

TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE
CAUCUS-REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
MINUTES

February 25, 2025 @ 6:30pm *Agenda subject to change*

This Meeting was called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice of this meeting was sent to the Star Ledger and the Union County Local Source. In addition, copies of notice were posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building, on the Town Hall doors, and filed in the Office of the Township Clerk. Notices on the bulletin board have remained continuously posted. Proper notice having been given; the Acting Township Clerk is directed to include this statement in the minutes of this meeting.

DATE: February 25, 2025 Time: 6:30PM

FLAG SALUTE: Craig M. Epps

PRESENT: Council Member Lisa Bonanno
Council Member David Feuerstein
Council Member Angela Garretson
Council Member Andrea Hyatt
Council Member Daryl Joyner
Council Vice President Robert Rios
Council President Craig Epps

ALSO PRESENT: Glynn Jones, CFO
Gracia Montilus, Township Attorney
Hope Smith, Business Administrator
Shereefah Alexander, Keyboard Clerk I
Brook Nieves, Acting Township Clerk

EXCUSED: Council Member Andrea Hyatt

Statement of Public Notice
Read By: Brook Nieves, Acting Township Clerk

PROCLAMATIONS- *Honoring Black History Month* (Lisa Mcduffie); read by Council President Epps

PAYMENT OF BILLS- February 11, 2025 & February 25, 2025

Motion to pass by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, All Council Members voted with the Affirmative except Council Member Garretson who abstain. **Motion Carries**

Motion to Make All Items on the Agenda Action Items by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, **All-In-Favor**

ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE: First Reading & Introduction >> O-25-03

PRIVATELY-OWNED SALT STORAGE ORDINANCE

Motioned by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Member Feuerstein, All Council Members voted with the

Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

ORDINANCE: First Reading & Introduction >> O-25-04

MUNICIPAL STORMWATER CONTROL ORDINANCE

Motioned by Council Vice President Rios; Seconded by Council Member Joyner, All Council Members voted with the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

ORDINANCE: First Reading & Introduction >> O-25-05

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING SHORT-TERM RENTALS WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE

Motioned by Council Member Bonanno; Seconded by Council Member Garretson (When into Discussion)

Council Members Bonanno & Garretson Resend their motion

Council Member Motion to Change First Violation to \$1,000.00 a Day; Seconded by Council Member Feuerstein, All Council Members voted with the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

ORDINANCE: First Reading & Introduction >> O-25-06 (TABLED)

ORDINANCE APPROVING & AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A FINANCIAL AGREEMENT WITH LIBERTY CROSSING URBAN RENEWAL, LLC FOR CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS IN THE LIBERTY CROSSING REDEVELOPMENT AREA

Motioned by Council President Rios; Seconded by Council Member Joyner (When into Discussion)

Council Members Council President Rios & Joyner Resend their motion

Motion to Table by Council Member Garretson; Seconded by Council Member Feuerstein, All Council Members voted with the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

ORDINANCE: Public Hearing & Final Adoption >> O-25-01 (TABLED)

O-25-01

CALENDAR YEAR 2025

ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK

(N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S. 40A: 4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget up to 2.5% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

WHEREAS, the Council of the Township of Hillside in the County of Union finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2024 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the Council hereby determines that a 3.5 % increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$ 1,488,972.97 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS, the Council hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Council of the Township of Hillside, in the County of Union, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2025 budget year, the final appropriations of the Township of Hillside shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5 %, amounting to \$1,488,972.97, and that the CY 2025 municipal budget for the Township of Hillside be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

First Reading and Introduction: January 8, 2025

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	EXCUSED
	X	Bonanno	X				
		Feuerstein	X				
		Garretson	X				
		Hyatt	X				
		Joyner	X				
		Rios, VP	X				
X		Epps, CP	X				

Public Hearing: February 25, 2025

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	EXCUSED
		Bonanno	X				
	X	Feuerstein	X				
X		Garretson	X				
		Hyatt	X				
		Joyner	X				
		Rios, VP	X				
		Epps, CP	X				

Final Adoption: February 25, 2025

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	EXCUSED
		Bonanno					
		Feuerstein					
		Hyatt					
		Joyner					
		Saxton					
		Rios, VP					
		Epps, CP					

Public Comments:

- Mattie Holloway; 141 Bailey Ave. – An explanation of the ordinance and how it would impact dollars and cents.

Motion to Close Public Comments by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Member Bonanno, **All-In-Favor**

Motion to Table by Council Member Garretson; Seconded by Council Member Feuerstein, All Council Members voted with the Affirmative with the Exception of Council Vice President Rios who Voted Nay. **Motion Carries**

ORDINANCE: Public Hearing & Final Adoption >> O-25-02**TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE
ORDINANCE O-25-02****ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 291 VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, ARTICLE IV – TRAFFIC REGULATIONS, CHAPTER 291-29 MULTI-WAY STOP INTERSECTIONS ON SALEM AVENUE AT WILDER STREET AND WESTMINSTER AVENUE AT WILDER STREET**

WHEREAS, a traffic control study has been undertaken regarding the flow of traffic at the intersection of Salem Avenue, Wilder Street and, and Westminster Avenue and it has been determined that a 4-way multi-stop sign on Salem Avenue at Wilder Street and Westminster Avenue at Wilder Street would assist in regulating the flow of traffic.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE THAT:

1. Chapter 291 Vehicles and Traffic, Article IV Traffic Regulations Section 291-29. Multi-way Stop Intersections shall be amended as follows:

Intersection:

Salem Ave. at Wilder St.

Traffic Control Device(s)

Stop sign at southeast corner of Salem Ave at Wilder St. (for traffic southbound)

Stop sign at northwest corner of Salem Ave at Wilder St. (for traffic northbound)

Stop sign at northeast corner of Wilder St. at Salem Ave. (for traffic westbound)

Stop sign at southwest corner of Wilder St. at Salem Ave. (for traffic eastbound)

“Stop ahead” markings prior to stop signs located on Salem Ave., in accordance with 2023 “MUTCD” guidelines.

Advanced warning signs on Salem Ave. in accordance with 2023 “MUTCD” guidelines.

Westminster Ave. at Wilder St.

Stop sign and Flashing red signal at southeast corner of Westminster Ave at Wilder St. (for traffic southbound)

Stop sign and flashing red signal at northwest corner of Westminster Ave at Wilder St. (for traffic northbound)

Stop sign and flashing red signal at northeast corner of Wilder St at Westminster Ave. (for traffic westbound)

Stop sign and flashing red signal at southwest corner of Wilder St. at Westminster Ave. (for traffic eastbound)

“Stop ahead” markings prior to stop signs located on Westminster Ave., in accordance with 2023 “MUTCD” guidelines.

Advanced warning signs on Salem Ave. in accordance with 2023 “MUTCD” guidelines.

2. SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this Ordinance, or the application of any such provision to any person or circumstances, shall be held invalid, the remainder of this Ordinance to the extent it can be given effect, or the application of such provision to persons or circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid shall not be affected thereby, and to this extent the provisions of this Ordinance are severable.

3. REPEALER

All ordinances or parts of ordinances which are inconsistent with any provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed as to the extent of such inconsistencies.

4. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall become effective twenty (20) days following the final adoption thereof by the Township Council of the Township of Hillside and shall be published as required by law.

