

Borough of Watchung

15 Mountain Boulevard Watchung, New Jersey 07069

RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING AGENDA REVISED

Thursday, January 4, 2024 6:30 P.M.

MAYOR

Ronald Jubin, Ph.D.

COUNCIL

Curt S. Dahl Christine B. Ead Paul Fischer Paolo Marano Sonia Abi-Habib Robert Gibbs

James J. Damato **Business Administrator**

Edith G. Gil Borough Clerk

THIS MEETING AND 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 for the record. Any writings received shall be acknowledged and accepted by Council as regular correspondence. The Borough may broadcast its meetings virtually as a courtesy.

VIEWING INSTRUCTIONS: To listen to the meeting, dial 1 (646) 558-8656. It will prompt you for a meeting ID. Type 99501390087#. You do not need a participating ID, just press # | To view the meeting using a smart phone or computer, download the free ZOOM app. Type in the meeting ID 99501390087 or click on https://zoom.us/j/99501390087. Agenda items can also be requested by emailing egil@watchungnj.gov

BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING AGENDA

JANUARY 4, 2024 - 6:30 P.M.

MAYOR'S STATEMENT: This meeting is being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Under the provisions of N.J.S.A.10:4-6 et seq., notice of the time and place of this meeting was given by way of the 2023 Annual Meeting Notice to the Courier News, Echoes Sentinel, the Star Ledger, posted at Borough Hall and on the Borough's website.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG and MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN, SERVING HOME AND ABROAD

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE AND OFFICE

Sonia Abi-Habib Council Member Robert Gibbs Council Member

Jeiner Betancourt Rescue Squad Captain

Matthew King Rescue Squad First Lieutenant

INVOCATION – Reverend Monsignor William Benwell, St. Mary's – Stony Hill Church

ROLL CALL

NOMINATION FOR COUNCIL PRESIDENT

APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

CONSENT RESOLUTIONS

The resolutions listed below were submitted to the Governing Body for review and will be adopted by one motion.

- R1: Designation of Official Newspapers Echoes Sentinel, Courier News, Star Ledger, and TAP into Watchung (Electronic News Source)
- R2: Adoption of Annual Calendar of Meeting Dates
- R3: Authorizing the Adoption of the Cash Management Plan for 2024
- R4: Adoption of 2024 Temporary Budget
- R5: Payment of Property Taxes and Establishing Payment Procedures
- R6: Appointment of JIF Commissioner
- R7: Appointment of Fire Chief and Assistant Chief

BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING AGENDA

JANUARY 4, 2024 - 6:30 P.M.

NON-CONSENT RESOLUTIONS

- R8: Awarding Professional Services Contract for Tax Appeal Attorney to DiFrancesco Bateman Kunzman, Davis, Lehrer & Flaum, P.C.
- R9: Awarding Professional Services Contract for Prosecutor to DiFrancesco Bateman Kunzman, Davis, Lehrer & Flaum, P.C.
- R10: Awarding Professional Services Contract for Labor Counsel to Ruderman & Roth, LLC
- R11: Awarding Professional Services Contract for Borough Attorney to DiFrancesco Bateman, Kunzman, Davis, Lehrer & Flaum, P.C.
- R12: Awarding Professional Services Contract for Professional Engineers to Remington & Vernick Engineers
- R13: Awarding Professional Services Contract for Bond Counsel to Archer & Greiner P.C.
- R14: Awarding Professional Services Contract for Auditor to Suplee, Clooney & Company
- R15: Awarding Professional Services Contract for IT Consultant to Marmic Associates
- R16: Awarding Professional Services Contract for Risk Managers to Risk Strategies: Meeker Sharkey & Hurley
- R17: Awarding Professional Services Contract for Affordable Housing Planer to Mark Healey
- R18: Appointments of Volunteers to Boards, Committees, Commissions
- R19: Awarding a Contract for Snow Removal Services to ASL Group, LLC

RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEE SERVICES

- 20 Years: Maria Fittipaldi, Eng. Dept.
- 15 Years: Sherif Zaiton, Captain of Police Dept.
- 10 Years: Kyle Poulsen, Police Dept.

Anthony Nappe, DPW

5 Years: Daniel Niro, Construction Dept.

MAYOR'S ADDRESS

COUNCIL'S ADDRESS

BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING AGENDA

JANUARY 4, 2024 - 6:30 P.M.

PUBLIC PORTION

Individuals commenting are limited to 3 minutes per person, and will not be permitted to speak again until everyone has had an opportunity to speak.

BENEDICTION - Reverend Monsignor William Benwell, St. Mary's – Stony Hill Church

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on Thursday, January 18, 2024 at 7:30 P.M.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the Echoes Sentinel, Courier News, and Star Ledger are hereby designated as the official newspapers for the year 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that TAPinto Watchung be designated as an official electronic newspaper for the year 2024.

Carre	:1	Danaidana	
Coul	1011	President	

Ronald Jubin, Ph.D., Mayor

ADOPTED: JANUARY 4, 2024 INDEX: MISC.

C: T. VETUSCHI, R. ANGELO,

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the following schedule of meeting dates for the 2024 calendar year, including the 2025 Re-Organization Meeting, are hereby confirmed.

