

# HARDING TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2023 IN-PERSON

### EXECUTIVE SESSION at 5:30 PM REGULAR MEETING AGENDA at 7:00 PM Kirby Hall, Blue Mill Road, New Vernon, New Jersey

### **CALL MEETING TO ORDER - Mayor**

**ADEQUATE NOTICE** of this October 10, 2023, meeting of the Harding Township Committee was sent to the Observer Tribune on September 12, 2023, and published in the Observer Tribune on September 21, 2023.

**ROLL CALL – Municipal Clerk** 

Ms. Chipperson, Dr. Lacz, Mr. Platt, Mr. Yates, Mr. Jones

#### RESOLUTION TO RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### Resolution TC 23-164- Resolution to Recess into Executive Session

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Harding Township Committee that it shall adjourn into executive session to discuss the following subject matter(s) without the presence of the public in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 10:4-12b; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the matter(s) discussed will be made known to the public at such time as appropriate action is taken on said matter(s), and when disclosure will not result in unwarranted invasion of individual privacy or prejudice to the best interests of the Township of Harding provided such disclosures will not violate Federal, State or local statutes and does not fall within the attorney-client privilege. The Township Committee will return to public session after this Executive Session.

#### **Public Safety:**

1. Public Safety - Chief Gromek

#### **Contracts:**

1. Redevelopment - Mayor Jones

### **Attorney Client Privilege**:

- 1. 88 Glen Alpin W. Olson
- 2. Verizon W. Olson
- 3. Property Extensions W. Olson
- 4. Property Acquisitions W. Oslon

#### **Vote on Resolution:**

Harding Township Committee Agenda
September 11, 2023
Regular Meeting

Ms. Chipperson Dr. Lacz Mr. Platt Mr. Yates Mr. Jones	MOTION	FOR APPROVAL	AGAINST APPROVAL	ABSTAIN	ABSENT		
RECONVENE IN	FO PUBLIC SE	SSION – Mayor					
ROLL CALL – Mu	unicipal Clerk	Ms. Ch	nipperson, Dr. Lacz, Mı	·. Platt, Mr. Yates, M	Ir. Jones		
PLEDGE OF ALL	EGIANCE – Ma	ayor					
<b>ADEQUATE NOTICE</b> of this meeting of the Harding Township Committee was given as follows: Notice was sent to the <i>DAILY RECORD</i> and the <i>OBSERVER TRIBUNE</i> on September 12, 2023, and published in the OBSERVER TRIBUNE on September 21, 2023; Notice was posted on the Bulletin Board in the Township Municipal Building on Blue Mill Road in Harding, NJ on September 21, 2023, and Notice was filed with the Municipal Clerk on September 21, 2023.							
RESOLUTIONS	– (NON-CONS	SENT – REQUIR	ING SEPARATE A	CTION):			
Resolution TC 23	-165 – Resoluti	on to Accept the	Meeting Minutes of	the Township Co	mmittee		
Mayor Jones asks Township Committee Member to proceed with Resolution TC 23-165							
<b>BE IT RESOLVED</b> , by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding that the minute(s) from the following meeting(s) are approved as prepared and shall be filed as a permanent record in the Municipal Clerk's office: <b>September 11, 2023; and</b>							
<b>BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED</b> , by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding that the minutes from the following Executive Session meeting(s) are approved as prepared and shall be filed as a permanent record in the Municipal Clerk's office: <b>September 11, 2023.</b>							
Township Comm meeting minutes.	ittee Member		_ asks for a motion	to accept the To	wnship Committee		
Seconded by Township Committee Member							
Mayor Jones asks the Municipal Clerk for a Roll Call:							
Vote on Resolution:							

H 10-06-2023

Ms. Chipperson Dr. Lacz Mr. Platt Mr. Yates Mr. Jones	MOTION	FOR APPROVAL	AGAINST APPROVAL	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	
ANNOUNCEME	ENTS/PRESEN	NTATIONS/REPO	RTS/CORRESPO	NDENCE – Mayor	r Jones	
DISCUSSION IT	ΓEMS: NONE					
MEETING OPE	N TO THE PU	JBLIC				
NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT TIME LIMIT						
Hearing of citizens during the Public Comment section of the Agenda is an opportunity for any member of the public to be heard about issues which are/are not topics scheduled for Public Hearing tonight.						
To help facilitate an orderly meeting, and to permit all to be heard, speakers are asked to limit their comments to a reasonable length of time.						
ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING: NONE						
ADD-ON RESOLUTIONS: NONE						
RESOLUTIONS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION AND VOTE: NONE						

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

The following items are considered to be routine by the Harding Township Committee and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Township Committee Member so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the Agenda.