First Reading and Introduction on January 22, 2025

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	EXCUSED
		Bonanno	X				
		Feuerstein					X
		Garretson	X				
X		Hyatt	X				
		Joyner					X
	X	Rios, VP	X				
		Epps, CP	X				

Public Hearing February 25, 2024

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	EXCUSED
	X	Bonanno	X				
		Feuerstein	X				
		Garretson	X				
		Hyatt					X
X		Joyner	X				
		Rios, VP	X				
		Epps, CP	X				

Final Adoption February 25, 2024

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	EXCUSED
X		Bonanno	X				
		Feuerstein	X				
		Garretson	X				
		Hyatt					X
	X	Joyner	X				
		Rios, VP					X
		Epps, CP	X				

Public Comments:

- None

Motion to Close Public Comments by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Member Bonanno, **All-In-Favor**

RESOLUTIONS**R-25-052 Tax: Refund Tax Sale Payment (ACTION)**

Motion by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Member Bonanno, All Council Members voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

TAX: REFUND TAX SALE PAYMENT

WHEREAS, property known as Block 305, Lot 7, 1577 Schley St, was listed for Tax Sale held on December 20, 2024, and

WHEREAS the owner property should not have been listed as Tax Sale due to the property owner being under bankruptcy, and

WHEREAS a tax lien was sold on this property to Fundpality 2023 LLC in the amount of \$2,751.61 and a premium of \$8,200.00 was also paid, now

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Township of Hillside that:

1. the Chief Financial Officer, is hereby authorized to issue a check to the owner of the Tax Sale Certificate in the amount of **\$2,751.61**, and a premium of **\$8,200.00** to refund the overpayment.
- Fundpality 2023 LLC
100 N LaSalle St, Suite 710
Chicago, IL 60602
2. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

R-25-053 Auth. Tax Refund Overpayment (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Member Garretson, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

AUTHORIZING TAX REFUND OVERPAYMENT

WHEREAS, overpayment of property tax and sewer exists on the properties listed below.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Hillside hereby that:

1. The Chief Financial Officer is authorized to issue a check, as indicated, to refund overpayment.

Block	Lot	Owner Name	Property Location	Year	REFUND	Refund Payable:
					AMOUNT	
1608		23 Arnold, Samuel C & Retha Rosde	602 Irvington Ave	2024/2	\$4,619.00	Samuel C & Retha Rose Arnold 356 McLean Pl Hillside, NJ 07205
Total					\$4,619.00	

2. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

R-25-054 Auth. Refund of Premiums for Tax Sale Certificates (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Bonanno; Seconded by Council Member Feuerstein, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

AUTHORIZING REFUND OF PREMIUMS FOR TAX SALE CERTIFICATES

WHEREAS, Certificates of Sale for unpaid municipal taxes were issued and sold to the lien holders listed on the attached spreadsheet; and

WHEREAS, premiums were paid to acquire these Certificates of Sale; and

WHEREAS, these Certificates of Sale have been fully paid and satisfied.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE THAT:

1. The Chief Financial Officer is authorized to issue checks, as indicated on the attached spreadsheet, to refund premiums.
2. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

R-25-055 Auth. the Transfer of Appropriations Reserves in the Local Budget of the Township of Hillside for Fiscal Year 2024 (ACTION) (TABLED)

Motion by Council Member Bonanno; Seconded by Council Member Garretson, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS RESERVES IN THE LOCAL BUDGET OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025

WHEREAS, Section 40A: 4-59 of the Revised Statutes of New Jersey authorizes the transfer of appropriations, during the first (3) months of the succeeding year, if during the first 3 months of any fiscal year, the amount of any appropriation reserve for the immediately preceding fiscal year is insufficient to pay claims authorized or incurred during said preceding year were chargeable to said appropriation, and there shall be an excess in any appropriation reserves over and above the amount deemed necessary to fulfill its purpose, the governing body may, by resolution adopt by not less than 2/3 vote of the full membership thereof, transfer the amount of such excess to an appropriation reserve in the prior year budget deemed to be insufficient to fulfill its purpose or for which no reserve was provided. No transfer to appropriation reserve for contingent expenses or deferred charges.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Hillside, as follows:

1. That the excess in the appropriations listed in the column designated "From" be transferred to the appropriations listed in the column designated "To" as follows:

Description	Transfer from	Transfer To
Current Fund	\$	\$
Clerk, S & W	\$20,000.00	
Postage	\$15,000.00	
Law OE	\$10,000.00	
Workers Comp.	\$60,000.00	
Crossing Guard, S & W	\$15,000.00	
Group Health Ins.	\$360,000.00	
Solid Waste OE		\$320,000.00
Engineering OE		\$60,000.00
Streets & Roads OE		\$100,000.00
TOTALS	\$480,000.00	\$480,000.00

2. The Township Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to transmit to the Chief Financial Officer, of the Township of Hillside, a certified copy of this resolution.
3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.
4. A copy of this resolution shall be filed forthwith with the Director of the New Jersey, Division of Local Government Service.

R-25-056 Approving Outside Counsel Services for Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

RESOLUTION APPROVING OUTSIDE COUNSEL SERVICES FOR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD

WHEREAS, there exists a need for Outside Counsel for various types of matters on an “as-needed” basis for the Township of Hillside; and

WHEREAS, proposals for Legal Services have been solicited via a Fair and Open Process through the issuance of a Request for Proposals pursuant to “New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law”, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq. for Outside Legal Counsel which was returnable on December 10, 2024; and

WHEREAS, King, Moench, & Collins, LLP (51 Gibraltar Drive, Suite 2F, Morris Plains, NJ 07950) was the only entity to submit a proposal for Counsel to the Alcoholic Beverage Control. A review of the submission indicates that King, Moench, & Collins, LLP is qualified to provide the required services to the Township.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE THAT:

1. King, Moench, & Collins, LLP (51 Gibraltar Drive, Suite 2F, Morris Plains, NJ 07950) shall be awarded a contract for Counsel to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, ratified from January 1, 2025, to the date of adoption of this resolution and shall end on December 31, 2025. The total amount of this contract shall not exceed \$7,000.00.
Attached hereto is a certification of funds in the amount of \$1,500.00 in accordance with the Temporary Budget.
Upon adoption of the Final Township Budget and availability of funds therein, this Resolution shall be amended to reflect an additional certification of funds in the amount of \$5,500.00.
2. The Township Attorney is hereby directed to prepare a Contract/Engagement for execution by the Mayor in accordance with the RFQ and this Resolution.
3. Upon approval, notice of award hereunder shall be published in the official newspapers of the Township pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.5(g).

R-25-057 Approving Contract for Labor Counsel Services (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative with the Exception of Council Member Garretson Who Voted Nay. **Motion Carries**

RESOLUTION APPROVING CONTRACT FOR LABOR COUNSEL SERVICES

WHEREAS, there exists a need for Outside Counsel for various types of matters on an “as-needed” basis for the Township of Hillside; and

WHEREAS, proposals for Legal Services have been solicited via a Fair and Open Process through the issuance of a Request for Proposals pursuant to “New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law”, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq. for Outside Legal Counsel which was returnable on December 10, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Jardim, Meisner, Salmon, Sprague and Susser, PC (30B Vreeland Road, Florham Park, NJ 07932) has been selected as qualified pursuant to the Township's Fair and Open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Hillside that a contract with the following firm listed below are hereby approved:

1. Jardim, Meisner, Salmon, Sprague and Susser, PC. (30B Vreeland Road, Florham Park, NJ 07932) shall be awarded a contract for Labor/Employment ratified from January 1, 2025, and shall end on December 31, 2025, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq. The total amount of this contract not exceed \$40,000.00.
2. Attached hereto is a certification of funds in the amount of \$5,000.00 in accordance with the Township's Temporary Budget.
3. Upon adoption of the Final Township Budget and availability of funds therein, this Resolution shall be amended to reflect an additional certification of funds in the amount of \$35,000.00.
4. The Township Attorney is hereby directed to prepare a Contract/Engagement for execution by the Mayor in accordance with the RFQ and this Resolution.
5. Upon approval, notice of award hereunder shall be published in the official newspapers of the Township pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.5(g).