- January 18
- February 1, 15
- March 7, 21
- April 4, 18
- May 2, 16
- June 6, 20

*Monday

- July 18
- August 15
- September 5, 19
- October 7*, 17
- November 7, 18*
- December 5, 19
- January 6*, 2025 (Re-Organization Meeting) to be held at 6:30 P.M.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in-person council meetings shall be held at 7:30 P.M. in the Council Chamber at Borough Hall, 15 Mountain Boulevard, Watchung, New Jersey.

	Council President
	Ronald Jubin, Ph.D. Mayor
ADOPTED: JANUARY 4, 2024 INDEX: MISC.	

AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF THE CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE YEAR 2024

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey Local Fiscal Affairs Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:5, et seq. requires that municipalities adopt a Cash Management Plan which is designed to assure, to the extent practical, investment of local funds in interest bearing accounts and other permitted investments; and

WHEREAS, the Cash Management Plan must include:

- 1. The designation of a public depository or depositories.
- 2. The authorization for investments as permitted by various applicable laws.
- 3. The annual submission of the Cash Management Plan to the governing body, which must be approved by a majority vote.
- 4. An annual audit of the Cash Management Plan.
- 5. That when an investment is in bonds which mature in more than one year, a determination that the maturity approximates the prospective time when such funds are needed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Watchung that the attached Cash Management Plan is hereby adopted for the year 2024.

Cash Management Plan 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- I. Statement of Purpose
- II. Identification of Funds and Accounts to be covered by the Plan
- III. Designation of Officials Authorized to Make Deposits and Investments
- IV. Designation of Depositories
- V. Authorized Signatures
- VI. Deposit of Funds
- VII. Investment Instruments and Procedures
- VIII. Safekeeping, Custody payment and Acknowledgment of Receipt of Plan
- IX. Disbursement of Funds
- X. Petty Cash Funds
- XI. Change Funds
- XII. Bonding
- XIII. Compliance
- XIV. Reporting Requirements
- XV. Term of Plan

I. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This Cash Management Plan (the "Plan") is prepared pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S. A.40A: 5-14 in order to set forth the basis for the deposits and investment of certain public funds of the Borough of Watchung, pending the use of such funds for the intended purposes. The plan is intended to assure that all public funds identified herein are deposited in interest bearing Deposits or otherwise invested in Permitted Investments hereinafter referred to. The intent of the Plan is to provide that the decisions made regarding the Deposits and the Permitted Investments will be done to ensure the safety, the liquidity (regarding its availability for the intended purposes), and the maximum investment return within such limits. The Plan is intended to ensure that any Deposit or Permitted Investment matures

within the time period that approximates the prospective need for the funds deposited or invested so that there is not a risk to the market value of such Deposits or Permitted Investments.

II. IDENTIFICATION OF FUNDS AND ACCOUNTS TO BE COVERED BY THE PLAN.

- A. The Plan is intended to cover the deposit and/or investment of the following funds and accounts of the Borough of Watchung:
 - 1. Current Fund:
 - a. Current Fund
 - b. Payroll
 - 2. Other Trust funds:
 - a. Developers Escrow
 - b. Affordable Housing Trust Fund
 - c. Tax Collector
 - d. Grant Fund
 - e. Animal Trust Fund
 - f. Assessment Trust Fund
 - g. Other Escrow Trust Fund
 - h. Municipal Court General Account
 - i. Municipal Court Bail Account
 - j. NJ / ARM Account
 - k. Capital Improvement Fund
 - 1. Sweep Account
- B. It is understood that this Plan is not intended to cover certain funds and accounts of the Borough of Watchung, specifically:
 - 1. Deferred Compensation

III. DESIGNATION OF OFFICIALS OF THE BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG AUTHORIZED TO MAKE DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS UNDER THE PLAN.

The Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Watchung is hereby authorized and directed to deposit and/or invest the funds referred to in the Plan. Prior to making any such Deposits or any Permitted Investments, such officials of the Borough of Watchung are directed to supply to all depositories or any other parties with whom the Deposits or Permitted Investments are made a written copy of this Plan which shall be acknowledged in writing by such parties and a copy of such acknowledgment kept on file with such officials.

IV. DESIGNATION OF DEPOSITORIES

The following banks and financial institutions are hereby designated as official depositories for the Deposit of all public funds referred to in the Plan, including any certificates of Deposit which are not otherwise invested in Permitted Investments as provided for in this Plan:

CITIZENS BANK NJARM

All depositories must conform to the Government Unit Deposit Protection Act (GUDPA) and shall provide a Notification of Eligibility from the State of New Jersey, Department of Banking, on a semi-annual basis. In addition, designated depositories shall maintain maximum FDIC or FSLIC coverage of all Borough funds on deposit.

V. Authorized Signatures

Checks issued by the Borough of Watchung must be signed by three officers as noted below, except payroll checks, which only require the signature of the Chief Financial Officer or Deputy Treasurer.

One Signature from Governing Body, either the Mayor or Finance Chair.

One signature from the Finance Department, either the CFO or Deputy Treasurer.

One Signature from the Clerk's Office, either the Borough Clerk or the Deputy Clerk.

Checks issued by the Borough of Watchung Municipal Court be signed as noted below.

One signature from either the Court Administrator or Deputy Court Administrator

VI. DEPOSIT OF FUNDS

All funds shall be deposited within forty-eight (48) hours of receipt, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A: 5-15, into appropriate fund operating accounts. Non-interest-bearing operating and capital accounts shall be regularly monitored for the availability of funds for investment. Trust accounts shall be maintained in accordance with Federal and State statutes, regulating such funds. Payroll, Developers' Escrow, and other agency funds, which represent funds of individuals and other organizations held by the Borough shall be deposited in regular interest-bearing checking accounts, unless applicable State statutes direct otherwise.

