WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Borough of Watchung previously adopted resolution R15 on November 5, 2020 establishing Remote Meeting Procedures in order to comply with State mandates during a time of a Public Health Emergency; and

WHEREAS, with the end of the NJ Public Health Emergency the borough wishes to conduct all business in-person, including the acceptance of public comment and now therefore wishes to rescind the previously adopted Remote Meeting Procedures.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey hereby rescind resolution R15 previously adopted on November 5, 2020 establishing Remote Public Meeting Procedures and Procedures for Public Comment during a Declared State of Emergency.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Governing Body of Watchung may broadcast its meetings virtually (through Zoom or other medium) for public viewing as courtesy, however, all business shall be conducted in-person, including the acceptance of public comment. No public comment shall be allowed to be made virtually or accepted in writing and read into the record. All writings received shall be acknowledged and accepted by the Council as correspondence.

Christine B. Ead, Council President

Ronald Jubin, Ph.D., Mayor

ADOPTED:

JANUARY 19, 2023

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ALL DEPTS/DIV.,

COMMITTEES, ETC.

# ADOPTING REMOTE PUBLIC MEETING PROCEDURES AND PROCEDURES FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS DURING A DECLARED STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the Division of Local Government Services recently released emergency regulations establishing standard protocols for remote public meetings held by a local public body during a Governor-declared emergency; and

WHEREAS, Local Finance Notice 2020-21 was released on September 24, 2020, to accompany and further explain the new regulations promulgated by the Division of Local Government Services; and

WHEREAS, these regulations include provisions concerning protice, public comment, and minimum requirements for remote meeting technologies, to ensure continuity of government operations and transparency in conducting public business when an emergency requires a governing body to meet remotely; and

WHEREAS, the regulations further require a local public body to adopt by resolution standard procedures and requirements for public control period during a remote public meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and council of the Barough of Watchung have determined to establish and adopt said procedures/attached hereto as Exhibit A.

NOW, THEREFORE BETTRESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey hereby adopt the Remote Public Meeting Procedures and Procedures for Patric Comment during a Declared State of Emergency attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Daryl Eisenberg Knogten

Daryl Eisenberg Knegten, Council Member

Keith S. Ball, Mayor

Date: November 5, 2020

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#### EXHIBIT A

# Borough of Watchung Mayor and Council Remote Public Meeting Procedures during a Declared State of Emergency

#### Mayor and Council Meetings

To the extent possible, in-person public meetings remain the default during a declared emergency. Room capacity restrictions for in-person meetings shall be followed pursuant to Federal and/or State guidelines. In an effort to maximize transparency and the ability of the public to attend and offer public comment, the Mayor and Council have determined to adopt a hybrid public meeting model to conduct its Mayor and Council Meetings, which shall provide: (i) physical access to the public meetings at Borough Hall, subject to room capacity restrictions; and (ii) access through the electronic communication ZOOM platform for the members of the governing body and public's remote access. The hybrid meeting model, with an online communication platform, is made available to provide many opportunities for the public's participation in the local government business without physical attendance during a declared state of emergency with attendant physical distancing limitations. In the event the Mayor determines that it is in the best interest of the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Borough of Watchung to discontinue a hybrid public meeting model in Mayor and Council may conduct its public meetings solely via electronic communication. ZOOM platform, upon the issuance adequate notice to the public of the change in format, the meeting.

### **Notice of Meetings**

Unless publicly noticed otherwise, public meetings of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Watchung shall be conducted us a hybrid-public meeting model allowing for in-person public attendance and access to the meetings via electronic communications platform. The Annual Notice of the Mayor and Council Meeting for 2020 shall be amended and published advising of the hybrid public meeting model to be utilized by the Mayor and Council for the remainder of 2020. Supplemental meeting notices, which include clear and concise instructions for accessing the meetings remotely means for making public comment, and where relevant documents, if any, can be found are: (i) advertised on the Borough website, <a href="www.watchungnj.gov">www.watchungnj.gov</a>; (ii) sent by email to all who requested copies of the regular meeting schedule, and (iii) posted on the indoor bulletin board and the main door of the Municipal Building.

## Feelmology & Procedural Matters

### Remote Meeting Platform

Until such time it is determined by the Mayor and Council that the Borough can safely accommodate the anticipated in-person public attendance for the Mayor and Council meetings, the Zoom electronic communication platform shall be available for every public meeting. The access phone number and computer link for the specified meeting will be available, at a minimum, two days prior to the public meeting. Members of the public attending the meeting

remotely may make public comment by via Zoom by way of audio and/or video during the meeting using computer and/or telephone access in accordance with the notice. Comments sent via chat on Zoom will not be accepted and will not be made part of the record/minutes.

