

**READINGTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE  
MEETING – July 5, 2023**

Mayor Huelsebusch *calls the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.* announcing that all laws governing the Open Public Meetings Act have been met and that this meeting has been duly advertised.

**PRESENT:** Mayor J. Huelsebusch, Deputy Mayor A. Mueller, Mr. J. Albanese, Mr. J. Heller, and Mr. V. Panico

**ALSO PRESENT:** Administrator R. Sheola, Municipal Clerk K. Parker, Attorney S. Dragan and Twp Engineer R. O’Brien

**ABSENT:** None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Clerk read the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION**  
**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**WHEREAS**, *N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.*, the Open Public Meetings Act, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist and desires to authorize the exclusion of the public from the portion of the meeting in accordance with the act;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the specified subject matter as set forth in the following Exhibit “A.”

**EXHIBIT A**

<b><u>Subject Matter</u></b>	<b><u>Basis Of Public Exclusion</u></b>	<b><u>Date Anticipated When Disclosed to Public</u></b>
Attorney-Client Privilege (Finance) .....	Attorney-Client Privilege .....	Certain information at the discretion of the Township Committee tonight...other Information will remain confidential
Administration .....	Personnel .....	“ “ “
Readington Realty Holdings LLC vs. Township of Readington .....	Litigation.....	“ “ “
Attorney-Client Privilege .....	Attorney-Client Privilege .....	“ “ “
Department of Public Works.....	Personnel .....	“ “ “
Office of Emergency Management.....	Personnel .....	“ “ “
Advisory Board Secretary / Deputy Tax Assessor .....	Personnel .....	“ “ “
Recreation .....	Personnel .....	“ “ “
Recreation / Summer Camp.....	Personnel .....	“ “ “
Police Department .....	Personnel .....	“ “ “

Block 21, Lot 4 (520 Mountain Road).....	Contract Negotiations .....	“	“	“
Executive Session Minutes.....	Attorney-Client Privilege.....	“	“	“
• June 19, 2023				
Affordable Housing.....	Potential Litigation.....	“	“	“
James Hutton & Barbara Hutton vs.....	Litigation .....	“	“	“
Hunterdon County Construction Board of Appeal, Township of Readington, and Board of Adjustment of the Township of Readington				

It is anticipated at this time that the stated subject matter will be made public on or about the time set forth in Exhibit “A.”

2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

*A MOTION* was made by Mr. Heller to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Albanese with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

The meeting reconvened at 7:45 p.m.

Mayor Huelsebusch led those present in the *Salute to the Flag*.

***Executive Session:***

***Attorney-Client Privilege / Attorney-Client Privilege (Finance)***

Mayor Huelsebusch stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

***Personnel / Administration***

Mayor Huelsebusch stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

***Litigation / 388 Readington Realty Holdings vs. Township of Readington***

Mayor Huelsebusch stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

***Attorney-Client Privilege / Attorney-Client Privilege***

Mayor Huelsebusch stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

***Personnel / Department of Public Works***

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

***#R-2023-107***

***RESOLUTION APPOINTING CHRISTOPHER SZYMANSKI. TO SERVE IN THE POSITION OF ROAD SUPERVISOR***

***WHEREAS***, as part of a reorganization of the Public Works Department, there is a need to fill a position of Road Supervisor (to be renamed Public Works Supervisor) in the Sewer Utility; and

***WHEREAS***, following the review of viable candidates it is the recommendation of the Township Administrator and the Director of Public Works to appoint Christopher Szymanski. as Road Supervisor (to be renamed Public Works Supervisor) (Non-union position); and

***WHEREAS***, Christopher Szymanski has the experience and professional credentials necessary for the position; and

**Resolution #R-2023-107 cont'd:**

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee recommends the annual compensation of Christopher Szymanski in the amount of \$90,000; and