Where compensating balances are required by any designated depository to offset the cost of services provided an agreement between the Borough and the depository shall be executed, specifying the charge for each service and the balance required to offset each charge. Said agreement shall be reviewed on an annual basis.

VII. INVESTMENT INSTRUMENTS AND PROCEDURE

- A. Except as otherwise specifically provided for herein, the Designated Official is hereby authorized to invest the public funds covered by this Plan, to the extent not otherwise held in Deposits, in the following Permitted Investments:
 - 1. Bonds or other obligations of the Unites States of America or obligations guaranteed by the United States of America.

- 2. Government money market mutual funds.
- 3. Any obligation that a federal agency or a federal instrumentality has issued in accordance with an act of Congress, which security has a maturity date not greater than 397 days from the date of purchase, provided that such obligation bears a fixed rate of interest not dependent on any index or other external factor.
- 4. Bonds or other obligations of the Local Unit or bonds or other obligations of school districts
 - of which the Local Unit is a part or within which the school district is located.
- 5. Bonds or other obligations, having a maturity date not more than 397 days from the date of purchase, approved by the Division of Investment of the Department of the Treasury for

investment by Local Units.

- 6. Local government investment pools.
- 7. Deposits with the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund established pursuant to section 1 of P.L. 1977, c.281 (C.52; 18A-90.4); or
 - 8. Agreements for the repurchase of fully collateralized securities if:
 - a. The underlying securities are permitted investments pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (3) of this subsection "A."
 - b. The custody of collateral is transferred to a third party.
 - c. The maturity of the agreement is not more than 30 days.
 - d. The underlying securities are purchased through a public depository as defined in section 1 of P.L. 1970, c.236 (C.17:9-41); ND
 - e. A master repurchase agreement providing for the custody and security of collateral is executed.

For purposes of the above language, the terms "government money market mutual fund" and Local government investment pool" shall have the following definitions:

Government Money Market Mutual Fund. An Investment Company or investment trusts:

- a. Which is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the "Investment Company Act of 1940," 15 U.S.C. sec. 80a-1, et seq., and operated in accordance with 17 C.F.R. sec. 270.2a-7.
- b. The portfolio of which is limited to U.S. Government securities that meet the definition of any eligible security pursuant to 17 C.F.R. sec 270.2a-7 and repurchase agreements that are collateralized by such U.S. Government securities: and
- c. Which has:
- d. Attained the highest ranking or the highest letter and numerical rating of a nationally recognized statistical rating organization; or
- e. investing in U.S. Government securities for at least the most recent past 60 Months and with assets under management in excess of \$500 million.

Local Government Investment Pool. An investment pool:

- a. Which is managed in accordance with 17 C.F.R. sec. 270.2a.7;
- b. Which is rated in the highest category by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization; which is limited to U.S. Government securities that meet the definition of an eligible security pursuant to 17 C. F.R. sec. 270.2a-7 and repurchase agreements that are collateralized by U.S. Government securities;
- c. Which is in compliance with rules adopted pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L. 1968, c.410 (c.52: 14B-1 et seq.) by the Local Finance Board of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs, which rules shall provide for disclosure and reporting requirements, and other provisions deemed necessary by the board to provide for the safety, liquidity and yield of the investments;
- d. Which does not permit investments in instruments that: are subject to high price volatility with changing market conditions; cannot reasonably be expected, at the time of interest rate adjustment, to have a market value that approximates their par value; or utilize an index that does not support a stable net asset value; and
- e. which purchases and redeems investments directly from the issuer, government money market mutual fund, or the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund, or through the use of a national or State bank, located within this State, or through a broker-dealer which, at the time of purchase or redemption, has been registered continuously for a period of at least two years pursuant to section of P.L. 1967 c.9 (C.49:3-56) and has at least \$25 million in capital stock (or equivalent capitalization if not a corporation), surplus reserves for contingencies and undivided profits, or through a securities dealer who makes primary markets in U.S. Government securities and reports daily to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York its position in and borrowing on such U.S. Government securities.
- B. Notwithstanding the above authorization, the monies on hand in the following funds and accounts shall be further limited as to maturities, specific investments or otherwise as follows:

VIII. SAFEKEEPING CUSTODY PAYMENT AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT OF PLAN.

To the extent that any Deposit or Permitted Investment involves a document or security which is not physically held by the Borough, then such instrument or security shall be covered by a custodial agreement with an independent third party, which shall be a bank or financial institution in the State of New Jersey. Such institution shall provide for the designation of such investments in the name of the Borough to assure that there is no unauthorized use of the funds or the Permitted Investments that involve securities shall be executed by a "delivery versus payment" method to ensure that such Permitted Investments are either received by the Borough or by a third-party custodian prior to or upon the release of the Borough's funds.

To assure that all parties with whom the Borough deals either by way of Deposits or Permitted Investments are aware of the authority and the limits set forth in this Plan, all such parties shall be supplied with a copy of this Plan in writing and all such parties shall acknowledge the receipt of that Plan in writing, a copy of which shall acknowledge the receipt of that Plan in writing, a copy of which shall be on file with the Designated Official(s).