RESOLUTIONS TC 23-166 THROUGH RESOLUTION TC 23-171 HAVE BEEN PLACED ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

**CONSENT AGENDA VOTE:** 

		ommittee Member C 23-166 through TO	to proc C 23-170.	eed with the Reso	lutions listed on the
Township Comr this evening's C	mittee Member _ onsent Agenda b	: I would y consent of the To	like to make a motion wnship Committee.	on to approve the re	esolutions placed on
Seconded by To	wnship Committ	ee Member	<i>,</i>		
Mayor Jones as	ks the Municipa	l Clerk for a Roll Ca	all:		
Vote on Resolu	tion:				
Ms. Chipperson Dr. Lacz Mr. Platt Mr. Yates Mr. Jones	MOTION	FOR APPROVAL	AGAINST APPROVAL	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
APPOINTMEN	ITS: NONE				

### **CONTRACTS:**

Resolution TC 23-166 – Agreement to Renew Membership in the Suburban Municipal Joint Insurance Fund and Indemnity and Trust Agreement

**WHEREAS**, the Suburban Municipal Joint Insurance Fund (hereinafter the Fund) is a duly chartered Municipal Insurance Fund as authorized by NJSA 40A:10-36 et seq.,and;

WHEREAS, the Township of Harding is currently a member of said Fund, and;

WHEREAS, effective December 31, 2023, said membership will expire, and:

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Harding has resolved to renew said membership.

### **BE IT RESOLVED**, it is agreed as follows:

- 1. Township of Harding hereby renews its membership in the Suburban Municipal Joint Insurance Fund for the period effective 1, 2024 and ending January 1, 2025\*. (\*12.01 am)
- 2. The Township of Harding hereby ratifies and reaffirms the Indemnity and Trust Agreement, Bylaws and other organizational and operational documents of the Suburban Municipal Joint Insurance Fund as from time to time amended and altered but the Department of Insurance in accordance with the Applicable

Statutes and administrative regulations as if each and every one of said documents were re-executed contemporaneously herewith.

- 3. Township of Harding agrees to be a participating member of the Fund for the period herein provided for and to comply with all of the rules and regulations and obligations associated with said membership.
- 4. In consideration of the continuing membership of the Township of Harding in the Suburban Municipal Joint Insurance Fund, the Fund agrees, subject to the continuing approval of the Commissioner of Insurance, to accept the renewal application.
- 5. Executed the 10<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2023 as the lawful and binding act and deed of the Township of Harding, which execution has been duly authorized by public vote of the governing body. **See Exhibit A**

#### FINANCE:

#### Resolution TC 23-167 – Bill List

WHEREAS, vouchers for payment have been submitted to the Township Committee by various municipal departments.

**BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding that all vouchers approved by the Finance Chairman be paid subject to the certification of the availability of funds by the Chief Financial Officer.

### Resolution TC 23-168 – Resolution to Authorize the Township of Harding to Enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the County of Bergen

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5) authorizes contracting units to establish a Cooperative Pricing System and to enter into Cooperative Pricing Agreements for its administration; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Bergen is conducting a voluntary Cooperative Pricing System known as the New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Alliance with other contracting units; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Bergen, hereinafter referred to as the "Lead Agency" has offered voluntary participation in the New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Alliance # CK04- a Cooperative Pricing System for the purchase of goods and services; and

**WHEREAS,** on April 11, 2022, the Township Committee of the Township of Harding, County of Morris, State of New Jersey duly considered participation in a Cooperative Pricing System for the provision and performance of goods and services.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, this Resolution TC #23-168 shall be known and may be cited as the Cooperative Pricing Resolution of the Township of Harding; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** pursuant to the provisions of N. J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5), the Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the County of Bergen; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Lead Agency shall be responsible for complying with the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq. and all other provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.

