

15 MOUNTAIN BOULEVARD WATCHUNG, NEW JERSEY 07069

MAYOR & COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2023 7:30 P.M.

> MAYOR Ronald Jubin, Ph.D.

COUNCIL

Christine B. Ead Freddie Hayeck Curt S. Dahl Paul Fischer Paolo Marano Sonia Abi-Habib

James J. Damato **Business Administrator**

Edith G. Gil Borough Clerk

Joseph Sordillo, Esq. **Borough Attorney**

THIS MEETING AND ALL BUSINESS SHALL BE CONDUCTED <u>IN-PERSON</u>, 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 regular correspondence. The Borough may broadcast its meetings virtually for public viewing as a courtesy.

VIEWING INSTRUCTIONS: To listen to the meeting via phone, 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 MAYOR & COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

MARCH 2, 2023-7:30 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 Annual Meeting Notice to the Courier News, Echoes Sentinel, the Star Ledger, posted at Borough Hall and on the Borough's website. 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 regular correspondence. The Borough may broadcast its meetings virtually for public viewing as a courtesy.

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

ROLL CALL

Ead [] Hayeck [] Dahl [] Fischer [] Marano [] Abi- Habib []

PROCLAMATION

National Nutrition Month

RESOLUTIONS

R1: Authorizing the Appointment of Christine Kozak as Patrol Officer

R2: Authorizing the Appointment of Zachary Woods as Patrol Officer

ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS OF OFFICE

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

- 1. Administration & Finance
- 2. Police
- 3. Public Works / Buildings and Grounds
- 4. Public Affairs:

Environmental

Recreation

Historical

Board of Health

- 5. Fire
- 6. Laws/Ordinances

REPORTS OF BOROUGH OFFICERS

- 7. Engineer
- 8. Police Chief
- 9. Fire Chief
- 10. Fire Official
- 11. Rescue Squad
- 12. Emergency Management
- 13. Attorney

BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG MAYOR & COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

MARCH 2, 2023-7:30 P.M.

- 14. Finance
- 15. Clerk
- 16. Administrator
- 17. Youth Services
- 18. Planning Board
- 19. Municipal Alliance
- 20. Library Advisory Committee
- 21. Traffic and Beautification

PUBLIC PORTION / AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

A public portion is held prior to Council action <u>for comments of agenda items only</u>; another public portion is held at the end of the meeting for general discussion. 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. If a group is represented by an attorney, the attorney will be given 5 minutes to make the presentation for the group.

DISCUSSIONS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE: Matters listed within this section have been referred to members of the Borough Council for reading and study, are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion of the Council. If separate discussion is desired, any item may be removed by Council action.

Acknowledging Receipt of the following Borough Reports:

Fire Prevention Bureau Monthly Report February 2023

Mayor and Council Meeting Minutes February 16, 2023

February 25, 2023

Plainfield Area Regional Sewerage Authority Minutes February 2, 2023

Planning Board Meeting Minutes January 17, 2023

#2: Environmental Commission Proposal for New Styrofoam Recycling Program, recv'd 2/17/23, cc: M&C, JD

CONSENT RESOLUTIONS

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

- R3: Authorizing Appointment of Michael De Parto to Historical Committee
- R4: Requesting Authorization from NJ Division of Local Government Services to Establish Dedication by Rider for Expenditure of Fees For Animal Control Fund

BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG MAYOR & COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

MARCH 2, 2023-7:30 P.M.

- R5: Requesting Authorization from NJ Division of Local Government Services to Establish Dedication by Rider for Expenditure of Fees for Outside Employment of Off-Duty Municipal Officers
- R6: Requesting Authorization from NJ Division of Local Government Services to Establish Dedication by Rider for Expenditure from Storm Recovery Trust Fund
- R7: Requesting Authorization from NJ Division of Local Government Services to Establish Dedication by Rider for Expenditure of Fees from Uniform Fire Safety Act Penalties Fund
- R8: Requesting Authorization from NJ Division of Local Government Services to Establish Dedication by Rider for Expenditure of Fees from Unemployment Trust Fund

NON-CONSENT RESOLUTIONS

- R9: Establishing a Permanent Styrofoam Recycling Program
- R10: Authorizing Shared Services Agreement with the Borough of North Plainfield for the Joint Purchase and Use of a Fire Service Ladder Truck

PUBLIC PORTION - GENERAL DISCUSSION

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. If a group is represented by an attorney, the attorney will be given 5 minutes to make the presentation for the group.