IX. DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS

All funds shall be disbursed as authorized and directed by the Borough Council. The Chief Financial Officer shall, at the beginning of the year, present to the Mayor and Council a schedule of debt service principal and interest payments and when available, a schedule of School Tax payments for the upcoming year. Upon approval of the schedules of payments by the Borough, the Chief Financial Officer shall then have the authority to make the following disbursements:

School Taxes
County Taxes
Open Space Taxes
Interfunds
Purchase of Investments
Debt Service
Payroll - Salaries and Wages
Health Benefits for Employees & Retirees
Pension payments
Postage
Utility bills

X. PETTY CASH FUND

Reimbursements for expenditures through the Petty Cash Fund shall be made within the limits approved by the Director of the Division of Local Government Services. The Petty Cash Fund shall be maintained in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A: 5-21. Petty Cash Funds shall be maintained in the following amounts:

Clerk \$ 100.00 Police \$ 300.00

XI. CHANGE FUNDS

Change funds have been established by past resolutions of the governing body to provide change to taxpayers making payments to the following departments:

Clerk \$ 50.00 Tax \$100.00 Court \$100.00

XII. BONDING

The following officials shall be covered by individual or blanket surety bonds; said surety bonds to be examined by the independent auditor to insure their proper execution:

Chief Financial Officer Tax Collector

Court Administrator

Staff members of the Department of Finance and Tax Collection not covered by separate surety bonds shall be covered by a Public Employee's Faithful Performance Bond.

XIII. COMPLIANCE

The Cash Management Plan of the Borough of Watchung shall be subject to the approval of the Borough Attorney, and shall be subject to the annual audit conducted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A: 5-4.

As stated in N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14, the official(s) charged with the custody of Borough funds shall deposit them as instructed by this Cash Management Plan and shall thereafter be relieved of any liability or loss due to the insolvency or closing of any designated depository.

If at any time, this Cash Management Plan conflicts with any regulation of the State of New Jersey, or and department thereof, the applicable State regulations shall apply.

XIV. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

Each quarter during which this Plan is in effect, the Designated Official(s) referred to in Section III hereof shall supply to the Mayor and Council a written report of any permitted investments made pursuant to this Plan, which shall include, at a minimum, the following information:

- A. The Name of any institution holding funds of the Borough as a permitted investment.
- B. The amount of investments purchased or sold during the immediately preceding month.
- C. The class or type of investment purchased.
- D. The book value of such investments
- E. The earned income on such permitted investment. To the extent that such amounts are actually earned at maturity, this report shall provide an accrual of such earnings during the immediately preceding month.
- F. The fees incurred to undertake such permitted investments.
- G. The market value of all permitted investments as of the end of the immediately preceding month.
- H. All other information which may be deemed reasonable from time to time by the governing body of the Borough.

XV. TERM OF PLAN.

This Plan shall be in effect from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024. Attached to this Plan is a resolution of the governing body of the Borough of Watchung approving this Plan for such a time period. The Plan may be amended from time to time. To the extent that any amendment is adopted by the Governing Body, the Designated Official (s) is directed to supply copies of the amendments to all of the parties who otherwise have received the copy of the originally approved Plan. The amendment shall be acknowledged in writing in the same manner as the original Plan was so acknowledged.

ATTEST:

Edith G. Gil, Borough Clerk	Ronald Jubin, Ph.D., Mayor

ADOPTED: JANUARY 4, 2024

INDEX: FINANCE-CC: W. HANCE,

CERTIFICATION

I, Edith G. Gil, Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a resolution duly authorized by the Mayor and Council on this 4th day of January, 2024.

Edith G. Gil, Municipal Clerk

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Watchung that the following appropriations shall constitute the temporary budget for the year 2024: with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-19 of the Local Budget Law which provides that the total of \$5,185,000.00 shall not exceed the temporary appropriations to provide for the period between January 1, 2024 and the adoption of the budget.

	Salaries & Wages	Other Expenses
Borough Council	\$6,000.00	\$10,000.00
Administrative & Executive	\$34,000.00	\$15,000.00
Borough Clerk	\$51,000.00	\$15,000.00
Elections		\$500.00
Financial Administration	\$38,000.00	\$9,000.00
Auditor		\$15,000.00
Assessment of Taxes	\$23,000.00	\$10,000.00
Collection of Taxes	\$15,000.00	\$3,000.00
Legal Services & Costs		\$30,000.00
Engineering Services & Costs	\$29,000.00	\$30,000.00
Public Buildings	\$30,000.00	\$15,000.00
Bulk Pickup		\$500.00
Planning Board	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Zoning Board of Adjustment	\$5,000.00	\$1,000.00
Recycling		\$15,000.00
Insurance:		
Group Insurance for Employees		\$300,000.00
Workers Compensation		\$45,000.00
Other Insured Premiums		\$50,000.00
Fire		\$25,000.00
Uniform Fire Safety Act	\$10,000.00	\$2,000.00
Police	\$891,009.20	\$55,000.00
Construction Code		
Building Inspector	\$25,000.00	\$5,000.00
Plumbing Inspector	\$6,000.00	
Fire Protection Official	\$6,500.00	
Electrical Inspector	\$6,000.00	
Emergency Management Services	\$1,500.00	\$500.00
First Aid Organization		\$500.00

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Watchung that the following appropriations shall constitute the temporary budget for the year 2024: with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-19 of the Local Budget Law which provides that the total of \$5,185,000.00 shall not exceed the temporary appropriations to provide for the period between January 1, 2024 and the adoption of the budget.