R-25-058 Awarding a Non-Fair & Open Contract to Carlin, Ward, Ash & Heiart Attorney at Law for Reverse Tax Appeal Services (ACTION)

Motion by Council Vice President Rios; Seconded by Council Member Joyner, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative with the Exception of Council Member Feuerstein Who Abstain. **Motion Carries**

RESOLUTION AWARDING A NON-FAIR & OPEN CONTRACT TO CARLIN, WARD, ASH & HEIART ATTORNEY AT LAW FOR REVERSE TAX APPEAL SERVICES

WHEREAS, there exists a need for an attorney to handle reverse tax appeal matters for the Township of Hillside as a non-fair and open contract; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contract Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq., requires that the resolution authorizing the award of contracts for professional services without competitive bids and the contract itself must be available for public inspection; and

WHEREAS, the anticipated terms of this contract shall be from February 25, 2025, through December 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Carlin, Ward, Ash & Heiart (25B Vreeland Rd., Ste. 102, Florham Park, NJ 07932) has submitted a proposal indicating they will handle the reverse tax appeal matters on a contingency basis of 1/3 of the tax revenue generated from settlements; and

WHEREAS, the reverse tax appeal process will exclusively target the assessment and investigation of commercial properties; and

WHEREAS, Carlin, Ward, Ash & Heiart has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification, which certifies that Carlin, Ward, Ash & Heiart has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Hillside in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit the Carlin, Ward, Ash & Heiart from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Hillside that a Non-Fair & Open Contract be awarded to Carlin, Ward, Ash & Heiart for reverse tax appeals:

1. Carlin, Ward, Ash & Heiart, whose principal place of business is 225B Vreeland Rd., Ste. 102, Florham Park, NJ 07932 be awarded a contract as Reverse Tax Appeals Attorney to the Township of Hillside on a contingency basis of 1/3 of the tax revenue generated from settlements.
2. The contract is awarded in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.
3. Upon approval, notice of award hereunder shall be published in the official newspaper of the Township pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.5(g).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a "Professional Service" in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a) of the Local Public Contracts Law because the contract is for a service performed by a person authorized by law to practice a recognized profession that is regulated by law

R-25-059 Awarding a Contract for Real Estate Appraisal Services (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Member Garretson, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL SERVICES

WHEREAS, there exists a need for a Real Estate Appraiser for the Township of Hillside; and

WHEREAS, qualification statements have been solicited via a Fair and Open Process through the annual issuance of a Request for Proposal ("RFP") for certain professional services returnable on December 10, 2024, in accordance with the "New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law", N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq.; and

WHEREAS, Sterling DiSanto & Associates, LLC (145 West End Ave., Somerville, NJ 08876) was the only entity to submit a proposal. A review of the submission indicates that Sterling DiSanto & Associates, LLC is qualified to provide the required services to the Township.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE THAT:

1. Sterling DiSanto & Associates, LLC (145 West End Ave., Somerville, NJ 08876) shall be awarded a contract for Real Estate Appraisal Services, ratified from January 1, 2025, to the date of adoption of this resolution and shall end on December 31, 2025. The total amount of this contract shall not exceed \$3,500.00.
Attached hereto is a certification of funds in the amount of \$750.00 in accordance with the Temporary Budget.
Upon adoption of the Final Township Budget and availability of funds therein, this Resolution shall be amended to reflect an additional certification of funds in the amount of \$2,750.00.

2. The Township Attorney is hereby directed to prepare a Contract/Engagement for execution by the Mayor in accordance with the RFQ and this Resolution.
3. Upon approval, notice of award hereunder shall be published in the official newspapers of the Township pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.5(g).

R-25-060 Awarding a Non-Fair & Open Contract to Lewis Consulting Group as Township Environmental Engineer (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Garretson; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

RESOLUTION AWARDING A NON-FAIR & OPEN CONTRACT TO LEWIS CONSULTING GROUP AS TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER

WHEREAS, the Township of Hillside has a need for a Township Engineer as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4* or *20.5*; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has determined and certified in writing that the value of the acquisition will exceed \$17,500; and

WHEREAS, the anticipated terms of this contract shall be from January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Lewis Consulting Group has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Lewis Consulting Group has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Hillside in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit Lewis Consulting Group from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

WHEREAS, Lewis Consulting Group has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide Township Engineer services for the Township of Hillside for an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00; and

WHEREAS, this contract is awarded in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq., subject to the attached certification of funds in an amount of \$10,000.00 in accordance with the Township's Temporary Budget; and

WHEREAS, upon adoption of the Final Township Budget and availability of funds therein, this Resolution shall be amended to reflect an additional certification of funds in the amount of \$40,000.00.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Hillside authorizes the Township to enter into a contract with Lewis Consulting Group as described herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a "Professional Service" in accordance with *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a)* of the Local Public Contracts Law because the contract is for a service performed by a person authorized by law to practice a recognized profession that is regulated by law.

R-25-061 Appointing Dario, Albert, Metz, Eyerman, Canda, Concannon, Ortiz & Krouse, LLC as Outside Counsel Services for Tax Appeal Matters (ACTION)

Motion by Council Vice President Rios; Seconded by Council Member Joyner, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative with the Exception Council Members Bonnnano, Feuerstein, Garretson & Council President Epps Who Voted Nay. **Motion Fails**

Motion to Reconsider by Council President Epps; Seconded by Council Member Joyner, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative with the Exception Council Members Bonnnano & Garretson Who Voted Nay. **Motion Carries**

Motion to Accept by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

RESOLUTION APPOINTING DARIO, ALBERT, METZ, EYERMAN, CANDA, CONCANNON, ORTIZ & KROUSE, LLC AS OUTSIDE COUNSEL SERVICES FOR TAX APPEAL MATTERS

WHEREAS, there exists a need for Outside Counsel for various types of matters on an "as-needed" basis for the Township of Hillside; and

WHEREAS, proposals for Legal Services have been solicited via a Fair and Open Process through the issuance of a Request for Proposals pursuant to “New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law”, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq. for Outside Legal Counsel which was returnable on December 10, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Dario, Albert, Metz, Eyerman, Canda, Concannon, Ortiz & Krouse, LLC (314 48th Street, Union City, NJ 07601) has been selected as qualified pursuant to the Township's Fair and Open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE THAT:

1. Dario, Albert, Metz, Eyerman, Canda, Concannon, Ortiz & Krouse, LLC (314 48th Street, Union City, NJ 07601) shall be awarded a contract for Tax Appeal matters, ratified from January 1, 2025, and shall end on December 31, 2025, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq. The total amount of this contract shall be \$15,000.00.
2. Attached hereto is a certification of funds in the amount of \$4,000.00 in accordance with the Temporary Budget.
3. Upon adoption of the Final Township Budget and availability of funds therein, this Resolution shall be amended to reflect an additional certification of funds in the amount of \$11,000.00.
4. The Township Attorney is hereby directed to prepare a Contract/Engagement for execution by the Mayor in accordance with the RFQ and this Resolution.
5. Upon approval, notice of award hereunder shall be published in the official newspapers of the Township pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.5(g).

R-25-062 Appointing Dario, Albert, Metz, Eyerman, Canda, Concannon, Ortiz & Krouse, LLC for General Litigation Services (ACTION) (FAILS)

Motion by Council Vice President Rios; Seconded by Council Member Joyner, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative with the Exception Council Members Bonnnano, Feuerstein, Garretson & Council President Epps Who Voted Nay. **Motion Fails**

RESOLUTION APPOINTING DARIO, ALBERT, METZ, EYERMAN, CANDI, CONCANNON, ORTIZ & KROUSE, LLC FOR GENERAL LITIGATION SERVICES

WHEREAS, there exists a need for Outside Counsel for various types of matters on an “as-needed” basis for the Township of Hillside; and

WHEREAS, proposals for Legal Services have been solicited via a Fair and Open Process through the issuance of a Request for Proposals pursuant to “New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law”, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq. for Outside Legal Counsel which was returnable on December 10, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Dario, Albert, Metz, Eyerman, Canda, Concannon, Ortiz & Krouse, LLC (314 48th Street, Union City, NJ 07601) has been selected as qualified pursuant to the Township's Fair and Open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Hillside that a contract with the following firm listed below is hereby approved:

1. Dario, Albert, Metz, Eyerman, Canda, Concannon, Ortiz & Krouse, LLC (314 48th Street, Union City, NJ 07601) is hereby awarded a contract for general litigation ratified from January 1, 2025, and shall end on December 31, 2025, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq. The total amount of this contract shall not exceed \$40,000.00.
2. Attached hereto is a certification of funds in the amount of \$5,000.00 in accordance with the Township's Temporary Budget.
3. Upon adoption of the Final Township Budget and availability of funds therein, this Resolution shall be amended to reflect an additional certification of funds in the amount of \$35,000.00.
4. The Township Attorney is hereby directed to prepare a Contract/Engagement for execution by the Mayor in accordance with the RFQ and this Resolution.
5. Upon approval, notice of award hereunder shall be published in the official newspapers of the Township pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.5(g).