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the Mayor and Council will be Thursday, March 16, 2023 at 7:30 P.M.

WHEREAS, the Borough of Watchung ("Watchung" or "Borough") has determined, after consultation with the Chief of Police, that there is a need to hire additional patrol officers for the Borough's Police Department ("PD"); and

WHEREAS, the Borough has conducted interviews and reviews of interested applicants for the position of Patrol Officer; and

WHEREAS, as authorized by Borough Code, Section 3-2.5, the Police Committee Chair has submitted to the Mayor, his recommendation for the appointment of Christine Kozak to the position of Patrol Officer for the Police Department; and

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

- 1. The Mayor and Council hereby authorize a conditional offer of employment to Christine Kozak as a Patrol Officer with the Borough Police Department effective March 3, 2023.
- 2. The appointment to a full-time patrol officer is contingent and conditioned upon the successful completion and approval of a background check, along with physical and psychological evaluations.
- 3. Christine Kozak shall be compensated in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Borough and PBA Local 193.

Paolo Marano, Council Member

Ronald Jubin, Ph.D., Mayor

ADOPTED:

MARCH 2, 2023

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POLICE, PERSONNEL

C:

FINANCE, POLICE DEPT.,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Watchung ("Watchung" or "Borough") has determined, after consultation with the Chief of Police, that there is a need to hire additional patrol officers for the Borough's Police Department ("PD"); and

WHEREAS, the Borough has conducted interviews and reviews of interested applicants for the position of Patrol Officer; and

WHEREAS, as authorized by Borough Code, Section 3-2.5, the Police Committee Chair has submitted to the Mayor, his recommendation for the appointment of **Zachary Woods** to the position of Patrol Officer for the Police Department; and

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

- 1. The Mayor and Council hereby authorize a conditional offer of employment to Zachary Woods as a Patrol Officer with the Borough Police Bepartment effective March 3, 2023.
- 2. The appointment to a full-time patrol officer is contingent and conditioned upon the successful completion and approval of a background check, along with physical and psychological evaluations.
- 3. Zachary Woods shall be compensated in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Borough and PBA Local 193.

Paolo Marano, Council Member

Ronald Jubin, Ph.D., Mayor

ADOPTED:

MARCH 2, 2023

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POLICE, PERSONNEL

C:

FINANCE, POLICE DEPT.,



Administration and Finance Committee

Chair: Fischer

Hayeck Abi-Habib

The Committee met on February 22, 2023 and discussions took place on the following:

- Making changes to the passcodes/ fob keys of borough hall; currently awaiting vendor quotes.
- Revisions to the field and facility permit application to include future filming requests. This will continue to be worked on for future discussions and to integrate fees onto the borough's code.
- Advertisement to recruit Camp Counselors and Assistant Director for the upcoming summer program. The summer program is expected to take place from June 26th through August 4th and hiring efforts have to be increased.



Public Works Committee

Chair: Ead Hayeck Abi-Habib

The Committee met with the Administrator, Borough Engineer, and Public Works Manager on February 14th and discussed the following:

- 1) PSE&G almost completed
- 2) Mobus Field:
 - -Grant Submitted
 - -Quotes for Pickleball and basketball projects are in the works along with timing
- 3) 2023 Road Project:
 - -Bid for work in progress
- 4) Safety Crossing/Valley View:
 - -parts are in, working with PW and Electrician to install within next two weeks
- 5) **FEMA:**
 - -\$1.25 million to date for repairs/upgrades 2022-2023
 - -Culverts and Bridge work (in progress for bids and plans)
 - -Deadline extension on target
- 6) Valley Road Sidewalk Project:
 - -quotes in progress
- 7) Ness Farm:
 - Engineering working on Compliance and next steps
- 8) NJ DEP MS4 Permit Requirements:
 - -almost complete
- 9) Endeavor: Discussions for a plan to be "shovel ready" for grant options and Grant Opportunity being reviewed
- 10) Borough Hall Roof replacement: Project completed
- 11) Old Watchung Sign Discussion