### **MISCELLANEOUS:**

Resolution TC 23-169 - Resolution to Appoint Ian Peerson as Deputy Coordinator for the Office of Emergency Management

**BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Mayor and the Township Committee of the Township of Harding that Ian Peerson is hereby appointed as Deputy Coordinator for the Office of Emergency Management.

### Resolution TC 23-170 - Resolution to Authorize the Closure of Blue Mill Road for the Centennial Event

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee of the Township of Harding authorizes the closure of Blue Mill Road on October 14, 2023 for the Centennial Festivities.

**BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Township Committee of the Township of Harding, County of Morris, State of New Jersey hereby authorized the closure of Blue Mill Road on October 14, 2023, commencing at 1 pm - 8:30 pm for the Harding Township Centennial festivities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that all Township employees are hereby authorized and directed to take all action necessary and appropriate to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

### Resolution TC 23-171 – Resolution to Authorize the Execution of the Verizon Lease Agreement

WHEREAS, on June 14, 2018, Harding Township and New York SMSA Limited Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless (hereinafter "Verizon Wireless") entered into a certain Land Lease Agreement ("Lease Agreement") pursuant to which the Township leased to Verizon Wireless certain Premises for the operation by Verizon Wireless of a wireless communications facility, including a stealth monopole communications tower not to exceed 140 feet in height (exclusive of proposed branching and lightning rod); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Paragraph 8 of the Lease Agreement, Verizon Wireless's proposed use of the Premises was contingent upon Verizon Wireless obtaining all the certificates, permits, and approvals, including site plan approval and use variance approval from the Harding Township Zoning Board of Adjustment ("Board"); and

WHEREAS, as a result of the denial by the Board of Verizon Wireless' application for required Governmental Approvals, Verizon Wireless filed a Complaint challenging (amongst other forms of relief), the Board's denial

of Verizon Wireless' application in the Federal District Court of New Jersey against the Township of Harding and Board bearing Docket Number 2:22-cv-04531-JMV-MAH; and

WHEREAS, thereafter the Township of Harding, Verizon Wireless, and the Board agreed to settle the Litigation pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in a Stipulation of Settlement and Consent Order executed by those parties on March 17, 2023 and so ordered by the Court on March 21, 2023 ("Consent Order"); and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the terms of the Consent Order, the Board conducted public hearings at three meetings of the Board; and thereafter, at a meeting held on June 5, 2023, the Board voted to approve the Consent Order and Verizon Wireless' amended application for preliminary and final site plan approval and variance relief, which approval was memorialized in a Memorializing Resolution of Approval adopted on July 20, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Paragraph 3.i of the Consent Order required that, prior to the issuance of any building permit for the wireless communications facility, the Township and Verizon shall amend the Lease Agreement to (i) provide that the maximum height of the communications tower be 80 feet in height (plus 6 feet of faux tree branching for a total of 86 feet), and (ii) prohibit amendments to the Lease Agreement to increase the height of the tower without approval from the Board pursuant to the terms set forth herein.

**BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Township Council of the Township of Harding (the "Council") that subject to the following conditions:

1. The Council hereby authorizes and directs the Mayor, or his/her designee and the Borough Clerk to execute the Amended Lease Agreement attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, subject to any de minims revisions from Counsel.

### **ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING:**

Mayor Jones asks Township Committee Member Yates to introduce Ordinance #12-2023.

**Township Committee Member Yates** introduces Ordinance TC #12-2023 by title as follows:

### TOWNSHIP OF HARDING ORDINANCE 12-2023

"AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE 2024 SALARY RANGES OF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARDING IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY"

**Township Committee Member Yates** explains the purpose of the Ordinance and moves for introduction on first reading.

Township Committee Member Yates reads:

WHEREAS, the above ordinance was introduced and read by title at this Township Committee meeting held on October 10, 2023.

**BE IT RESOLVED,** that at the Township Committee meeting to be held on November 13, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. prevailing time, at the Kirby Municipal Building, the Township Committee will further consider this ordinance for a second reading, public hearing, and final passage; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Municipal Clerk is hereby requested to publish the proper notice thereof, including this ordinance, post the ordinance, and make copies available to members of the general public.