R-25-063 Appointing Township Engineer (ACTION)

Motion to Amend Amount of the Contract Shall Not Exceed \$150,000.00 to Not Exceed \$15,000 and for the Engineer's to be at the next meeting by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative with the Exception Council Vice President Rios Who Voted Nay. **Motion Carries**

RESOLUTION APPOINTING TOWNSHIP ENGINEER

WHEREAS, there exists a need for a Township Engineer for the Township of Hillside, and

WHEREAS, qualification statements have been solicited via a Fair and Open Process through the annual issuance of a Request for Proposal ("RFP") for certain professional services which were returnable on December 10, 2024, in accordance with the "New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law", N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq.; and

WHEREAS, Remington Vernick (One Harmon Plaza, Suite 210, Secaucus NJ 07094) has been selected as qualified pursuant to the Township's Fair and Open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE THAT:

1. Remington & Vernick Engineers (One Harmon Plaza, Suite 210, Secaucus NJ 07094), is hereby appointed as Township Engineer. The amount of the contract shall not exceed \$15,000.00. Effective upon execution of a contract for said service is hereby ratified from January 1, 2025, to the date of adoption hereof and shall have a termination date of December 31, 2025.
2. This contract is awarded in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq., subject to the attached certification of funds in accordance with the Township's Temporary Budget.
3. The Township Attorney is hereby directed to prepare and furnish to the entity named in Section 1, a Contract in accordance with the RFP and this Resolution; and
4. The Mayor is hereby authorized to examine and execute said Contract.

R-25-064 Appointing Outside Counsel for Bond Services (ACTION)

Motion by Council Vice President Rios; Seconded by Council Member Joyner, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

RESOLUTION APPOINTING OUTSIDE COUNSEL FOR BOND SERVICES

WHEREAS, there exists a need for Outside Counsel for various types of matters on an "as-needed" basis for the Township of Hillside; and

WHEREAS, proposals for Legal Services have been solicited via a Fair and Open Process through the issuance of a Request for Proposals the "New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law", N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq. for Outside Legal Counsel which was returnable on December 10, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Wilentz Goldman & Spitzer, (90 Woodbridge Center Drive, Woodbridge, NJ 07095) has been selected as qualified pursuant to the Township's Fair and Open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE THAT:

1. Wilentz Goldman & Spitzer, (90 Woodbridge Center Drive, Woodbridge, NJ 07095) shall be awarded a contract for Bond Counsel ratified from January 1, 2025, to the date of adoption of this resolution and shall end on December 31, 2025. The total amount of this contract shall be \$15,000.00.
2. Attached hereto is a certification of funds in the amount of \$3,000.00 in accordance with the Temporary Budget.
3. Upon adoption of the Final Township Budget and availability of funds therein, this Resolution shall be amended to reflect an additional certification of funds in the amount of \$12,000.00.
4. The Township Attorney is hereby directed to prepare a Contract/Engagement for execution by the Mayor in accordance with the RFQ and this Resolution.
5. Upon approval, a notice of award hereunder shall be published in the official newspapers of the Township pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.5(g).

R-25-065 Approving Kologi Simitz to Provide Labor Counsel Services for the Township of Hillside (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Member Garretson, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

RESOLUTION APPROVING KOLOGI SMITZ TO PROVIDE LABOR COUNSEL SERVICES FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE

WHEREAS, there exists a need for Outside Counsel for various types of matters on an “as-needed” basis for the Township of Hillside; and

WHEREAS, proposals for Legal Services have been solicited via a Fair and Open Process through the issuance of a Request for Proposals the “New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law”, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq. for Outside Legal Counsel which was returnable on December 10, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Kologi Smitz Law Offices (500 N. Wood Avenue Suite 4B, Linden, NJ 07036) has been selected as qualified pursuant to the Township's Fair and Open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE THAT

1. Kologi Smitz Law Offices (500 N. Wood Avenue Suite 4B, Linden, NJ 07036) shall be awarded a contract for Labor/Employment and Collective Bargaining-related issues ratified from January 1, 2025 to the date of adoption of this resolution and shall end on ending December 31, 2025. The total amount of this contract shall not exceed \$40,000.00.
2. Attached hereto is a certification of funds in the amount of \$5,000.00 in accordance with the Temporary Budget.
3. Upon adoption of the Final Township Budget and availability of funds therein, this Resolution shall be amended to reflect an additional certification of funds in the amount of \$35,000.00.
4. The Township Attorney is hereby directed to prepare a Contract/Engagement for execution by the Mayor in accordance with the RFQ and this Resolution.
5. Upon approval, notice of award hereunder shall be published in the official newspapers of the Township pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.5(g).

R-25-066 Approving Trenk Isabel Siddiqi & Shahdanian P.C. to Provide Labor Counsel Services for the Township of Hillside (ACTION) (FAILS)

Motion by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative with the Exception Council Members Bonnnano, Garretson & Council President Epps Who Voted Nay & Council Member Feuerstein Who Abstain. **Motion Fails**

RESOLUTION APPROVING TRENK ISABEL SIDDIQI & SHAHDANIAN P.C. TO PROVIDE LABOR COUNSEL SERVICES FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE

WHEREAS, there exists a need for Outside Counsel for various types of matters on an “as-needed” basis for the Township of Hillside; and

WHEREAS, proposals for Legal Services have been solicited via a Fair and Open Process through the issuance of a Request for Proposals the “New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law”, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq. for Outside Legal Counsel which was returnable on December 10, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Trenk Isabel Siddiqi & Shahdanian P.C. (290 W. Mt. Pleasant Ave., Suite 2370, Livingston, NJ 07039) has been selected as qualified pursuant to the Township's Fair and Open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE THAT

1. Trenk Isabel Siddiqi & Shahdanian P.C. (290 W. Mt. Pleasant Ave., Suite 2370, Livingston, NJ 07039) shall be awarded a contract for Labor/Employment and Collective Bargaining-related issues ratified from January 1, 2025 to the date of adoption of this resolution and shall end on ending December 31, 2025. The total amount of this contract shall not exceed \$30,000.00.
2. Attached hereto is a certification of funds in the amount of \$5,000.00 in accordance with the Temporary Budget.
3. Upon adoption of the Final Township Budget and availability of funds therein, this Resolution shall be amended to reflect an additional certification of funds in the amount of \$25,000.00.
4. The Township Attorney is hereby directed to prepare a Contract/Engagement for execution by the Mayor in accordance with the RFQ and this Resolution.
5. Upon approval, notice of award hereunder shall be published in the official newspapers of the Township pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.5(g).

R-25-067 Appointing Wilentz Goldman & Spitzer as Outside Counsel for Redevelopment Services (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Bonanno; Seconded by Council Member Feuerstein, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries**RESOLUTION APPOINTING WILENTZ GOLDMAN & SPITZER AS OUTSIDE COUNSEL FOR REDEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

WHEREAS, there exists a need for Outside Counsel for various types of matters on an “as-needed” basis for the Township of Hillside; and

WHEREAS, proposals for Legal Services have been solicited via a Fair and Open Process through the issuance of a Request for Proposals the “New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law”, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq. for Outside Legal Counsel which was returnable on December 10, 2024.