-getting quotes for post and PW working on installation plan

12) 2-Signs (Watchung Lake and Best Lake)

-Waiting on 2nd quote and rendering

13) Operation Pride

- Sat, April 22^{nd,} Rain Date Sun., April 23rd 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

14) Little League Opening Day Sat, April 29th

- -PW prepped, raked, weeded fields, cleaned & added infield mix
- replaced snack shack door
- -The new score board is installed and running
- -Other maintenance/preparation work continues

15) Police Steps (new treads, paint and repair stairwells)

-discussion of kitchen repairs, gas dryer needed

- 16) Library/Bicentennial Room: Painted and carpet was ordered
- 17) Cherry tree removal on Mountain (4-5) and plant new Cherry (in planning)
- 18) Add (2) trees to Mountain Blvd behind 91, next to sidewalk, one each side of the new 4-planted
- 19) Islands other Planting locations: (working on the planting plan and schedule)
- 20) Removed dead trees at base of Hillcrest (Rock) adding 2-Cherry Trees

21) Discussion on litter and garbage at the Triangle

-cleaned and being monitored

22) Village Green

-Pruned large tree, removed broken Watchung Lake sign and old dead shrubs



Fire Committee

Chair: Dahl Marano Hayeck

The Fire Committee met on February 22, 2023 and discussed the following:

- Borough needs in regards to closure of North End fire house for the pre-fab building to be provided by Weldon
- Apparatus to be replaced (pump truck), the timeframe for delivery and costs involved
- Continued discussions of shared services agreement with North Plainfield Fire Department for a ladder truck. Met again on February 24th for revisions to grant proposal and discussed the next steps.
- The successful fire dinner at Ferraro's



Laws and Ordinances Committee

Chair: Hayeck Marano Fischer

The Laws and Ordinances Committee met on February 22, 2023 at Borough Hall and discussed the below.

- A. Ordinances being reviewed
 - a. Fences and walls
 - b. Council rules
 - c. Public displays
 - d. Garbage/recycling containers by private businesses
- B. General items for future Committee consideration
 - a. Additional items to be reviewed

The Committee will continue its research into the aforementioned topics with the assistance of the Borough Attorney.

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:

HISTORIC	AL COMMITTEE	TERM /
Michael A. I	De Parto, Regular Member	Ending on December 31, 2023 Filling Vacancy
		Christine B. Ead, Council President
		Ronald Jubin, Ph.D. Mayor
ADOPTED:	MARCH 2, 2023	
INDEX: C:	APPOINTMENTS HISTORICAL	

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING PERMISSION FOR THE DEDICATION BY RIDER FOR ANIMAL CONTROL TRUST FUND REQUIRED BY N.J.S.A. 4:19-15

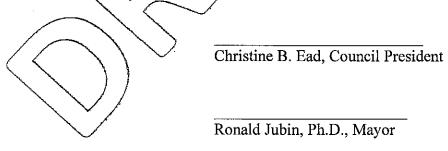
WHEREAS, permission is required of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for approval as a dedication by rider of revenues received by a municipality when the revenue is not subject to reasonably accurate estimates in advance; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 4:19-15 provides for receipt of dog and cat license fees by the municipality to provide for the operating costs to administer this act; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-39 provides the dedicated revenues anticipated from the **Animal Control Trust Fund** are hereby anticipated as revenue and are hereby appropriated for the purpose to which said revenue is dedicated by statute or other legal requirement:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, New Jersey as follows:

- 1) The Governing Body does hereby request permission of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to pay expenditures of the Animal Control Trust Fund.
- 2) The Clerk of the Borough of Watchung County of Somerset is hereby directed to forward two certified copies of this Resolution to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.
- 3) Prior resolution R7, adopted December 8, 2022 is hereby rescinded.