**WHEREAS**, Christopher Szymanski also holds the necessary licenses to manage the Township sanitary sewer system and thereby will receive an annual stipend of \$2,500 for his holding and maintaining his C-2 license.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Mueller to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Panico and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese -Aye  
Mr. Heller - Aye  
Mr. Mueller - Aye  
Mr. Panico - Aye  
Mayor Huelsebusch - Aye

**Personnel / Office of Emergency Management**

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

**#R-2023-108**

**APPOINTMENT – EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR**

**WHEREAS**, James Curry and Richard Sheola, serving as Co-coordinators of Emergency Management have determined it is in the best interest of the Township to have one person in that role; and

**WHEREAS**, Christopher Szymanski is qualified for this position; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of Readington Township to appoint Christopher Szymanski to the position of Emergency Management Coordinator with the annual stipend of \$7,500 effective July 10, 2023.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Mueller to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Panico and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese -Aye  
Mr. Heller - Aye  
Mr. Mueller - Aye  
Mr. Panico - Aye  
Mayor Huelsebusch - Aye

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

**#R-2023-109**

**APPOINTMENT – DEPUTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington has appointed Christopher Szymanski to the position of Emergency Management Coordinator; and

**WHEREAS**, James Curry had previously held the position as Co-coordinator; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of Readington Township to appoint James Curry to the position of Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator, effective July 10, 2023.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Mueller to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Heller and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese -Aye  
Mr. Heller - Aye  
Mr. Mueller - Aye  
Mr. Panico - Aye  
Mayor Huelsebusch - Aye

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

**#R-2023-110**

***APPOINTMENT – DEPUTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR***

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington has appointed Christopher Szymanski to the position of Emergency Management Coordinator; and

**WHEREAS**, Richard Sheola had previously held the position as Co-coordinator; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of Readington Township to appoint Richard Sheola to the position of Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator, effective July 10, 2023.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Mueller to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Heller and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese -Aye  
Mr. Heller - Aye  
Mr. Mueller - Aye  
Mr. Panico - Aye  
Mayor Huelsebusch - Aye

***Personnel / Advisory Board Secretary / Deputy Tax Assessor***

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

**#R-2023-111**

***RESOLUTION ACCEPTING RESIGNATION OF CAROL RADZIEWICZ AS ADVISORY COMMITTEE SECRETARY/DEPUTY ASSESSOR***

**WHEREAS**, Carol Radziewicz has performed her duties as Advisory Committee Secretary and Deputy Assessor in a professional and courteous manner; and

**WHEREAS**, Carol Radziewicz has tendered her resignation effective July 7, 2023; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Township Committee accepts, with regret, the resignation of Carol Radziewicz and wishes her well in her new endeavors.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Mueller to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Heller and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese -Aye  
Mr. Heller - Aye  
Mr. Mueller - Aye  
Mr. Panico - Aye  
Mayor Huelsebusch - Aye

***Personnel / Recreation***

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

**#R-2023-112**

***RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SALARY ADJUSTMENT & TITLE CHANGE  
FOR LISA BAUM***

***WHEREAS***, the Township Committee recommends the hourly compensation for Lisa Baum, Recreation Assistant, be increased to \$23.00 per hour; and

***WHEREAS***, Lisa Baum is authorized to work no more than 29 hours per week.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED***, by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington the above conditions set forth effective July 10, 2023.

***A MOTION*** was made by Mr. Mueller to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Heller and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese -Aye  
Mr. Heller - Aye  
Mr. Mueller - Aye  
Mr. Panico - Aye  
Mayor Huelsebusch - Aye

***Personnel / Recreation Summer Help***

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

**#R-2023-113**

***TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON  
RESOLUTION***

***WHEREAS*** the Recreation Department runs the Summer Recreation Camp Program at Summer Road Park from June 24 through August 4, 2023; and; and

***WHEREAS*** the Recreation Department relies on “summer camp counselors” to assist with running the program; and

***WHEREAS***, it is the intent to hire the following individual with the rate of pay indicated:

Mills	Dayana	Jr. Counselor	\$14.13
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***NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED***, the Township Committee of the Township of Readington hereby approves the employment of the above for the summer of 2023.

