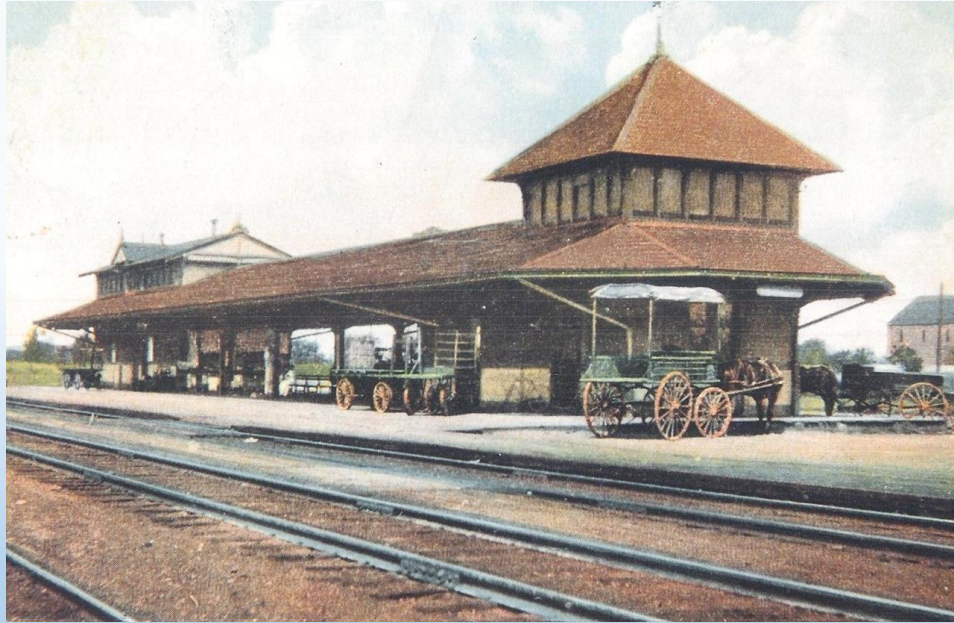
# *Sea Girt Library*



**At the heart of our community**



# History of Sea Girt Library





## Where We Are Now

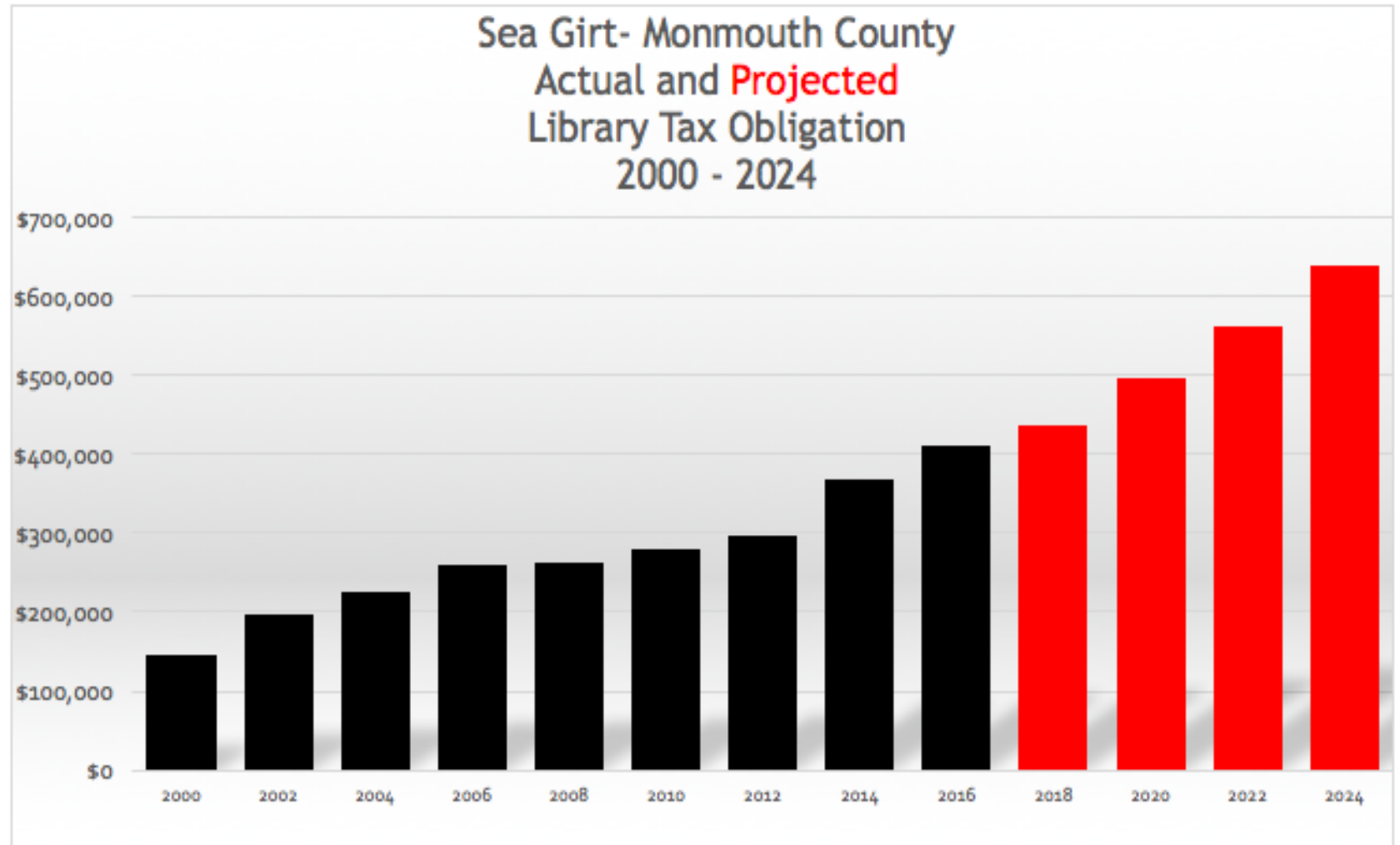
Currently, Sea Girt Library is one of 40 towns that pay a tax into the Monmouth County Library System

