

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 18, 2011

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HORNIK ANNOUNCES AGREEMENT WITH STATE TO CLEAN UP AND PRESERVE MARLBORO STATE HOSPITAL PROPERTY

411 Acres to be Preserved as Open Space

MARLBORO – Today, Mayor Jonathan Hornik joined State, County and local officials at Big Brook Park to announce that the former Marlboro State Psychiatric Hospital Property would be cleaned up and dedicated for open space.

The Marlboro State Psychiatric Hospital opened in 1931 and closed in 1998. In its later years of operation, Township Police responded to hundreds of calls for service, including reports of patients wandering from the hospital site. Since 1998, the site deteriorated further becoming an unsightly presence and an attraction for trespassers and scavengers. In October of 2010, Marlboro entered into an agreement with the State to patrol the site-- there have been more than 100 calls for service since the execution of that agreement.

“This is a very exciting day for Marlboro residents,” said Mayor Hornik. “The former Hospital site is a jewel in the middle of our Town that has long been neglected and underutilized.”

The clean-up of the property will be paid for by the State of New Jersey, and is scheduled for completion in 2014.

“With this agreement, the State recognizes its responsibility and makes the financial commitment necessary to move this project forward,” said Hornik. “In partnership with the State and County, we will add 411 new acres of open space, preserving this parcel for generations of families to enjoy.”

Council President and Open Space Committee Liaison Randi Marder, Councilman Frank LaRocca, Councilman Jeff Cantor and members of the Township Open Space, Agricultural Advisory and Shade Tree Committees were also on hand at the announcement.

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