ADOPTED:

MARCH 2, 2023

INDEX:

FINANCE-BUDGET,

C:

B. HANCE, DLGS

4.7	
_	ed this $_$ day of March, 2023 an
certifi	ed as a true copy of an original.
	Municipal Clerk

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING PERMISSION FOR THE DEDICATION BY RIDER FOR OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT OF OFF-DUTY MUNICIPAL OFFICERS TRUST FUND REQUIRED BY LFN 2000-14

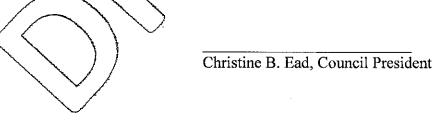
WHEREAS, permission is required of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for approval as a dedication by rider of revenues received by a municipality when the revenue is not subject to reasonably accurate estimates in advance; and

WHEREAS, LFN 2000-14 provides for receipt of outside employment revenues by the municipality to provide for the operating costs to administer this act; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-39 provides the dedicated revenues anticipated from the **Outside Employment of Off-Duty Municipal Officers Trust Fund** are hereby anticipated as revenue and are hereby appropriated for the purpose to which said revenue is dedicated by statute or other legal requirement:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, New Jersey as follows:

- 1) The Governing Body does hereby request permission of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to pay expenditures of the Outside Employment of Off-Duty Municipal Officers Trust Fund pursuant to LFN 2000-14.
- 2) The Clerk of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset is hereby directed to forward two certified copies of this Resolution to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.
- 3) Prior resolution R8, adopted December 8, 2022 is hereby rescinded.



Ronald Jubin, Ph.D., Mayor

ADOPTED: MARCH 2, 2023
INDEX: FINANCE-BUDGET,
C: B. HANCE, DLGS

Adopted this __ day of March, 2023 and certified as a true copy of an original.

Municipal Clerk	

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING PERMISSION FOR THE DEDICATION BY RIDER FOR A STORM RECOVERY TRUST FUND REQUIRED BY P.L.2013, C.271 AND N.J.S.A. 40A:4-62,1

WHEREAS, permission is required of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for approval as a dedication by rider of revenues received by a municipality when the revenue is not subject to reasonably accurate estimates in advance; and

WHEREAS, P.L.2013, c.271 and N.J.S.A. 40A:4-62.1 provides for the receipt of budget appropriations for Storm Recovery by the municipality to provide for the operating costs to administer this act; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-39 provides the dedicated revenues anticipated from the Storm Recovery Trust Fund are hereby anticipated as revenue and are hereby appropriated for the purpose to which said revenue is dedicated by statute or other legal requirement:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, New Jersey as follows:

- 1) The Governing Body does hereby request permission of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to pay expenditures of the Storm Recovery Trust Fund pursuant to P.L.2013, c.271 and N.J.S.A. 40A:4-62.1
- 2) The Clerk of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset is hereby directed to forward two certified copies of this Resolution to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.
- 3) Prior resolution R5, adopted December 8, 2022 is hereby rescinded.

Christine B. Ead, Council President

Ronald Jubin, Ph.D., Mayor

ADOPTED: MARCH 2, 2023 INDEX: FINANCE-BUDGET, C: B. HANCE, DLGS

11

Adopted this __ day of March, 2023 and certified as a true copy of an original.

Municipal	Clerk

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING PERMISSION FOR THE DEDICATION BY RIDER FOR A UNIFORM FIRE SAFETY ACT PENALTY MONEYS TRUST FUND REQUIRED BY N.J.S.A. 52:27D-192 ET. SEQ.

WHEREAS, permission is required of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for approval as a dedication by rider of revenues received by a municipality when the revenue is not subject to reasonably accurate estimates in advance; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 52:27D-192 et seq. provides for receipt of dedicated penalties assessed for fire safety violations by the municipality to provide for the operating costs to administer this act; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-39 provides the dedicated revenues anticipated from the Uniform Fire Safety Act Penalty Moneys are hereby anticipated as revenue and are hereby appropriated for the purpose to which said revenue is dedicated by statute or other legal requirement:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, New Jersey as follows:

- 1) The Governing Body does hereby request permission of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to pay expenditures of the Uniform Fire Safety Act Penalty Moneys pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-192-et seq.
- 2) The Clerk of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset is hereby directed to forward two certified copies of this Resolution to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.
- 3) Prior resolution R6, adopted December 8, 2022 is hereby rescinded.