***A MOTION*** was made by Mr. Mueller to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Heller and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese -Aye  
Mr. Heller - Aye  
Mr. Mueller - Aye  
Mr. Panico - Aye  
Mayor Huelsebusch - Aye

***Personnel / Police Department***

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

***#R-2023-114***

***TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON  
HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY***

***WHEREAS***, the Michael Ramos was hired as a Probationary Patrol Officer on July 6, 2022; and

***WHEREAS***, Michael Ramos has completed his Probationary Period as per Township Police Department Contract requirements; and

***WHEREAS***, James Curry, as Public Safety Director, has supplied a recommendation letter; and

***BE IT RESOLVED***, this Resolution shall promote Michael Ramos as permanent Patrol Officer and his salary shall be increased to the next step as specified in the Collective Bargained Agreement with PBA Unit #317 effective to July 6, 2023; and

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED***, this appointment shall take effect immediately.

***A MOTION*** was made by Mr. Mueller to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Heller and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese -Aye  
Mr. Heller - Aye  
Mr. Mueller - Aye  
Mr. Panico - Aye  
Mayor Huelsebusch - Aye

***Contract Negotiations / Block 21, Lot 4 (520 Mountain Road)***

Mayor Huelsebusch stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

***Attorney-Client Privilege / Executive Session Minutes / June 19, 2023***

***A MOTION*** was made by Mr. Mueller to approve the Executive Session Minutes of June 19, 2023, for content only, seconded by Mr. Panico with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

***Potential Litigation / Affordable Housing***

Mayor Huelsebusch stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

***Litigation / James Hutton & Barbara Hutton vs. Hunterdon County Construction Board of Appeal, Township of Readington, and Board of Adjustment of the Township of Readington***

***A MOTION*** was made by Mr. Mueller to approve the settlement agreement, seconded by Mr. Heller and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese -Aye  
Mr. Heller - Aye  
Mr. Mueller - Aye  
Mr. Panico - Aye  
Mayor Huelsebusch - Aye

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Mayor Huelsebusch read the following statement:

*All items listed with an asterisk “\*” are considered to be routine by the Township Committee and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a committee member or citizen requests, in which event the item will be removed from the General Order of Business and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.*

Larry Lelah requested to remove the *Approval of Minutes* from the Consent Agenda.

1. \* ***Tax Lien Redemption***

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

**READINGTON TOWNSHIP**  
**HUNTERDON COUNTY, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, an interested party has paid to the Tax Collector the amount necessary to redeem the lien on Block 30, Lot 15 and,

**WHEREAS**, it is the desire of the Tax Collector to refund to the lienholder the redemption amount.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee that the Treasurer be authorized to refund the redemption amount of \$7,809.48, plus a premium paid in the amount of \$5,300.00, known as Tax Sale Certificate #2022-003, to the lienholder, Christiana T C/F CE1/Firsttrust.

2. \* ***Release of Developers Escrow (HB Somerville Associates)***
3. \* ***Discharge of Affordable Housing Agreement / Discharge of Mortgage (Block 21.04, Lot 507.10)***
4. \* ***Resolution to Authorize Execution of Closing Documents to Effectuate the Sale of Block 21.12, Lot 25 to David Farmer***

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

**#2023 -115**

**READINGTON TOWNSHIP**  
**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington (“Township”), pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A: 12-13, et seq. held an auction on May 10, 2023 to sell the property it owns known as Block 21.12, Lot 25 in the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey, subject to certain deed restrictions and the terms of the auction specifications; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of the auction, the highest bid received to purchase the property was offered by David Farmer (hereinafter “Farmer”), in the amount of \$130,000.00; this bid was accepted and approved by the Readington Township Committee at its regular public meeting held on May 15, 2023; and

**Resolution #R-2023-115 cont'd:**

**WHEREAS**, the Township thereafter entered into a contract with Farmer in accordance with the offer made, and further, subject to the specifications required by the Township in the auction package, and the parties are proceeding to closing; and