WHEREAS, Wilentz Goldman & Spitzer, (90 Woodbridge Center Drive, Woodbridge, NJ 07095) has been selected as qualified pursuant to the Township's Fair and Open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE THAT:

1. Wilentz Goldman & Spitzer, (90 Woodbridge Center Drive, Woodbridge, NJ 07095) shall be awarded a contract for Redevelopment Counsel ratified from January 1, 2025, to the date of adoption of this resolution and shall end on December 31, 2025. The total amount of this contract shall not exceed \$15,000.00.
2. Attached hereto is a certification of funds in the amount of \$3,000.00 in accordance with the Temporary Budget.
3. Upon adoption of the Final Township Budget and availability of funds therein, this Resolution shall be amended to reflect an additional certification of funds in the amount of \$12,000.00.
4. The Township Attorney is hereby directed to prepare a Contract/Engagement for execution by the Mayor in accordance with the RFQ and this Resolution.
5. Upon approval, a notice of award hereunder shall be published in the official newspapers of the Township pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.5(g).

R-25-068 Auth. Fuel Services from Griffith-Allied Trucking, LLC Pursuant to New Jersey State Contract #19-FLEET-00978, in an Amount not to Exceed \$30,000.00 (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Member Bonanno, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FUEL SERVICES FROM GRIFFITH-ALLIED TRUCKING, LLC PURSUANT TO NEW JERSEY STATE CONTRACT #19-FLEET-00978, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$30,000.00**

WHEREAS, the Township of Hillside desires to purchase fuel services; and

WHEREAS, Griffith-Allied Trucking, LLC has a valid contract through the New Jersey State Contract #19-FLEET-00978; and

WHEREAS, this purchase is permitted under N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5), the New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law which permits contracting units to participate in cooperative pricing systems; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that sufficient funds are available in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00 in account #01-2010-31-4412-100.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Hillside, in the County of Union, and State of New Jersey authorize the purchase of fuel services from Griffith-Allied Trucking, LLC for a total not to exceed \$30,000.00 under the valid New Jersey State Contract #19-FLEET-00978.

R-25-069 Auth. Furnaces & Installation from Lino's HVAC Pursuant to NJ State Contract #V00094232 in an Amount Not to Exceed \$30,409.00 (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Member Bonanno, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FURNACES AND INSTALLATION FROM LINO'S HVAC PURSUANT TO NEW JERSEY STATE CONTRACT #V00094232 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$30,409.00**

WHEREAS, the Township of Hillside desires to purchase furnaces and installation for the overhead small garage and large garage heat in Hillside Fire Department Station 1; and

WHEREAS, Lino's HVAC has a valid contract through the New Jersey State Contract #V00094232; and

WHEREAS, this purchase is permitted under N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5), the New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law which permits contracting units to participate in cooperative pricing systems; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that sufficient funds are available in an amount not to exceed \$30,409.00 in account #04-2150-55-2314-890.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Hillside, in the County of Union, and State of New Jersey authorize the purchase furnaces and the installation from Lino's HVAC, for a total not to exceed \$30,409.00 under the valid New Jersey State Contract #V00094232.

R-25-070 Auth. Rock Salt from Morton Salt, Inc. Pursuant to NJ State Contract #20-FLEET-01519 in an Amount Not to Exceed \$25,377.00

Motion by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Member Feuerstein, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ROCK SALT FROM MORTON SALT, INC. PURSUANT TO NEW JERSEY STATE CONTRACT #20-FLEET-01519 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$25,377.00**

WHEREAS, the Township of Hillside desires to purchase rock salt; and

WHEREAS, Morton Salt has a valid contract through the New Jersey State Contract #20-FLEET-01519; and

WHEREAS, this purchase is permitted under N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5), the New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law which permits contracting units to participate in cooperative pricing systems; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that sufficient funds are available in an amount not to exceed \$25,377.00 in account #01-2010-26-2902-100.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Hillside, in the County of Union, and State of New Jersey authorize the purchase of rock salt from Morton Salt, Inc., for a total not to exceed \$25,377.00 under the valid New Jersey State Contract #20-FLEET-01519.

R-25-071 Amending Resolution No. R-24-253 Auth. Emergency Procurement of Repairs to Township of Hillside 911 Generator in the Municipal Building Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6 (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, All Council Members voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries**A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. R-24-253 AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY PROCUREMENT OF REPAIRS TO TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE 911 GENERATOR IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6**

WHEREAS, an emergency situation developed, which could not have been reasonably foreseen, with respect to the Electrical Room HVAC to supply power to the 911 Generator in the Township of Hillside Municipal Building; and

WHEREAS, the malfunctioned communication to the 911 Generator made the municipal building nonfunctional for the public and the employees, causing a public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council previously adopted resolution No. R-24-253 on October 22, 2024, authorizing emergency repairs by FES Electric, 212 W. Price St., Linden, NJ 07036, at a total cost of \$14,500.00; and

WHEREAS, upon review and final determination, the actual cost of the emergency repairs was adjusted to \$7,550.00; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6, a contract may be awarded without public advertising for bids and bidding when an emergency affecting the public health, safety, or welfare requires the immediate performance of the services; and

WHEREAS, consistent with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6 and N.J.A.C. 5:34-6, the Township has determined this to be an emergent situation consistent with statute.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Hillside that the previously adopted resolution authorizing emergency repairs by FES Electric is hereby amended to reflect a revised emergency cost of \$7,550.00.

R-25-072 Determining the Form & Other Details of Not Exceeding \$565,000 General Improvement Bonds, Series 2025 of the Township of Hillside, in the County of Union, State Of NJ, & Providing for Their Sale to the NJ Infrastructure Bank & the State of NJ Pursuant to the State Fiscal Year 2025 NJ Water Bank Environmental Infrastructure Financing Program
(ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Member Bonanno, All Council Members voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

**RESOLUTION DETERMINING THE FORM AND OTHER DETAILS OF NOT EXCEEDING \$565,000
GENERAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS, SERIES 2025 OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE, IN THE COUNTY OF
UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR SALE TO THE NEW JERSEY**

**INFRASTRUCTURE BANK AND THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY PURSUANT TO THE STATE FISCAL YEAR
2025 NEW JERSEY WATER BANK ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Township of Hillside (the "Local Unit"), in the County of Union, State of New Jersey, is a member municipality of and participant in the Joint Meeting of Essex and Union Counties (the "Joint Meeting"), which has determined that there exists a need that affects the Joint Meeting and its participants requiring the Local Unit to finance or refinance the acquisition, construction, renovation or installation of a project and has assessed the Local Unit for its share of the costs of such project, such share of the project (the "Project"), as defined in each of (i) that certain Loan Agreement (the "I-Bank Loan Agreement") to be entered into by and among the Local Unit, the Joint Meeting and the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank (the "I-Bank") and (ii) that certain Loan Agreement (the "Fund Loan Agreement", and together with the I-Bank Loan Agreement, the "Loan Agreements") to be entered into by and among the Local Unit, the Joint Meeting and the State of New Jersey, acting by and through the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (the "State"), all pursuant to the State Fiscal Year 2025 New Jersey Water Bank Environmental Infrastructure Financing Program;

WHEREAS, the Local Unit has determined to finance or refinance the acquisition, construction, renovation or installation of the Project with the proceeds of a loan to be made by each of the I-Bank (the "I-Bank Loan") and the State (the "Fund Loan", and together with the I-Bank Loan, the "Loans") pursuant to the I-Bank Loan Agreement and the Fund Loan Agreement, respectively;