Christine B. Ead, Council President

Ronald Jubin, Ph.D., Mayor

ADOPTED: MARCH 2, 2023

INDEX: FINANCE-BUDGET, C: B. HANCE, DLGS

Adopted this day of March, 2023 and

Municipal Clerk

certified as a true copy of an original.

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING PERMISSION FOR THE DEDICATION BY RIDER FOR AN UNEMPLOYMENT TRUST FUND

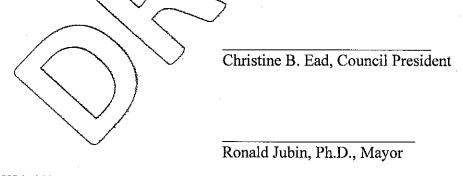
WHEREAS, permission is required of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for approval as a dedication by rider of revenues received by a municipality when the revenue is not subject to reasonably accurate estimates in advance; and

WHEREAS, State law provides for receipt of unemployment compensation revenue by the municipality to provide for the operating costs to administer this act; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-39 provides the dedicated revenues anticipated from the Unemployment Trust Fund are hereby anticipated as revenue and are hereby appropriated for the purpose to which said revenue is dedicated by statute or other legal requirement:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, New Jersey as follows:

- 1) The Governing Body does hereby request permission of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to pay expenditures of the Unemployment Trust Fund.
- 2) The Clerk of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset is hereby directed to forward two certified copies of this Resolution to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.
- 3) Prior resolution R5, adopted December 8, 2022 is hereby rescinded.



ADOPTED: INDEX:

MARCH 2, 2023 FINANCE-BUDGET,

C:

B. HANCE, DLGS

Adopted this __ day of March, 2023 and certified as a true copy of an original.

Municipal Clerk	

WHEREAS, the Environmental Commission of the Borough of Watchung previously implemented a Styrofoam Recycling Program authorized by Council on December 2, 2021 in collaboration with the Department of Public Works; and

WHEREAS, each Styrofoam drive held in 2022 has been a successful event leading to the Commissions recommendation to purchase a Styrofoam Recycling bin to be placed at the Department of Public Works garage; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Works is able to take on the responsibility of managing the Styrofoam recycling bin whose contents will be delivered to Long Hill at no charge to Watchung; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Borough of Watchung wishes to authorize the purchase of the bin and to implement the Styrofoam Recycling Program, as recommended by the Environmental Commission, to be managed by the Department of Public Works.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that a Styrofoam Recycling Program is hereby established as recommended by the Watchung Environmental Commission, to be conducted in accordance with the established Styrofoam Recycling Program Policy and managed by the Department of Public Works.

Sonia Abi-Habib, Council Member

Ronald Jubin, Ph.D., Mayor

ADOPTED:

MARCH 2, 2023

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MISC., GREEN TEAM,

C:

DPW, ENV. COM.

EC Proposal for New Styrofoam Recycling Program

The Environmental Commission (EC) would like to build on its existing Styrofoam recycling program of periodic collections at the DPW garage on Somerset St.

The EC proposes purchasing a Styrofoam recycling bin, to be placed behind the gates of the DPW garage, which would be accessible to residents whenever DPW is open for business. This would eliminate the need for the Saturday morning collections and provide a consistent, convenient means of Styrofoam recycling.

According to the EC's liaison, Councilwoman Abi-Habib, this program has been discussed with and approved by DPW. DPW workers, who are already familiar with the process, could monitor the bin and empty it when full. They would go through the collected foam, remove the unacceptable items, and put the approved foam into large plastic recycling bags. The full bags of foam could then be stored at DPW until there are enough to fill a dump truck.

When there are enough bags, DPW can take the foam to Long Hill DPW. Long Hill has agreed to take our foam for processing in their new Styrofoam FoamCycle compactor at no charge to Watchung

The purchase price of the bin is \$2,199 plus shipping. The EC recommends that the money for the bin come from NJDEP's annual recycling grant that Watchung was awarded for prior recycling tonnage, which is only permitted to be used for recycling initiatives.