	Salaries & Wages	Other Expenses
Sewer System	\$12,000.00	\$5,000.00
Sewer Interlocal Agreements		\$100,000.00
Board of Health	\$500.00	\$25,000.00
Dog Regulation		\$2,000.00
Streets & Roads	\$205,000.00	\$50,000.00
Gas & Oil		\$45,000.00
Street Lighting		\$14,000.00
Traffic & Beautification		\$500.00
Environmental Commission		\$500.00
Historical Commission	•	\$500.00
Recreation Commission	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
County Library		\$12,000.00
Utilities		\$4,000.00
Public Defender	\$100.00	
Electricity		\$32,000.00
Public Employees Retirement System		\$140,000.00
Police & Fireman Retirement System		\$200,000.00
DCRP Employer Contribution		\$5,000.00
Contribution to Social Security System		\$120,000.00
Municipal Alliance Contribution		\$500.00
Municipal Court	\$20,000.00	\$25,000.00
Safe and Secure Communities-Local	\$10,000.00	
Water		\$3,000.00
Heating Fuel		\$10,000.00
Fire Hydrant Service		\$50,000.00
Telephone		\$15,000.00
Sub Total	\$1,434,609.20	\$1,521,000.00

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Watchung that the following appropriations shall constitute the temporary budget for the year 2024: with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-19 of the Local Budget Law which provides that the total of \$5,185,000.00 shall not exceed the temporary appropriations to provide for the period between January 1, 2024 and the adoption of the budget.

	Salaries & Wages	Other Expenses
Total		\$2,955,609.20
Capital Improvement Fund		\$10,000.00
Payment of Notes		\$200,000.00
Note Interest		\$50,000.00
Payment of Bond Principal		\$1,100,000.00
Interest on Bonds		\$700,000.00
EIT Loan:Principal & Interest		\$80,000.00
Green Trust Loan:Principal & Interest		\$30,455.60
Best Lake Dam Loan		\$46,637.40
EDA Principal & Interest		\$12,297.80
Sub Total		\$2,229,390.80
Grand Total		<u>\$5,185,000.00</u>
	Council President	
•	Ronald Jubin, Ph. D., M	ayor

ADOPTED: JAN 4, 2024 INDEX: FINANCE-BUDGET

CC: W. HANCE

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey as follows:

- 1. Taxes shall be collected quarterly on February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1, 2024.
- 2. Payment of taxes shall be remitted to the Tax Collector of the Borough of Watchung.
- 3. Interest shall be charged and calculated at the rate of 8% per annum on the first \$1,500.00 of the delinquency, and 18% per annum on any amount in excess of \$1,500.00 to be calculated from the date the tax was payable until the date the actual payment is received.
- 4. There shall be a 10-day grace period, after which unpaid taxes will be charged interest from the due date.
- 5. Redemption fee for Tax Sale Certificate to the Municipality as follows:
 - a. 2% on certificates \$200.00 to \$4,999.99
 - b. 4% on certificates \$5,000.00 to \$9,999.99
 - c. 6% on certificates of \$10,000.00 or more
- 6. Redemption amounts shall be obtained from the Tax Collector. The property owners shall be entitled to receive two redemption calculations free of charge per calendar year. Subsequent calculations and calculations for the lienholder shall be charged of \$50 per calculation.
 - a. Duplicate Tax Sale Certificate or Certificate of Redemption \$100
 - b. In lieu of publication, notice of tax sale to be mailed \$25 per mailing
- 7. A fee of \$20.00 shall be charged on each returned payment.
- 8. Duplicate bill fee of \$5.00 shall be charged upon request, excluding property owners.
- 9. The Tax Collector is authorized pursuant to P.L. 1979, Chapter 82, as amended by P.L. 1996, Chapter 113 (C.40A:9-154.1) to cancel a refund and/or balance of any municipal charge of less than \$10.00 without further action of the Governing Body.
- 10. Be it further resolved that a 6% year-end penalty be assessed on the last day of the fiscal year on delinquent accounts when in excess of \$10,000.

11	. The	Borough	Clerk is	hereby	directed	to	publish a	a copy	of this	resolution.

Council President
Ronald Jubin, Ph.D. Mayor

ADOPTED: JANUARY 4, 2024 INDEX: FINANCE-MISC.

C: W. HANCE, TAX COLLECTOR

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the appointment of Borough Administrator James J. Damato as Commissioner to the Suburban Municipal Joint Insurance Fund (JIF) for 2024, be and is hereby confirmed.

		*
Council President		
Ronald Jubin Ph D	Mayor	

ADOPTED: JANUARY 4, 2024
INDEX: APPOINTMENTS
C: H. Cramer,

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the following appointments are hereby confirmed for one-year terms, ending December 31, 2024:

Fire Chief	Albert DeSandolo II
Assistant Fire Chief	Thomas Carlucci, Sr.
	Council President
	Ronald Jubin, Ph.D., Mayor

ADOPTED: JANUARY 4, 2024 INDEX: APPOINTMENTS C: FIRE DEPT.