WHEREAS, to evidence and secure the Loans, each of the I-Bank and the State require the Local Unit to authorize, execute, attest and deliver the Local Unit's General Improvement Bonds, Series 2025A to the I-Bank (the "I-Bank Loan Bond") and General Improvement Bonds, Series 2025B to the State (the "Fund Loan Bond", and together with the I-Bank Loan Bond,

the "Local Unit Bonds") in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$565,000, pursuant to the terms of the Local Bond Law of the State of New Jersey, constituting Chapter 2 of Title 40A of the Revised Statutes of the State of New Jersey (the "Local Bond Law"), other applicable law and the Loan Agreements; and

WHEREAS, Section 27(a)(2) of the Local Bond Law allows for the sale of the I-Bank Loan Bond and the Fund Loan Bond to the I-Bank and the State, respectively, without any public offering, and N.J.S.A. 58:11B-9(a) allows for the sale of the I-Bank Loan Bond to the I-Bank without any public offering, all pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by a 2/3 vote of the full membership of the governing body of the Local Unit as follows:

Section 1. In accordance with Section 27(a)(2) of the Local Bond Law and N.J.S.A. 58:11B-9(a), the Local Unit hereby authorizes the issuance, sale and award its I-Bank Loan Bond to the I-Bank and its Fund Loan Bond to the State, in a total aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$565,000, all in accordance with the provisions hereof. The obligations represented by the Local Unit Bonds have been appropriated and authorized by bond ordinance # O-18-23 of the Local Unit, which bond ordinance is entitled "BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE LOCAL UNIT'S ALLOCABLE SHARE OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FOR THE JOINT MEETING OF ESSEX AND UNION COUNTIES, BY AND IN THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (THE "LOCAL UNIT"); APPROPRIATING \$900,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$900,000 BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE THE COST THEREOF" and was finally adopted by the Local Unit at a meeting duly called and held on November 27, 2018, at which time a quorum was present and acted throughout, all pursuant to the terms of the Local Bond Law and other applicable law.

Section 2. The Chief Financial Officer of the Local Unit (the "Chief Financial Officer") is hereby authorized to determine, in accordance with the Local Bond Law and pursuant to the terms and provisions established by the I-Bank and the State pursuant to the Loan Agreements and the terms and provisions hereof, the following terms with respect to the I-Bank Loan Bond and the Fund Loan Bond:

- (a) The aggregate principal amounts of each of the I-Bank Loan Bond and the Fund Loan Bond to be issued, which total aggregate principal amount of the Local Unit Bonds to be issued shall not exceed \$565,000;
- (b) The maturity and annual principal installments of each of the Local Unit Bonds, which maturity shall not exceed thirty (30) years;
- (b) The date of each of the Local Unit Bonds;
- (d) The interest rates of each of the Local Unit Bonds;
- (e) The purchase price for each of the Local Unit Bonds; and
- (f) The terms and conditions under which the Local Unit Bonds shall be subject to redemption prior to their stated maturities.

Section 3. Any determination made by the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to the terms hereof shall be conclusively evidenced by the execution and attestation of the Local Unit Bonds by the parties authorized pursuant to Section 4(c) hereof.

Section 4. The Local Unit hereby determines that certain terms of the Local Unit Bonds shall be as follows:

- (a) The I-Bank Loan Bond shall be issued in a single denomination and shall be numbered R-1. The Fund Loan Bond shall be issued in a single denomination and shall be numbered R-2;
- (b) The Local Unit Bonds shall be issued in fully registered form and shall be payable to the registered owners thereof as to both principal and interest in lawful money of the United States of America; and

(c) The Local Unit Bonds shall be executed by the manual or facsimile signatures of the Mayor and the Chief Financial Officer under official seal or facsimile thereof affixed, imprinted, engraved or reproduced thereon and attested by the manual signature of the Local Unit Clerk.

Section 5. The I-Bank Loan Bond and the Fund Loan Bond shall be substantially in the form set forth in the I-Bank Loan Agreement and the Fund Loan Agreement, respectively.

Section 6. The law firm of Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., is hereby authorized to arrange for the printing of the Local Unit Bonds, which law firm may authorize McCarter & English, LLP, bond counsel to the I-Bank for the Program, to arrange for same. The Local Unit auditor is hereby authorized to prepare the financial information necessary in connection with the issuance of the Local Unit Bonds. The Mayor, the Chief Financial Officer and the Local Unit Clerk are hereby authorized to execute any certificates necessary or desirable in connection with the issuance and sale of the Local Unit Bonds and the provision of financial and other information related to the Local Unit.

Section 7. The terms of the Local Unit Bonds authorized to be set forth by the Chief Financial Officer in accordance with Section 2 hereof shall be ratified, pursuant to the terms of this Resolution, by the affirmative vote of 2/3 of the full membership of the governing body of the Local Unit. The terms of the Local Unit Bonds authorized to be set forth by the Chief Financial Officer in accordance with Section 2 hereof may also be determined by the execution and delivery of an award certificate by the Chief Financial Officer.

Section 8. The Mayor and the Chief Financial Officer are hereby severally authorized to execute any certificates or documents necessary or desirable in connection with the issuance, sale and award of the Local Unit Bonds, and are further authorized to deliver same to the I-Bank and the State, respectively, upon delivery of the Local Unit Bonds and the receipt of payment therefor in accordance with the respective Loan Agreements.

Section 9. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Section 10. Upon the adoption hereof, the Local Unit Clerk shall forward certified copies of this resolution to Everett M. Johnson, Esq., Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., bond counsel to the Local Unit, and Richard T. Nolan, Esq., McCarter & English, LLP, bond counsel to the I-Bank.

R-25-073 Authorizing The Execution & Delivery of Loan Agreements to be Executed by the Township Of Hillside, in the County Of Union, State of NJ & Each of the NJ Infrastructure Bank & the State of NJ, Acting by & Through the NJ Department of Environmental Protection, & Further Authorizing The Execution & Delivery of an Escrow Agreement, All Pursuant to The State Fiscal Year 2025 NJ Water Bank Environmental Infrastructure Financing Program

(ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Bonanno; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, All Council Members voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF LOAN AGREEMENTS TO BE EXECUTED BY THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AND EACH OF THE NEW JERSEY INFRASTRUCTURE BANK AND THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ACTING BY AND THROUGH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF AN ESCROW AGREEMENT, ALL PURSUANT TO THE STATE FISCAL YEAR 2025 NEW JERSEY WATER BANK ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Township of Hillside (the "Local Unit"), in the County of Union, State of New Jersey, is a member municipality of and participant in the Joint Meeting of Essex and Union Counties (the "Joint Meeting"), which has determined that there exists a need that affects the Joint Meeting and its participants requiring the Local Unit to finance or refinance the acquisition, construction, renovation or installation of a project and has assessed the Local Unit for its share of the costs of such project, such share of the project (the "Project"), as defined in each of (i) that certain Loan Agreement (the "I-Bank Loan Agreement") to be entered into by and among the Local Unit, the Joint Meeting and the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank (the "I-Bank") and (ii) that

certain Loan Agreement (the "Fund Loan Agreement", and together with the I-Bank Loan Agreement, the "Loan Agreements") to be entered into by and among the Local Unit, the Joint Meeting and the State of New Jersey, acting by and through the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (the "State"), all pursuant to the State Fiscal Year 2025 New Jersey Water Bank Environmental Infrastructure Financing Program;

WHEREAS, the Local Unit has determined to finance or refinance the acquisition, construction, renovation or installation of the Project with the proceeds of a loan to be made by each of the I-Bank (the "I-Bank Loan") and the State (the "Fund Loan", and together with the I-Bank Loan, the "Loans") pursuant to the I-Bank Loan Agreement and the Fund Loan Agreement, respectively;