In addition to providing a new environmental service to the residents, we believe the bin will help Watchung improve its recycling rates which will position the Borough to receive larger tonnage grants in the future.

Watchung Environmental Commission

February 17, 2023



932 Page Road Washington NC 27889 252-623-2122

Bill To

William McClave Watchung Borough 15 Mountain Blvd Watchung NJ 07069

Estimate

Date

Estimate #

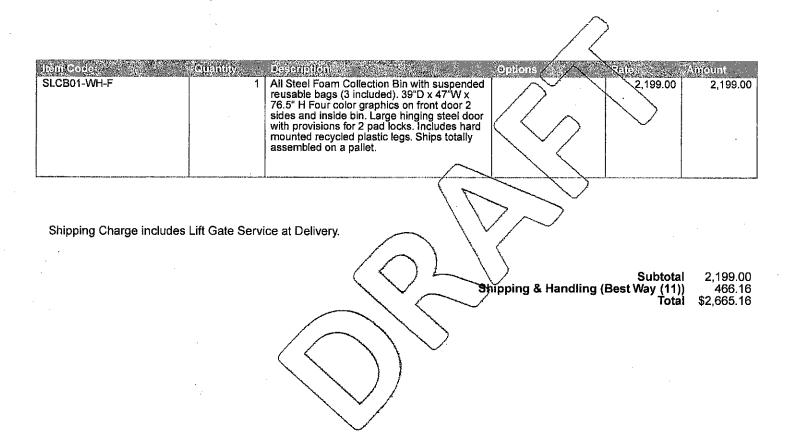
2/15/2023 8612

Expires Sales Rep

Terms Shipping Method Shipping Tax Code Shipping Tax Rate

3/17/2023 Patty Boyle Net 30 with P.O. Best Way (11) -Not Taxable-

William McClave Watchung Borough 15 Mountain Blvď Watchung NJ 07069



AUTHORIZING SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD FOR THE JOINT PURCHASE AND USE OF A FIRE SERVICE LADDER TRUCK THROUGH LEAP GRANT

WHEREAS, the Borough of Watchung wishes to ensure the safety and welfare of its residents by providing for sufficient fire coverage and protection services that are available on a twenty-four (24) hour per-day, seven (7) day per week basis; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Watchung and the Borough of North Plainfield have expressed a desire to jointly purchase and share a new fire service ladder truck between their two municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the two municipalities are in close geographic proximity to each other, and share a contiguous municipal border; and

WHEREAS, the municipalities have conducted a feasibility study and determined it to be in their mutual best interests to provide for a joint purchase and use of a fire service ladder truck; and

WHEREAS, North Plainfield and Watching have prepared a Shared Service Agreement (hereafter "Agreement") for the joint purchase and use of a fire service ladder truck through the Local Efficiency Achievement Program (LEAP) grant; and

WHEREAS, the governing bodies of the Borough of Watchung and the Borough of North Plainfield have reviewed the Agreement and are in mutual recognition of its benefits to their respective residents as having the potential to increase efficiency, enhance safety, and/or provide cost savings.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset hereby endorses undertaking the aforementioned Agreement and authorizes Borough Officials to enter into the Agreement with North Plainfield.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to sign the Agreement on behalf of the Borough, in substantially the form attached hereto.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, Borough Clerk, Borough Administrator, Borough CFO, and other appropriate Borough officials are hereby authorized to take all necessary actions to allow for and support the Borough's participation in this Agreement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of the Agreement be maintained in the Watchung Borough's office and be available for public inspection.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Division of Local Government Services pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:65-4(b).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect pursuant to law.

Surt S. Dahl, Council Member

Ronald Jubin, Ph.D. Mayor

ADOPTED:

MARCH 2, 2023

INDEX:

FIRE

C:

FIRE DEPT, B. HANCE,

SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR A FIRE SERVICE LADDER TRUCK

THIS AGREEMENT, made as of March ______, 2023, by and between:

THE BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD (lead agency), a Municipal Corporation of the State of New Jersey, County of Somerset, with its principal office located at 263 Somerset Street, North Plainfield, NJ 07060;

-AND -

THE BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG (participant), a Municipal Corporation of the State of New Jersey, County of Somerset, with its a Municipal Corporation of the State of New Jersey with its principal office located at 15 Mountain Blvd., Watchung, NJ 07069 for the purchase and use of a fire service ladder truck.