WHEREAS, it is necessary to retain the services of the Professional listed below for the year 2024; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. provides for the Borough of Watchung to solicit proposals through the fair and open process; and

WHEREAS, the Borough received solicited proposals on December 5, 2023 and said proposals were reviewed by the Mayor, Administrator, and CFO/QPA and the Mayor has recommended DiFrancesco Bateman Kunzman, Davis, Lehrer & Flaum, P.C. as the Borough's Tax Appeal Attorney for the year 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Finance Officer has determined that the value of the contracts may exceed \$17,500.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Watchung has certified that funds are available in the following account: General Operating Budget

William J. Hance, CFO

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute individual contracts for the services of the following Professionals in their area(s) of expertise, in accordance with the proposals submitted:

Award to: DiFranceso Bateman Kunzman, Davis, Lehrer & Flaum, P.C.

15 Mountain Boulevard, Warren, NJ 07059

Amount: \$175.00 per hour, not to exceed \$50,000.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these contracts have been awarded upon recommendation by the Administration, after review and based on the merits and abilities of these professionals to provide the goods or services as described herein. These contracts are being awarded through a "fair and open process" pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 *et seq*.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to advertise the award of these contracts within ten days from the date hereof in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq.).

•	Council Member
	Ronald Jubin, Ph.D., Mayor

ADOPTED: JANUARY 4, 2024

INDEX: AWARDS

C: W. HANCE, E. KERWIN,

WHEREAS, it is necessary to retain the services of the Professional listed below for the year 2024; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. provides for the Borough of Watchung to solicit proposals through the fair and open process; and

WHEREAS, the Borough received solicited proposals on December 5, 2023 and said proposals were reviewed by the Mayor, Administrator, and CFO/QPA and the Mayor has recommended DiFrancesco Bateman Kunzman, Davis, Lehrer & Flaum, P.C. as the Borough's Prosecutor for the year 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Finance Officer has determined that the value of the contracts may exceed \$17,500.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Watchung has certified that funds are available in the following account: General Operating Budget

William J. Hance, CFO

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute individual contracts for the services of the following Professionals in their area(s) of expertise, in accordance with the proposals submitted:

Award to: DiFranceso Bateman Kunzman, Davis, Lehrer & Flaum, P.C.

15 Mountain Boulevard, Warren, NJ 07059

Amount: Not to exceed \$39,000.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these contracts have been awarded upon recommendation by the Administration, after review and based on the merits and abilities of these professionals to provide the goods or services as described herein. These contracts are being awarded through a "fair and open process" pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 *et seq*.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to advertise the award of these contracts within ten days from the date hereof in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq.).

Council Member
Ronald Jubin, Ph.D. Mayor

ADOPTED: JANUARY 4, 2024

INDEX: AWARDS

CC: W. HANCE, COURTS,

WHEREAS, it is necessary to retain the services of the Professional listed below for the year 2024; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. provides for the Borough of Watchung to solicit proposals through the fair and open process; and

WHEREAS, the Borough received solicited proposals on December 05, 2023 and said proposals were reviewed by the Mayor, Administrator and CFO/QPA and the Council wishes to award a contract to Ruderman & Roth, LLC as the Borough's Labor Counsel for the year 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough has determined that the value of the contracts may exceed \$17,500.00 and has certified that funds are available in the following account: General Operating Budget

William J. Hance, CFO

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract for Labor Counsel services for the following Professionals in their area(s) of expertise, in accordance with the proposal submitted:

Award to: Ruderman & Roth, LLC, 150 Morris Avenue, Suite 303, Springfield, NJ 07081

Amount: \$165/hourly rate, Not to exceed \$25,000.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this contract is being awarded through a "fair and open process" pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 *et seq.* for a month-to-month as-needed basis and that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to advertise the award of this contracts within ten days from the date hereof in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq.).

Member
Jubin, Ph.D., Mayor

ADOPTED: JANUARY 4, 2024

WHEREAS, it is necessary to retain the services of the Professional listed below for the year 2024; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. provides for the Borough of Watchung to solicit proposals through the fair and open process; and

WHEREAS, the Borough received solicited proposals on December 5, 2023 and said proposals were reviewed by the Mayor, Administrator, and CFO/QPA and the Council wishes to award a contract to DiFrancesco, Bateman Kuzman, Davis, Lehrer & Flaum, P.C. as the Borough's Attorney for the year 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough has determined that the value of the contracts may exceed \$17,500.00 and certifies that funds are available in the following account: General Operating Budget

William J. Hance, CFO

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract for the services of Borough Attorney in their area(s) of expertise, in accordance with the proposal submitted:

Award to: DiFrancesco, Bateman Kuzman, Davis, Lehrer & Flaum, P.C., 15 Mountain

Boulevard, Warren, NJ 07059

Amount: Rate of \$175/hour, Not to exceed \$60,000.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this contract is being awarded through a "fair and open process" pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 *et seq.* for a month-to-month as-needed basis and that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to advertise the award of this contracts within ten days from the date hereof in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq.).