WHEREAS, to evidence and secure the Loans, each of the I-Bank and the State require the Local Unit to authorize, execute, attest and deliver the Local Unit's General Improvement Bonds, Series 2025A to the I-Bank (the "I-Bank Loan Bond") and General Improvement Bonds, Series 2025B to the State (the "Fund Loan Bond", and together with the I-Bank Loan Bond, the "Local Unit Bonds") in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$565,000, pursuant to the terms of the Local Bond Law of the State of New Jersey, constituting Chapter 2 of Title 40A of the Revised Statutes of the State of New Jersey (the "Local Bond Law"), other applicable law and the Loan Agreements; and

WHEREAS, the I-Bank and the State have expressed their desire to close in escrow the making of the Loans, the issuance of the Local Unit Bonds and the execution and delivery of the Loan Agreements, all pursuant to the terms of an Escrow Agreement (the "Escrow Agreement") to be entered into by and among the I-Bank, the State, the Local Unit, the Joint Meeting and the escrow agent named therein.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the Local Unit as follows:

Section 1. The I-Bank Loan Agreement, the Fund Loan Agreement and the Escrow Agreement (collectively, the "Financing Documents") are hereby authorized to be executed and delivered on behalf of the Local Unit by either the Mayor or the Chief Financial Officer in substantially the forms attached hereto as Exhibits A, B and C, respectively, with such changes as the Mayor or the Chief Financial Officer (each an "Authorized Officer"), in their respective sole discretion, after consultation with counsel and any advisors to the Local Unit (collectively, the "Local Unit Consultants") and after further consultation with the I-Bank, the State and their representatives, agents, counsel and advisors (collectively, the "Program Consultants", and together with the Local Unit Consultants, the "Consultants"), shall determine, such determination to be conclusively evidenced by the execution of such Financing Documents by an Authorized Officer as determined hereunder. The Local Unit Clerk is hereby authorized to attest to the execution of the Financing Documents by an Authorized Officer of the Local Unit as determined hereunder and to affix, imprint, engrave or reproduce the corporate seal of the Local Unit to such Financing Documents.

Section 2. The Authorized Officers of the Local Unit are hereby further severally authorized to (i) execute and deliver, and the Local Unit Clerk is hereby further authorized to attest to such execution and to affix, imprint, engrave or reproduce the corporate seal of the Local Unit to, any document, instrument or closing certificate deemed necessary, desirable or convenient by the Authorized Officers or the Local Unit Clerk, as applicable, in their respective sole discretion, after consultation with the Consultants, to be executed in connection with the execution and delivery of the Financing Documents and the consummation of the transactions contemplated thereby, which determination shall be conclusively evidenced by the execution of each such certificate or other document by the party authorized hereunder to execute such certificate or other document, and (ii) perform such other actions as the Authorized Officers deem necessary, desirable or convenient in relation to the execution and delivery thereof.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Section 4. Upon the adoption hereof, the Local Unit Clerk shall forward certified copies of this resolution to Everett M. Johnson, Esq., Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., bond counsel to the Local Unit, and Richard T. Nolan, Esq., McCarter & English, LLP, bond counsel to the I-Bank.

R-25-074 Auth. the Township of Hillside to Join the ACR Health Insurance Fund (ACTION) (TABLED)

Motion by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Member Garretson, All Council Members voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF
HILLSIDE TO JOIN THE ACR HEALTH INSURANCE FUND.

WHEREAS, a number of public entities in the State of New Jersey have joined together to form the ACR Health Insurance Fund, hereafter referred to as the “Fund”, as permitted by N.J.A.C. 11:15-3.1 et. seq., N.J.S.A. 17:1-8.1 et. seq., and N.J.S.A. 40A:10-36 et. seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Fund was approved to become operational by the Department of Banking and Insurance and the Department of Community Affairs (collectively, the “Departments”) and has been operational since that date; and

WHEREAS, the statutes and regulations governing the creation and operation of a joint insurance fund in the State of New Jersey contain certain restrictions and safeguards in connection with the administration of the public interest entrusted to such a Fund; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of the Township of Hillside, hereinafter referred to as “Local Unit” has studied the feasibility of joining the Fund and has determined that membership in the Fund is in the best interest of the Local Unit.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the governing body of the Local Unit hereby agrees and authorizes the following:

- i. The Local Unit shall become a member of the Fund for an initial period outlined in the Local Unit’s Indemnity and Trust Agreement, which in no event shall exceed three (3) years as prescribed in N.J.A.C. 11:15-3.3(a).
- ii. The Local Unit shall participate in the following type(s) of coverage(s) offered by the Fund: Health Insurance and/or Prescription Insurance and/or Dental Insurance and/or Medicare Advantage/Employer Group Waiver Program as defined pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17B:17-4, the Fund’s Bylaws, and Plan of Risk Management.
- iii. Adoption and approval of the Fund’s Bylaws, a true and correct copy of which is annexed hereto as Attachment A, which has been approved by the Departments.
- iv. Execution of the Local Unit’s Indemnity and Trust Agreement, a true and correct copy of which is annexed hereto as Attachment B, which has been approved by the Departments.
- v. Execution of the application for membership to the Fund, including any and all documents and/or certifications as may be necessary, in order for the Local Unit to complete the application process and join the Fund.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governing body of the Local Unit certifies, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 11:15-3.3(a), that the Local Unit has never defaulted on claims under a self- insured plan and that it has not had its insurance canceled for nonpayment of premium for a period of at least two (2) years prior to this application.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governing body of the Local Unit is authorized and directed to execute the Indemnity and Trust Agreement and such other documents signifying membership in the Fund as required by the Fund’s Bylaws, and to deliver these documents to the Fund’s Executive Director with the express reservation that these documents shall become effective only upon on acceptance of the Fund’s By-laws as prescribed in N.J.A.C. 11:15-3.3(a).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect upon its passage.

R-25-075 Terminate all Participation Under the SHBP (Including Prescription Drug Plan &/or Dental Plan**Coverage** (ACTION) (TABLED)

Motion by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Member Garretson, All Council Members voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries**RESOLUTION TO TERMINATE ALL PARTICIPATION UNDER THE SHBP AND SEHBP
(INCLUDING PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN AND/OR DENTAL PLAN COVERAGE)**

WHEREAS, the Township of Hillside hereby resolves to terminate its participation in the Program (Medical Plan, Prescription Drug Plan, and/or Dental Plan coverage) thereby cancelling coverage provided by the SHBP and/or SEHBP (N.J.S.A. 52:14-17.25 et seq.) for all its active and retired employees; and

WHEREAS, the Township shall notify all active employees of the date of their termination of coverage under the Program; and

WHEREAS, the Township understands that the New Jersey Division of Pensions & Benefits (NJDPB) will notify retired employees of the cancellation of their coverage; and

WHEREAS, the Township understands that all COBRA participants will be notified by the NJDPB and advised to contact the NJDPB concerning a possible alternative health, prescription drug, and dental insurance plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Hillside that this resolution shall take effect the first of the month following a 60-day period beginning with the receipt of the resolution by the State Health Benefits Commission or School Employees' Health Benefits Commission.

R-25-076 Support Publishing Legal Notices on Official Government Websites (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Member Feuerstein, All Council Members voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT PUBLISHING LEGAL NOTICES ON OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT
WEBSITES**

WHEREAS, the sunset provision of March 1, 2025, imposed under P.L. 2024 c.106 is fast approaching in what was a temporary solution that allowed local governments to comply with the public notice requirements under the law in time for annual reorganization meetings in January; and,

WHEREAS, local government officials serve as the stewards of property taxpayer dollars and should no longer be required to subsidize the newspaper industry with revenues collected from publishing legal notices in the press; and,

WHEREAS, long before NJ Advanced Media's announcement that it was terminating daily print publications in January of 2025, local government officials found it increasingly difficult to comply with the public notice requirements under the law as the media has become almost exclusively digitized and struggled to retain staff, resources, and publications; and,

WHEREAS, legislation that will authorize local governments to publish legal notices on a local government's official website will streamline an antiquated and overly burdensome process and save valuable time, resources, and property taxpayer dollars; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Hillside does in fact, hereby urge state leaders to pass legislation that will authorize municipalities, counties, school districts, and all local governments to publish legal notices in a clear, transparent, and timely manner on a local government's official website.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be sent to Governor Phil Murphy, Senate President Nicholas Scutari, Speaker of the General Assembly Craig Coughlin, Senator Renee C. Burgess, Assemblywoman Garnet R. Hall, Assemblywoman Cleopatra G. Tucker, and the New Jersey State League of Municipalities.

