

Letter to the Editor: Voters Have Made Their Voices Heard

Each one of us had our chance to voice our opinion on the Clifton School Budget on Election Day. The voters have now mandated by a 60% margin that this budget be cut! I am asking each member of the Clifton City Council to put their personal opinion about the budget aside and carryout their duty as elected officials to cut this budget.

The message from voters was clear. They will no longer tolerate backroom wheeling and dealing, secret out of town meetings and governing behind closed doors on either side of Clifton Avenue. They will no longer tolerate hearing that the Council or the School Board started lobbying with “their friends” for the minimum dollar amount of the budget cut before the budget is viewed and questions are answered. And please don’t say this hasn’t happened in the past because several Council and Board members have personally told me it has!

Voters have said they want to know where and how their money is being spent. The Council should review the tape of last year’s joint meeting on the budget between the Council and Board of Education and should take notice of the all the misinformation and lies that the Board gave the Council. Voters have said this too will no longer be tolerated.

Voters have also spoken that they expect their elected officials to take a stand – to speak out against unethical behaviors, speak out against racist and hateful comments by other elected officials. Voters have also clearly said that they will not tolerate hateful remarks by elected officials after failed referendums or budgets like “let’s put section eight housing on Latteri Park” or “it’s time to put our children in private school” since the candidates of their choice were defeated.

Voters have said that they will hold each and every elected official accountable for their actions and words. Voters have said that they value integrity and honesty and will trust only those elected officials who display these qualities. Voters have said that they will no longer tolerate those elected officials who use their public office to pursue personal vendettas. The voters of Clifton have spoken that they expect the Clifton City Council to cut the budget! It is time for the elected officials of Clifton to finally listen to the voters!

Mary Sadrakula
Clifton, NJ