Council Member
Ronald Jubin, Ph.D., Mayor

ADOPTED: JANUARY 4, 2024

WHEREAS, it is necessary to retain the services of the Professional listed below for the year 2024; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. provides for the Borough of Watchung to solicit proposals through the fair and open process; and

WHEREAS, the Borough received solicited proposals on December 5, 2023 and said proposals were reviewed by the Mayor, Administrator, and CFO/QPA and the Council wishes to award a contract to Remington & Vernick Engineers as the Borough's Engineer for the year 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Finance Officer has determined that the value of the contracts may exceed \$17,500.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Watchung has certified that funds are available in the following account: General Operating Budget

William J. Hance, CFO

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute individual contracts for the services of the following Professionals in their area(s) of expertise, in accordance with the proposals submitted:

Award to: Remington & Vernick Engineers, 429 State Route 79, Suite 21, Morganville, NJ Amount: Not to exceed \$300,000.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these contracts have been awarded after review and based on the merits and abilities of these professionals to provide the goods or services as described herein. These contracts are being awarded through a "fair and open process" pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 *et seq*.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to advertise the award of these contracts within ten days from the date hereof in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq.).

Council Member
Council Welliot
 Ronald Jubin, Ph.D., Mayor

ADOPTED: JANUARY 4, 2024 INDEX: AWARDS,

C: W. HANCE, ENG,

WHEREAS, it is necessary to retain the services of the Professional listed below for the year 2024; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. provides for the Borough of Watchung to solicit proposals through the fair and open process; and

WHEREAS, the Borough received solicited proposals on December 5, 2023 and said proposals were reviewed by the Mayor, Administrator, and CFO/QPA and the Council wishes to award a contract to Archer & Greiner P.C. as the Borough's Bond Counsel for the year 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Finance Officer has determined that the value of the contracts may exceed \$17,500.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Watchung has certified that funds are available in the following account: General Operating Budget

William J. Hance, CFO

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute individual contracts for the services of the following Professionals in their area(s) of expertise, in accordance with the proposals submitted:

Award to: Archer & Greiner P.C., 10 Highway 35, Red Bank, NJ 07701

Amount: Not to exceed \$25,000.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these contracts have been awarded after review and based on the merits and abilities of these professionals to provide the goods or services as described herein. These contracts are being awarded through a "fair and open process" pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 *et seq*.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to advertise the award of these contracts within ten days from the date hereof in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq.).

Council Member
Ronald Jubin, Ph.D., Mayor

ADOPTED: JANUARY 4, 2024

WHEREAS, it is necessary to retain the services of the Professional listed below for the year 2024; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. provides for the Borough of Watchung to solicit proposals through the fair and open process; and

WHEREAS, the Borough received solicited proposals on December 5, 2023 and said proposals were reviewed by the Mayor, Administrator, and CFO/QPA and the Mayor has recommended Suplee, Clooney & Company as the Borough's Auditor for the year 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Finance Officer has determined that the value of the contracts may exceed \$17,500.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Watchung has certified that funds are available in the following account: General Operating Budget

William J. Hance, CFO

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract for the services of the following Professionals in their area(s) of expertise, in accordance with the proposals submitted:

Award to: Suplee, Clooney & Company, 308 East Broad Street, Westfield, NJ 07090

Amount: Not to exceed \$42,500.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these contracts have been awarded upon recommendation by the Administration, after review and based on the merits and abilities of these professionals to provide the goods or services as described herein. These contracts are being awarded through a "fair and open process" pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 *et seq*.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to advertise the award of these contracts within ten days from the date hereof in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq.).

Council Member
Ronald Jubin, Ph.D., Mayor

ADOPTED: JANUARY 4, 2024

WHEREAS, it is necessary to retain the services of the Professional listed below for the year 2024; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. provides for the Borough of Watchung to solicit proposals through the fair and open process; and

WHEREAS, the Borough received solicited proposals on December 5, 2023 and said proposals were reviewed by the Mayor, Administrator, and CFO/QPA and the Mayor has recommended Marmic Associates as the Borough's IT Consultant for the year 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Finance Officer has determined that the value of the contracts may exceed \$17,500.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Watchung has certified that funds are available in the following account: General Operating Budget

William J. Hance, CFO

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract for the services of the following Professionals in their area(s) of expertise, in accordance with the proposals submitted:

Award to: Marmic Associates, 13 Sneider Road, Warren, NJ 07059

Amount: \$11,880.00 maintenance contract

\$125.00/hr, for additional services at a rate not to exceed \$40,000.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these contracts have been awarded upon recommendation by the Administration, after review and based on the merits and abilities of these professionals to provide the goods or services as described herein. These contracts are being awarded through a "fair and open process" pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 *et seq*.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to advertise the award of these contracts within ten days from the date hereof in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq.).

Council Member
Ronald Jubin, Ph.D., Mayor

ADOPTED: JANUARY 4, 2024

WHEREAS, it is necessary to retain the services of the Professional listed below for the year 2024; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. provides for the Borough of Watchung to solicit proposals through the fair and open process; and

WHEREAS, the Borough received solicited proposals on December 5, 2023 and said proposals were reviewed by the Mayor, Administrator, and CFO/QPA and the Council wishes to award a contract to Meeker Sharkey & Hurley as the Borough's Risk Manager for the year 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Finance Officer has determined that the value of the contracts may exceed \$17,500.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Watchung has certified that funds are available in the following account: General Operating Budget

William J. Hance, CFO

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute individual contracts for the services of the following Professionals in their area(s) of expertise, in accordance with the proposals submitted:

Award to: Risk Strategies: Meeker Sharkey & Hurley, 645 Martinsville Road, Suite 310,

Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Amount: 6% of Annual JIF Assessment