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, the governing bodies of the Borough of North Plainfield and the Borough of Watchung are in mutual recognition and agreement that the citizens of their respective communities can be better served, at a reduced expenditure of scarce tax dollars, by arranging for the joint provision of sharing the purchase of a fire service ladder truck, and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A 40A:65-1, et seq., known as the "Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act," authorizes two or more local units to enter into an agreement for interlocal services known as a Shared Service Agreement for the provision of municipal services ("Agreement").

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth, the parties agree as follows:

- 1.Term of Agreement: Effective upon adoption of Council resolution by both municipalities and for a minimum of 5 (five) years and for the service life of the vehicle.
- **2.Scope of Services:** These municipal fire departments will jointly purchase and share a new fire service ladder truck for the purpose of emergency incident response and training, when these types of services are needed in either community. As the lead agency, the Borough of North Plainfield will coordinate and be responsible for maintaining and staffing the vehicle for the life of the agreement.
- **3.Funding:** Initial service cost for the original purchase is estimated at \$1.5 million dollars as per quotes from several NJ State contract vendors. Both parties will jointly apply for a NJ LEAP grant for the purpose of deferring initial purchase costs of the ladder truck; future annual costs for repairs and preventative maintenance range from \$9,000-12,000, to be shared by both parties, which include, but are not limited to annual chassis/pump/ladder maintenance/service/testing.
- **4.Payment Schedule:** Watchung (Participant) will pay North Plainfield (Lead Entity) their share of costs at the time any costs are due. The final costs for the purchase of the fire service ladder truck, along with the appropriation (%) between Watchung and North Plainfield shall be subject to further written agreement between the parties. If the parties are unable to agree on the terms of each respective share, this Agreement shall terminate and thereafter be null and void.

SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR A FIRE SERVICE LADDER TRUCK

5.Indemnity: Neither party shall be liable for any negligent, reckless or intentional acts or omissions of the other and each shall indemnify, defend and hold the other harmless from all losses, injuries or damages caused by the negligent, reckless or intentional acts or omissions of itself or any of its respective employees or independent contractors. Such indemnification shall include payment of reasonable attorneys' fees and costs in the defense of any claim made by a third person incident to such negligent, reckless or intentional acts or omissions.

6.Insurance: Insurance requirements shall be determined and established by both municipal Business Administrators based on what is the best and most appropriate coverage.

7.Termination: Upon authorization of grant funding, a signed contract for purchase, and an agreement as to the percentage cost sharing as set forth in Paragraph #4, the parties will not terminate this agreement for a minimum of 5 years. After that time period, either party may request termination of the agreement with 6 months' notice and then the terminating party will no longer be financially responsible for the vehicle or this Agreement.

8.Mediation/Arbitration: Should a controversy or dispute between the parties arise, in relation to this Agreement, every effort will be made to resolve the controversy or dispute. If the dispute cannot be settled through direct discussions, the parties agree that they will attempt to settle the matter through mediation administered by the Division of Local Government Services or other mediator acceptable to both parties before resorting to any other remedy

9.Other Contracts: The parties recognize that this is not an exclusive agreement and that other municipal partners to the agreement may be solicited. Prior to other municipalities being admitted to the Shared Service Agreement, both agencies will evaluate the overall impact of the service provided, as well as the financial considerations. Other municipal partners may be admitted by consent of both North Plainfield and Watchung.

10.Compliance: This agreement, and any subsequent contract or related matters, shall be governed and construed by and in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey.

11.Reporting: Reporting: The Lead Entity will issue periodic reports as required by the grant.

ATTEST:		Lead Entity: Borough of North Plainfield	
Michele Garry, Acting Clerk		Lawrence La Ronde, Mayor	
ATTEST:		Participant: Borough of Watchung	
Edith Gil, Borough Clerk		Ronald Jubin, Ph.D. Mayor	