Township Committee Member Yates: I offer Ordinance #12-2023 and move its introduction.							
Township Committee Member seconds the motion.							
Mayor Jones asks	Mayor Jones asks the Municipal Clerk for a Roll Call:						
Vote on Introduction:							
Ms. Chipperson Dr. Lacz Mr. Platt Mr. Yates Mr. Jones	MOTION	FOR APPROVAL	AGAINST APPROVAL	ABSTAIN	ABSENT		

ADJOURNMENT - Mr. Jones

### **ORDINANCES – INTRODUCTION**

1. HARDING TOWNSHIP – ORDINANCE #12-2023 "ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARDING, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, FIXING SALARY RANGES OF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARDING"

### TOWNSHIP OF HARDING ORDINANCE 12-2023

"AN ORDINANCE FIXING SALARY RANGES OF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARDING INTHE COUNTY OF MORRIS AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY"

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARDING IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY, that:

1. The annual salary ranges effective January 1, 2024, shall be as hereinafter specified:

### SALARY RANGES AND HOURLY RATES

POSITION		Minimum		Maximum	
Township Committee Chairman	\$	0	\$	1,200.00	
Township Committee Members	\$	0	\$	600.00	
Township Administrator	\$	103,839.00	\$	196,267.00	
Assistant Township Administrator	\$	97,850.00	\$	148,526.00	
Secretary to the Administrator (P/T)	\$	21,862.00	\$	50,664.00	
Receptionist / Administration (P/T)	\$	10,931.00	\$	39,405.00	
Township Clerk/Registrar (Deputy/Alternate)	\$	65,583.00	\$	120,000.00	
Township Clerk/Registrar (Deputy/Alternate) (P/T)	\$	10,931.00	\$	32,464.00	
Deputy Township Clerk/Registrar (Deputy/Alternate)	\$	38,257.00	\$	67,550.00	
Deputy Township Clerk/Registrar (Deputy/Alternate) (P/T)	\$	21,862.00	\$	50,664.00	
Deputy Township Clerk/Registrar (Deputy/Alternate) (Stipend)	\$	8,037.00	\$	13,797.00	
Qualified Purchasing Agent (Stipend)	\$	6,558.00	\$	10,133.00	
Chief Finance Officer / Treasurer (P/T)	\$	21,862.00	\$	57,352.00	
Acting Chief Financial Officer (P/T)	\$	16,397.00	\$	45,034.00	
Chief Financial Officer (F/T)	\$	89,301.00	\$	120,400.00	
Chief Financial Officer (Hourly) (P/T)	\$	38.00	\$	73.00	
Assistant Finance Officer	\$	38,257.00	\$	84,538.00	
Finance Assistant (FT)	\$	41,200.00	\$	65,000.00	
Finance/Tax Manager (Hourly) (P/T)	\$	28.00	\$	56.00	
Finance/Tax Clerk (Hourly)	\$	21.00	\$	51.00	
Tax Assessor (P/T)	\$	10,930.00	\$	45,034.00	
Tax Assessor (Hourly) (P/T)	\$	28.00	\$	56.00	
Tax Assessor Revaluation Stipend	\$	4,202.00	\$	6,493.00	
Tax Collector (F/T)	\$	30,000.00	\$	70,000.00	
Tax Collector (P/T)	\$	10,930.00	\$	33,776.00	
Tax Collector (Hourly) (P/T)	\$	28.00	\$	55.00	
Township Boards Secretary (F/T)	\$	30,000.00	\$	65,000.00	
Planning Board Administrator/Secretary (P/T)	\$	8,405.00	\$	49,670.00	
Planning Board Administrator/Secretary (Hourly) (P/T)	\$	16.00	\$	39.00	
Zoning Board Administrator/Secretary (P/T)	\$	18,386.00	\$	56,292.00	
Zoning Officer (P/T)	\$	7,104.00	\$	89,404.00	
Deputy Zoning Officer (P/T)	\$	2,081.00	\$	6,493.00	
Zoning Officer (Hourly) (P/T)	\$	28.00	\$	56.00	
Construction Official/Building Subcode/Inspector	\$	92,909.00	\$	129,471.00	
Construction Official (Hourly) (P/T)	\$	38.00	\$	73.00	
Subcode Officials (P/T)	\$	7,104.00	\$	28,146.00	
Subcode Officials (Hourly) (P/T)	\$	22.00	\$	51.00	
Construction Code Inspector (Hourly) (P/T)	\$	22.00	\$	51.00	
Construction Office Assistant/Secretary	\$	32,792.00	\$	67,550.00	
Construction Office Clerk (Hourly) (P/T)	\$	17.00	\$	39.00	
Police Chief	\$	175,100.00	\$	195,206.00	
Police Lieutenant	\$	144,200.00	\$	171,866.00	

