TOWNSHIP OF LONG HILL ORDINANCE 532-24

AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE LIAISONS AND SUPPLEMENTING AND AMENDING CHAPTER 2 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED "ADMINISTRATION"

WHEREAS, the Township retained the services of Municipal Resources, Inc. ("MRI") to develop a high-level overview of the Long Hill Township Police Department for the purposes of assessing risk management and potential organizational enhancements; and

WHEREAS, MRI issued its report in October 2022 and the Township Committee has implemented a number of the recommendations contained therein; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee thereafter saw the need for an experienced professional to review the study prepared by MRI and to develop an implementation plan; and

WHEREAS, the Township then retired Long Hill Chief of Police and current Harding Township Administrator Robert Falzarano to perform that function pursuant to a shared services agreement with Harding Township; and

WHEREAS, Robert Falzarano issues a comprehensive report dated November 21, 2023, in which he made a number of findings and recommendations; and

WHEREAS, one of the recommendations in Robert Falzarano's report was to:

"Remove the Township Committee liaison position [because] [t]he Township Committee liaison designation violates proper organizational principles. To whom does the Chief of Police report: the Appropriate Authority or the Township Committee liaison? The line of authority must be clear, or conflicts will develop"; and

WHEREAS, the same reasoning would apply to the Department of Public Works:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, that Chapter 2 of the Township Code entitled "Administration" is hereby supplemented and amended as follows:

Section 1. Section 2-14 entitled Township Committee Liaisons" in section 2-14 entitled "Township Committee" is hereby supplemented and amended to read as follows:

§ 2-2.4 Township Committee Liaisons.

a. Appointments. At its annual reorganization meeting or as soon thereafter as practicable, the Township Committee shall appoint members as liaisons, as it deems appropriate, to Township boards, commissions, committees, and departments.

- b. Responsibilities and Duties. Each liaison will communicate on a frequent basis with the board, commission, or committee, or department to which he or she is assigned and will actively participate in the activities of such boards, committees and commissions, to the extent appropriate. Each liaison will report to the Township Committee monthly. Monthly reports shall include the status of current projects or activities, significant accomplishments or achievements, concerns, problems and recommendations. Communication from the Township Committee shall be through the liaison or the Township Administrator, as appropriate.
- **Section 2.** 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 3.** 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 4. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication as required by law.

ATTEST

Megan Phillips, RMC

Guy Piserchia, Mayor

First Reading and Introduction: <u>January 24, 2024</u>

1st Publication: <u>Echoes Sentinel February 1, 2024</u>

Second Reading and Adoption: <u>February 14, 2024</u>

2nd Publication: Echoes Sentinel February 22, 2024