#### Public Comments Submitted Prior to Meeting

The public may submit questions or comments via e-mail to <u>publiccomment@watchungnj.gov</u> no later than 6:00 pm on the day of the scheduled Mayor and Council meeting. The public may also submit public comments in written form via mail or hand delivered to Edith G. Gil. Borough Clerk at 15 Mountain Boulevard, Watchung, NJ 07069, during regular busines shours (8 am to 4 pm Monday-Friday), but in any event not later than 6:00 pm the day of the scheduled Mayor and Council meeting. Public comments received by electronic mail, U.S. mail, other paid varier, or hand delivered after said date and time shall be read at the next regularly scheduled Mayor and Council meeting. Public comments submitted in writing prior to the meetings shall specifically state that the submission is for public comment at the Mayor and Council public meeting. In the event that said written public comment received relates to an issue on the Agenda, it shall be read aloud during the section of the meeting designated for Public Portion / Agenda Items Only. If the written public comment does not relate to or refer to a specific matter on the meeting agenda, the written public comment shall be read aloud during the Public Portion - General Discussion part of the Meeting.

Previously submitted public comments shall be read alough and addressed during the public meeting that will be heard by all remote participants and the public. A three (3) minute time limit will be placed on the reading of each written comment. Each comment will be read from the beginning until the time limit is reached. Multiple public comments submitted by the same individual and/or entity shall be read in succession until the time limit is reached. The Mayor and/or Presiding Officer may pass over durificate written comments; however, each duplicate comment will be noted for the ready written content summarized.

Written public comments shall be read aloud after all members of the public in physical attendance and remote participants who wish to provide public comment are accommodated.

## Public Comments Conduct from Remote Participants

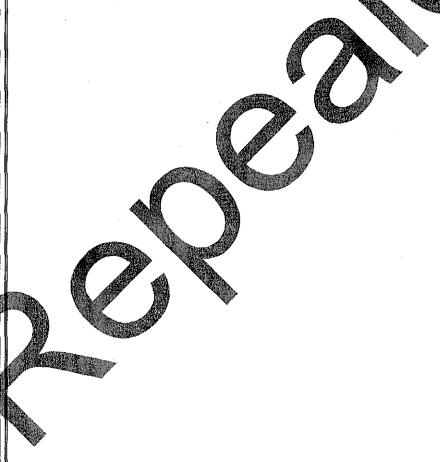
The procedures and requirements for making public comment, along with an explanation of the audio muting function of the Zoom platform being used, will be announced by the Mayor, Presiding Officer and/or their designee at the beginning of the remote public meeting. The Mayor Council and Borough Clerk will facilitate a dialogue with all commenters to the extent permitted by Zoom technology.

All participants must keep their microphones muted until directed otherwise. The Borough Clerk will also engage the Zoom Meeting mute function until the public comment section of the agenda is reached. Subsequent to the in-person members of the public engaging in public comment, all remote participants will be unmuted and asked to state their names and home addresses before making comment. The Borough Clerk will manage the order of the remote participants' comments.

If a member of the public becomes disruptive during a remote public meeting, including during any period for public comment, the Borough Clerk, at the direction of the Mayor and/or Presiding Officer, shall mute or continue muting the disruptive member of the public and warn that continued disruption may result in their being prevented from speaking during the remote public meeting or removed from the remote public meeting. Disruptive conduct includes sustained inappropriate behaviors such as, but not necessarily limited to, shouting, interruption, and/or use of profanity. Time permitting, the disruptive individual shall be allowed to peak after all other members of the public have been given the opportunity to speak. Should the person remain disruptive, the individual may be muted or kept on mute for the remainder of the remote public meeting, or removed from the remote public meeting.

#### Presentations or Documents

All documents made available in hard copy format to the public who appear in person will be available for download prior to the meeting. In addition to the Moeting Agenda and Remote Meeting Instructions, and to the extent available, documents will be accessible at <a href="https://www.watchungnj.gov">www.watchungnj.gov</a>.



WHEREAS, Section 2-25.13 of the Code of the Borough of Watchung requires that contracts for purchases or services involving more than two thousand dollars be awarded by a resolution of the Mayor and Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the Purchasing Agent be authorized to issue Purchase Orders as follows:

Vendor:

Messercola Excavating, 549 E. 3rd Street, Plainfield, NJ 07060

Item:

2023 Snow Plowing Services

Total Price: Not to exceed \$20,000.00

Charged to: 3-01-205-273

Vendor:

Penyak Roofing Co., 3571 Kennedy Road, South Plainfield, NJ 07080

Item:

DPW – Roof at Borough Hall

Total Price: \$34,400.00

Charged to: 2-01-155-273 and 2-01-610-201

l, Council President

Ronald Jubin, Ph.D., Mayor

ADOPTED:

JANUARY 19, 2023

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**PURCHASING** 

C:

B. HANCE

APPROVING PARTICIPATION IN RADON OUTREACH EFFORTS WITH PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE NJ DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

WHEREAS, the Borough of Watchung wishes to participate in New Jersey's radon outreach efforts by submitting an application to the NJ Department of Environmental Protection; and

WHEREAS, in order to participate and provide free radon test kits to the residents of Watchung the Mayor and Council must authorize the borough's application to the Radon Awareness Program Grant which will provide for reimbursement of up to \$2,000 for the purchase of these kits.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that:

- 1. The Borough Clerk and/or her Designee is hereby authorized to submit an application for participation in the Radon Awareness Program Grant.
- 2. If approved by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection, the Clerk shall be further authorized to purchase from the lowest bidder radon kits for free distribution to the residents of Watchung on a first come, first serve basis.

hylstine B. Ead, Council Presiden

Ronald Jubin, Ph.D., Mayor

ADOPTED:

JANUARY 19, 2023

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B. HANCE, D. GRAY

WHEREAS, resident Marilyn Cubano recently applied for the 2023 dog licenses of her two (2) pets using the borough's online portal in the month of December 2022 and as a result the online system charged late fee's that are now owed to her.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to issue a refund of \$4.00 to Ms. Marilyn Cubano, for overpayment of dog licenses #03 and #04.