The amount of taxes paid annually is state-mandated 1/15 of a mill based on our Borough ratables and is not negotiable, resulting in the Borough's total assessment of \$411,235 in 2017

When computed per household (1,243), the average tax per household paid to Monmouth County Library System is \$330, the second highest in the county



Date	Taxes
2000	\$143,000
2002	\$196,000
2004	\$226,000
2006	\$259,000
2008	\$263,000
2010	\$281,000
2012	\$298,000
2014	\$367,000
2016	\$412,000
2018	\$438,000
2020	\$497,000
2022	\$563,000
2024	\$639,000



2000 \$143,000 \$115/Household - 2017 \$411,000 \$330/Household - 2024 \$639,000 \$514/Household



# What Do We Get From Monmouth County For Our \$411,000?

## Expenses Included

Books & DVDs ordered for us

Rotation of DVDs, Large Print, and Audio Books that circulate among the member libraries (not necessarily the most recent/desired items)

Services of a Children's Librarian one day/week

Ability to borrow items from the County that are requested by our patrons

Computers, copier and fax machine plus maintenance – when available

Use of MCL software system for circulation and reports

Estimated value of these services is \$100,000

## Expenses Not Included

Staff salaries (Librarian and Assistant)

Office supplies (i.e. ink, toner, paper, pens, etc.)

Utilities

Telephone

Periodical Subscriptions

Building Maintenance

2018 cost: \$58,000



# Where We Are Going

## **Process for formation of Sea Girt as an independent library**

- November, 2018 Referendum: leave the MCL and create an Independent Library; assuming Yes, required two - year withdrawal notice beginning 1/1/2019
- Board of Trustees would be formed – to include the Mayor (or his designee) and SGES Superintendent
- The Trustees of the Friends of Sea Girt Library would provide the framework for the Board
- Operation of the Library would continue with Lisa Luke as our Director and JoAnn Johnson as her assistant and the library volunteers. The Board, along with Ms. Luke and Ms. Johnson, would develop a strategic plan for the Library which would include developing programs and resources to be offered at the Independent Library, along with technology needs and budget



# Impact On The Sea Girt Taxpayer

2019-2021 – Library renovations and Town Center Development

2021 – Independent Library opens with increased services offered; Town Center opens

2021 – Monmouth County Library tax levy is eliminated; Independent Library tax levy goes into effect at the State-mandated 1/3 of a mill or \$758,000, averaging \$610 per household for a net increase of \$280 per household (\$610-\$330 - current MCL levy); library levy then funds operations and debt service for capital improvements

2023 - Unspent balance of library levy accrues to general fund to offset local taxes



# Future Plan For Customized Services

Including:

Regular book purchases (fiction, nonfiction, children's books)

Regular purchases of DVDs, Large Print books, Audio books

Electronic downloads of books and audio books through services such as Overdrive, [www.elibrarynj.com](http://www.elibrarynj.com) and [www.jerseycat.org](http://www.jerseycat.org)

Borrowing of items not in our library collection from Interstate Library Loans

Children's programs such as Story Time, crafts projects, STEM projects and special events

New technology such as wi-fi printers and more computers

Easy accessibility to request items through ILL (InterLibrary Loans)

Ability to offer more special programs for children and adults

Subscription for electronic downloadable materials

The days and hours of operation will remain the same during this transition to an independent library – 19 hours/week for the time being





# Other Towns in Monmouth County With Independent Libraries

Asbury Park

Avon

Belmar

Bradley Beach

Freehold Borough

Middletown

Long Branch

Matawan

Spring Lake

Neptune Township

Red Bank



# Summary Of Our Options

- **Remain part of Monmouth County Library system** and continue to pay more and more each year without receiving a proportionate share of services - \$411,000 for services valued at approximately \$100,000
- **Establish independent Sea Girt Library** with fully customized services at a cost of approximately \$250,000 annually, *less* than we currently pay the county. All funds collected through this library levy would remain with the Borough pursuant to statute.