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these contracts have been awarded after review and based on the merits and abilities of these professionals to provide the goods or services as described herein. These contracts are being awarded through a "fair and open process" pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 *et seq*.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to advertise the award of these contracts within ten days from the date hereof in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq.).

v	Council Member
	Ronald Jubin, Ph.D., Mayor

ADOPTED: JANUARY 4, 2024

WHEREAS, it is necessary to retain the services of the Professional listed below for the year 2024; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. provides for the Borough of Watchung to solicit proposals through the fair and open process; and

WHEREAS, the Borough received solicited proposals on December 5, 2023 and said proposals were reviewed by the Mayor, Administrator, and CFO/QPA and the Mayor has recommended Mark Healey as the Borough's Affordable Housing Planner for the year 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Finance Officer has determined that the value of the contracts may exceed \$17,500.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Watchung has certified that funds are available in the following account: General Operating Budget

William J. Hance, CFO

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract for the services of the following Professionals in their area(s) of expertise, in accordance with the proposals submitted:

Award to: Mark Healey, PP/AICP, 14 Coleman Avenue, Red Bank, NJ 07701

Amount: Not to exceed \$10,000.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these contracts have been awarded upon recommendation by the Administration, after review and based on the merits and abilities of these professionals to provide the goods or services as described herein. These contracts are being awarded through a "fair and open process" pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 *et seq*.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to advertise the award of these contracts within ten days from the date hereof in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq.).

Council Member
Ronald Jubin, Ph.D., Mayor

ADOPTED: JANUARY 4, 2024

WHEREAS, Mayor Ronald Jubin has recommended the appointment of the individual for the term as listed below.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the following appointment is hereby confirmed:

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT	<u>TERM</u>
Paul Panzarella, Regular Member Mitchell Taraschi, Regular Member Anthony Terrezza, III, Regular Member John F. Van de Castle, Jr., Alternate Member	Ending on December 31, 2027 Ending on December 31, 2027 Ending on December 31, 2027 Ending on August 9, 2025
BOARD OF HEALTH	TERM
Bruce Ruck, Regular Member Deepika Garg, Regular Member Mary Beth Lijo, Regular Member	Ending on December 31, 2026 Ending on December 31, 2026 Ending on December 31, 2025 Filling Vacancy
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION	<u>TERM</u>
Karen Pennett Jennifer Principato	Ending on December 31, 2026 Ending on December 31, 2026
GREEN TEAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE	<u>TERM</u>
Charlie Neiss Margaret Ponzio Denise Soppas William Hance	Ending on December 31, 2024 Ending on December 31, 2024 Ending on December 31, 2024 Ending on December 31, 2024
HISTORICAL COMMITTEE	<u>TERM</u>
Chris Vander Fliet Maureen Greenbaum John Guzman Michael A. DeParto Stephen Pote Donald Monetti Tim Logan Robert A. Meyers Karen Jubin	Ending on December 31, 2024 Ending on December 31, 2024

Emily Jane White, Alternate #1 Keli Leunes, Alternate #2	Ending on December 31, 2024 Ending on December 31, 2024
LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE	<u>TERM</u>
Catherine Leigh Maria Dahl TBD, Council Member	Ending on December 31, 2026 Ending on December 31, 2026 Ending on December 31, 2026
PLANNING BOARD	<u>TERM</u>
Karen Pennett, Class II Robert L. Gibbs, Class III Troy Sims, Class IV	Ending on December 31, 2026 Ending on December 31, 2024 Ending on December 31, 2026 Filling Vacancy
Jennifer Kobliska, Class IV	Ending on December 31, 2027
TRAFFIC AND BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION	<u>TERM</u>
Phyllis Juette Gail B. Tafaro O'Donnell Matthew Murphy Vondre Mott Janine Riedinger Sondra Epstein Catherine Leigh	December 31, 2024 December 31, 2024 December 31, 2024 December 31, 2024 December 31, 2024 December 31, 2024 December 31, 2024
WATCHUNG HILLS REGIONAL MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE	<u>TERM</u>
Dustin Michael Antonio Graeme Birrell	December 31, 2024 December 31, 2024
	Council Member
	Ronald Jubin, Mayor
ADOPTED: JANUARY 4, 2024 INDEX: APPOINTMENTS	

C:

WHEREAS, it is necessary to retain the services of the Professional listed below for the year 2024; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. provides for the Borough of Watchung to solicit proposals through the fair and open process; and

WHEREAS, the Borough received solicited proposals on December 5, 2023 and said proposals were reviewed by the Mayor, Administrator, and CFO/QPA and the Mayor has recommended ASL Group, LLC. for the Borough's Snow Removal Services for the year 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Finance Officer has determined that the value of the contracts may exceed \$17,500.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Watchung has certified that funds are available in the following account: General Operating Budget

William J. Hance, CFO

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract for the services of the following Professionals in their area(s) of expertise, in accordance with the proposals submitted:

Award to: ASL Group, LLC, 21 Eaton Road, Watchung, NJ 07069

Amount: \$195.00/hr., Not to exceed \$15,000.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these contracts have been awarded upon recommendation by the Administration, after review and based on the merits and abilities of these professionals to provide the goods or services as described herein. These contracts are being awarded through a "fair and open process" pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 *et seq*.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to advertise the award of these contracts within ten days from the date hereof in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq.).

	Council Member
	Ronald Jubin, Ph.D., Mayor

ADOPTED: JANUARY 4, 2024