R-25-077 Resolution of the Township of Hillside, in the County of Union & the State of NJ Supporting & Encouraging the NJ State Legislature to Support & Enact Sente Bill S2511 & Assembly Bill A4051 Entitles, the Humane Pet Store Bill (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, All Council Members voted in the Affirmative with the Exception of Council Member Hyatt who Voted Nay. **Motion Carries**

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE IN SUPPORT OF S2511/A4051 LEGISLATION BANNING THE SALE OF DOGS, CATS, AND RABBITS FROM COMMERCIAL BREEDING MILLS, CURRENTLY BEFORE THE NEW JERSEY STATE LEGISLATION

WHEREAS, the Township of Hillside has received correspondence, communications, and public comment urging its support of pending legislation to protect animals from commercial breeding mills; and,

WHEREAS, such information, as presented, has provided materials supporting the enactment of such legislation; and,

WHEREAS, the sale of dogs, cats, and rabbits are currently allowed in pet shops; and,

WHEREAS, S2511/A4051 addresses the puppy mill-to-pet store pipeline; and,

WHEREAS, S2511/A4051 is supported by animal welfare organizations, veterinarians, humane pet stores, municipalities, and counties across the State; and,

WHEREAS, S2511/A4051 provides that, without limiting the prosecution of any other practices which may be unlawful municipalities pursuant to State consumer fraud laws, it would be unlawful practice and a violation of State consumer fraud law, P.L.1960, c.39(C.56:8-1 et. seq.), for any breeder or broker to knowingly sell a cat or dog that is unfit for purchase; defined as having any disease, deformity, injury, physical condition, illness or defect which is congenital or hereditary and severely affects the health of the animal, or which was manifest, capable of diagnosis or likely contracted on or before the sale and delivery of the animal to the consumer; and,

WHEREAS, S2511/A4501 aims to protect animals from commercial breeding mills and prevent New Jersey from becoming a haven for unscrupulous breeders; and,

WHEREAS, S2511/A4501 would also protect consumers from misleading sales tactics, sick puppies or other domestic animals, disease outbreaks, and/or other domestic animal predatory pet loans.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Hillside, County of Union and State of New Jersey urge the New Jersey Legislature to adopt and for Governor Phil Murphy to sign into law S2511/A4051; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Acting Township Clerk is to send a copy of this Resolution to those members of the State Senate and the General Assembly who represent the citizens and residents of the Township of Hillside and who are Senator President, Nicholas Scutari; Assemblywoman Linda Carter; and, Assemblyman James Kennedy. Said copy of this Resolution should also be sent to Speaker of the General Assembly Craig Coughlan.

R-25-078 Auth. the Execution of a Redevelopment Agreement with Liberty Crossings, LLC for the Redevelopment Area Known as Block 604, Lots 25 & 26 (ACTION) (TABLED)

Motion by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Member Feuerstein, All Council Members voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A REDEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH LIBERTY CROSSINGS, LLC FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT AREA KNOWN AS BLOCK 604, LOTS 25 AND 26

WHEREAS, the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 *et seq.*, as amended and supplemented (the “Redevelopment Law”), provides a process for municipalities to participate in the redevelopment and improvement of areas in need of rehabilitation or redevelopment; and

WHEREAS, the Township, pursuant to the requirements of the Redevelopment Law and by Resolution R-24-186 adopted on August 7, 2024, formally declared a delineated area within the Township of Hillside a non-condemnation area in need of redevelopment (the “Redevelopment Area”); and

WHEREAS, the Redevelopment Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-8(f), authorizes the Township to arrange or contract with a redeveloper for the undertaking of any project or redevelopment work in an area designated as an area in need of rehabilitation or redevelopment; and

WHEREAS, the Township, by Resolution R-24-219 adopted on September 24, 2024, designated Liberty Crossings, LLC as redeveloper of the entirety of the Redevelopment Area known as Block 604, Lots 25 and 26 (the “Project Site”), subject to the negotiation of a redevelopment agreement; and

WHEREAS, Liberty Crossings, LLC, or its affiliates, is the owner of the Project Site; and

WHEREAS, Liberty Crossings, LLC proposes to redevelop the Redevelopment Area by demolishing the existing improvements and constructing new improvements including 183 market rate residential units and 40 market rate age-restricted units, to be occupied exclusively by persons 55 years of age or older (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, in order to effectuate the Project and the redevelopment of the Project Site, the Township has determined to enter into a Redevelopment Agreement (“Agreement”) with Liberty Crossings, LLC, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A, which Agreement specifies the respective rights and responsibilities of the parties for the Project Site and to further refine the details for the proposed Project and a redevelopment plan for the Project Site.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE COUNCIL AS FOLLOWS:

1. **Generally.** The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein as if fully set forth at length.
2. **Execution of Redevelopment Agreement.** The Mayor is hereby authorized to execute the Redevelopment Agreement in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit A.
3. **Severability.** If any part of this Resolution shall be deemed invalid, such parts shall be severed and the invalidity thereby shall not affect the remaining parts of this Resolution.
4. **Availability of the Resolution.** A copy of this Resolution shall be available for public inspection at the offices of the Township Clerk.
5. **Effective Date.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Motion to OPEN Public Comments by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, All-In-Favor Aldina Mitchell; 1431 Maple Ave. –

- Regarding Ordinance O-25-05 — why does it mention short-term rentals? Are Airbnb’s legally allowed in the town?

- As for Ordinance O-25-06, which concerns Bristol Myers property, they're planning to build housing. How many units are proposed? Was a traffic study conducted, especially considering the impact on schools? Hillside doesn't need more population pressure

Paula King; 1462 Hiawatha Ave. –

- Thank Council for the short-term rental ordinance

Mattie Halloway; 141 Bailey Ave. –

- Speaking of eliminating short-term rentals, how are you going to monitor the ones that are already established?
- Does the township get anything in terms of certification from environmental protection.

Frank Hunn; Managing Partner of Liberty Crossing –

- A speech about what a great opportunity it is to have this project at Hillside and what it means for the community.

Taisha Jackson; 252 Dora Ave. –

- Wants to address the high gas bills—new meters were installed, and now the bills are extremely high. Also, while installing the new meters, parts of the concrete and sections of the sidewalk were damaged.
- She has a concern about Ordinance O-25-06. If a new property is built and assessed at a certain value, the taxes are based on that assessment. As a homeowner, she is concerned that if she adds an addition to her home, her property will be reassessed, leading to higher taxes. This could become a burden, as tax increases may also apply to upcoming businesses or newly constructed homes. Additionally, the rising rates may become unaffordable for some families in the community.

Kristen Estranara; 1538 Morris Place –

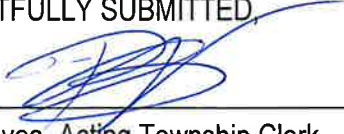
- Expressing gratitude for the ordinances that have been created. Regarding the short-term stay ordinance, he asks how the per-day penalty will be enforced initially. How will violations be assessed? Additionally, he suggests creating a 'Hillside Welcome Package' for new residents that outlines the community rules, ordinances, and expectations.

Motion to CLOSE Public Comments by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, All-In-Favor

Motion to Adjourned by Council Vice President Rios; Seconded Council Member Bonanno, All-In-Favor

Adjourned at 9:50pm:

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



Brook Nieves, Acting Township Clerk



Craig Epps, Council President

DATE: May 19, 2025