TOWNSHIP OF LONG HILL ORDINANCE # 389-16

SUPPLEMENTING AND AMENDING CHAPTER II OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED "ADMINISTRATION" TO ALLOW TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO ATTEND REGULAR MEETINGS BY TELE-CONFERENCE IF THE MEETING WOULD OTHERWISE HAVE TO BE CANCELLED DUE TO THE LACK OF A QUORUM

Statement of purpose: to allow members of the Township Committee to attend regular meetings by tele-conference in cases where there will not be a quorum of members attending in person.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, that Chapter II of the Township Code entitled "Administration" is hereby supplemented and amended as follows:

Section 1. Subsection 2-3.2 entitled "Regular Meetings" is hereby supplemented and amended by adding the following new paragraph at the end of the existing paragraph:

"If it is determined that a regular meeting will have to be cancelled because of a lack of a quorum, members of the governing body may attend that regular meeting by tele-conference under the following conditions:

- a. All requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act N.J.S.A. 4:10-8 et seq. are met.
- b. The member or members of the Governing Body attending the meeting by speaker phone can be heard by all other members of the Governing Body whether they are attending the meeting in person or electronically as well as members of the public attendance at the meeting.
- c. The member or members of the Governing Body attending the meeting by speaker phone are able to hear comments by other members of the Governing Body as well as members of the public.

If technological problems prevent participation by any members of the Governing Body who are not physically present at the meeting, the meeting shall be held without them as long as there is still a quorum present to conduct the meeting, or unless a majority of those present in person and by tele-conference vote to adjourn the meeting." For purposes of this ordinance, "tele-conference" means either video conference or telephone.

Section 2. Subsection 2-3.3 entitled "Special Meetings" is hereby amended to read as follows:

"2-3.3 Special Meetings.

The Mayor or any two (2) members of the Township Committee may call special meetings, upon proper notice to all members of the Committee and the public in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. No item may be considered at a special meeting unless it was included in the agenda. No vote or action of the Committee shall be rescinded at any special meeting unless there be present at such meeting as many Committee members as were present at the meeting when such vote or action was taken.

In the case of special meetings which have been scheduled with less than ten (10) days notice, members of the Governing Body may attend that special meeting by telephone tele-conference under the following conditions:

- a. All requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act N.J.S.A. 4:10-8 et seq. are met.
- b. The member or members of the Governing Body attending the meeting by speaker phone can be heard by all other members of the Governing Body whether they are attending the meeting in person or electronically as well as members of the public attendance at the meeting.
- c. The member or members of the Governing Body attending the meeting by speaker phone are able to hear comments by other members of the Governing Body as well as members of the public.

If technological problems prevent participation by those members of the Governing Body who are not physically present at the meeting, the meeting shall be held without them as long as there is a quorum present in person to conduct the meeting, or unless a majority of those present in person and by telephone teleconference vote to adjourn the meeting. For purposes of this ordinance, "teleconference" means either video conference or telephone."

- **Section 3.** Any and all other ordinances or parts thereof in conflict or inconsistent with any of the terms hereof are hereby repealed to such extent as they are so in conflict or inconsistent.
- **Section 4.** In case any article, section or provision of this ordinance shall be held invalid in any court of competent jurisdiction, the same shall not affect any other article, section

or provision of this ordinance except insofar as the article, section or provision so declared invalid shall be inseparable from the remainder or any portion thereof.

Section 5. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication as required by law.

NOTICE

The foregoing ordinance having been introduced and passed on first reading by the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill, in the County of Morris on Wednesday, September 28, 2016 will be considered for final passage and adoption at a public hearing held at a meeting beginning at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 26, 2016 at the Municipal Building, 915 Valley Road, Gillette, New Jersey, when and where or at such time and place to which said meeting may be adjourned, all persons interested will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance.

Deborah Brooks, RMC, CMR, Clerk

First Reading and Introduction: September 28, 2016

1st Publication: October 6, 2016

Second Reading and Adoption: October 26, 2016

2nd Publication: November 3, 2016