### TOWNSHIP OF HARDING ORDINANCE 12-2023

## "AN ORDINANCE FIXING SALARY RANGES OF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARDING INTHE COUNTY OF MORRIS AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY"

POSITION	N	<b>Ainimum</b>	I	Maximum
Police Secretary	\$	32,792.00	\$	77,446.00
Special Class II Police Officer (Hourly) (P/T)	\$	18.00	\$	45.00
Pumping Station Operator (Stipend)	\$	8,198.00	\$	17,464.00
Pumping Station Engineer (Stipend)	\$	8,198.00	\$	17,464.00
General Assignment Stipend	\$	2,575.00	\$	10,609.00
Clerk (Hourly)	\$	14.00	\$	28.00
Administrative Assistant (Hourly) (P/T)		17.00	\$	42.00
Public Works Superintendent	\$ \$	97,850.00	\$	158,000.00
Public Works Deputy Superintendent	\$	85,490.00	\$	95,481.00
Public Works Supervisor – Grade I			\$	85,487.00
Step 1			\$	83,641.00
Step 2			\$	82,304.00
Step 3			\$	80,182.00
Public Works Mechanic – Grade I			\$	85,487.00
Step 1			\$	83,365.00
Step 2			\$	81,254.00
Step 3			\$	79,122.00
Public Works Mechanic – Grade II			\$	77,000.00
Step 1			\$	74,878.00
Step 2			\$	72,756.00
Step 3			\$	70,614.00
Public Works Leadperson- Grade I			\$	83,365.00
Step 1			\$	81,243.00
Step 2			\$	79,122.00
Step 3			\$	77,000.00
Public Works Operator – Grade I			\$	74,878.00
Step 1			\$	72,756.00
Step 2			\$	70,634.00
Step 3			\$	68,513.00
Public Works Operator – Grade II			\$	66,391.00
Step 1			\$	64,269.00
Step 2			\$ \$	62,147.00
Step 3			\$	60,025.00
Public Works Driver – Grade I			\$	57,904.00
Step 1			\$	55,782.00
Step 2			\$	53,660.00
Step 3			\$	51,538.00
Public Works Driver – Grade II			\$	50,923.00
Step 1			\$	48,801.00
Step 2			\$	46,680.00
Step 3			\$	44,558.00
Public Works Laborer – Grade I			\$	42,436.00
Step 1			\$	40,314.00
Step 2			\$	38,192.00
Step 3			\$	36,071.00

### TOWNSHIP OF HARDING ORDINANCE 12-2023

## "AN ORDINANCE FIXING SALARY RANGES OF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARDING INTHE COUNTY OF MORRIS AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY"

	POSITIO	ON	Minimum	Maximum
				Revised: 10/10/23
Health Department		l of Health: Senior E , Clerical Support	Environmental Specialis	t, Administrative
2. The actual annua in accordance wi			the governing body; su	ch salary shall be paid
3. This ordinance s	hall take effect a	fter final passage and	d publication as prescrib	oed by law.
DATED: October 10,	, 2023			
	rdinance to be a tru	e and correct copy of	County of Morris, State of the ordinance adopted by t	
ATTEST		TOV	VNSHIP OF HARDIN	G
Lisa A. Sharp Municipal Clerk		Timo	othy D. Jones	
INTRODUCED:	October 10, 20	)23 <b>ADV</b>	ERTISED: October 1	9, 2023
Vote on Introduction	<u>on</u> :			
Ms. Chipperson Dr Lacz Mr. Platt Mr. Yates Mr. Jones	MOTION	FOR APPROVAL	AGAINST APPROVAL	ABSTAIN