Christine B. East Council President

Ronald Jubin, Ph.D., Mayor

ADOPTED:

JANUARY 19, 2023

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**B.HANCE** 

WHEREAS, the Watchung Parent Teacher Organization has submitted applications to the Borough of Watchung for two (2) Raffle Licenses; and

**WHEREAS**, said application have been presented as required for Findings and Determinations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Clerk has reported that the proper state fees have been paid since the borough fees were previously waived and therefore recommends its approval.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Governing Body of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to issue the two (2) Raffle Licenses as follows:

# NAME AND ADDRESS OF ORGANIZATION

DATE OF RAFFLE

Watchung Parent Teacher Organization 50 Valley View Road Watchung, NJ 07069 RL#670 -03/17/23 RL#671 -03/17/23

hristine B. Eagl, Council President

Ronald Jubin, Ph.D., Mayor

ADOPTED:

JANUARY 19, 2023

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R. ANGELO

WHEREAS, Mercy Guild of Mount St. Mary Academy has made an application to the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, for a Raffle License; and

**WHEREAS**, said applications have been presented as required for Findings and Determinations; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Clerk has reported that the proper fees have been paid and therefore recommends its approval.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Governing Body of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the Borough Clerk is hereby instructed to issue Raffle License #672 as follows:

#### NAME & ADDRESS OF ORGANIZATION DATES OF RAFFLE

Mercy Guild of Mt. St. Mary Academy 1645 US Highway 22 West Watchung, NJ 07069-6587

RL# 672 – 3/24/2023 Off Premise Raffle

Christine B. Ead, Council President

Ronald Jubin, Ph.D. Mayor

ADOPTED:

**JANUARY 19, 2022** 

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**LICENSES** 

C:

R. ANGELO, PD

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Watchung,

that the Borough Treasurer be, and is hereby directed to pay bills in the amount of \$6,633,451.06 per the attached bill list. The expenditures can be broken down into the following categories:

Affordable Housing Trust	\$ 652.50
Animal Control	\$ 250.00
Developer Escrow	\$ 13,662.32
Other Escrow	\$ 26,488.99
Somerset County Taxes	\$ 1,816,904.56
Capital Fund	\$ 4,618.00
Grant Fund	\$ 5,671.52
Watchung Borough Board of Education	\$ 2,089,350.00
Watchung Hills Regional High School	\$ 1,580,133.00
Current Fund	\$ 1,095,720.17

Total:

N U

6,633,451.06

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Paolo Marano

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ma Ahi'

William Lance CEO

Ronald Jubin, May

James Damato, Administrator

Date: 01/19/2023 Index: Finance

WHEREAS, Mayor Ronald Jubin has recommended the appointments of the individuals for the terms as listed below.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** by the Council of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the following appointments are hereby confirmed:

**TERM** 

Donald Monetti, Regular Member	Ending on December 31, 2023
Robert A. Mayers, Regular Member	Ending on December 31, 2023
Stephen Pote, Regular Member	Ending on December 31, 2023
Tim Logan, Regular Member	Ending on December 31, 2023
Fred Hayeck, Sr., Regular Member	Ending on December 31, 2023
Maureen Greenbaum, Alternate #1	Ending on December 31, 2023

#### <u>RECREATION COMMISSION</u> <u>TERM</u>

**HISTORICAL COMMITTEE** 

Curt Dahl, Regular Member Ending

Ending on December 31, 2023 Filling Unexpired Vacancy

Paul Fischer, Council Member

Ronald Jubin, Ph.D. Mayor-

ADOPTED: INDEX:

JANUARY 19, 2023 APPOINTMENTS

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HIST COM, REC COM,

WHEREAS, the Watchung Parent Teacher Organization, has submitted an application to the Borough of Watchung, Somerset County for a Bingo License; and

WHEREAS, said application has been presented as required for Findings and Determinations; and

WHEREAS, the Clerk has reported that the proper fees have been paid,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Governing Body of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to issue the Bingo License as follows:

#### NAME & ADDRESS OF ORGANIZATION

**DATE OF BINGO** 

Watchung Parent Teacher Organization 50 Valley View Road Watchung, NJ 07069 March 17, 2023 BL-4

Christine B. Ead, Council President

Ronald Jubin, Ph.D., Mayor

ADOPTED: JANUARY 19, 2023

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