**WHEREAS**, the making of this resolution is authorized by N.J.S.A. 40A: 12-13.1, et seq.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON AS FOLLOWS:**

1. On behalf of the Township Committee, the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Township Administrator, Township Clerk and Township Attorney, as the case may be, are authorized to prepare and sign all closing documentation, including the deed, affidavit of title, closing statements any other documentation needed to effectuate the sale of Block 21.12, Lot 25 to David Farmer, in accordance with the auction terms, the contract, prior resolutions approving same, and this resolution.

2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

5. \* **Release of Police Escrow / Jerseyman Triathlon**

6. \* **Payment of Bills** – (Complete bill list is on file in Clerk’s Office)

<u>Fund Description</u>	<u>Fund No.</u>	<u>Received Total</u>
GENERAL	2-01	\$ 8,688.84
GENERAL	3-01	\$ 3,689,347.33
SEWER UTILITY OP FUND	3-02	\$ 114,756.26
OTHER TRUST	X-03	\$ 43,555.47
PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	X-06	\$ 213,283.22
2021 CAP IMPROVEMENTS	X-21	\$ 4,110.75
<b>TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS</b>		<b>\$ 4,073,741.87</b>

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Mueller to approve the Consent Agenda (with the removal of the June 19, 2023 minutes), seconded by Mr. Heller and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

- Mr. Albanese -Aye
- Mr. Heller - Aye
- Mr. Mueller - Aye
- Mr. Panico - Aye
- Mayor Huelsebusch - Aye

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of meeting of June 19, 2023

Larry Lelah requested to address some comments made at the previous meetings of June 5 and 19<sup>th</sup>.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Heller to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Mueller and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

- Mr. Albanese -Aye
- Mr. Heller - Aye
- Mr. Mueller - Aye
- Mr. Panico - Aye
- Mayor Huelsebusch - Aye

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC** for items listed on the agenda only

John Broten inquired about the settlement agreement that was approved under the Executive Session.



Jacqueline Hindle, Planning Board Chair, noted that she was present to address any questions on the Complete and Green Streets Policy listed on the agenda under old business.

***CORRESPONDENCE / OTHER INFORMATION***

1. Letter dated June 26, 2023 from Katrina Campbell, Hunterdon County Counsel in the matter of the ***Proposed Sale of Property Commonly Known as the Hunterdon County Transfer Station/Materials Recovery Facility.***

The Committee discussed putting together a list of questions/and concerns to be discussed at an upcoming County meeting with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

***OLD BUSINESS***

1. ***Resolution Establishing and Adopting the Readington Township Complete and Green Streets Policy - memorandum dated June 19, 2023 from Ann Marie Lehberger, Planning Board Secretary***

Mr. Panico and Deputy Mayor Mueller expressed concern about some of the language in the resolution and the potential costs and impacts to the Township.

Robert Becker commented on the element of public safety.

The Committee concurred that the resolution should be tabled until a later date.

***NEW BUSINESS***

1. ***An Ordinance Amending Chapter 21 "Fire Department" of the Code of the Township of Readington***

The following ordinance was offered for introduction:

***AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 21 "FIRE DEPARTMENT "***  
***OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON***

***Ordinance #18 -2023***

***BE IT ORDAINED*** by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that the following amendments shall be made to Chapter 21 Fire Department" of the Township of Readington as follows (changes marked ***thus*** signify new language; changes marked ~~thus~~ signify deletions):

***SECTION I.*** Sec. 65-1 Purpose

**Fire Department**

**§ 21-1 Establishment.**

A Fire Department of the Township of Readington in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, is hereby established.

**§ 21-2 Title.**

Said Fire Department shall be known as the "Readington Township Fire Department."

**§ 21-3 Composition of Department.**

~~The East Whitehouse Fire Company, Inc.;~~ Readington Fire Company, Inc.; Three Bridges Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.; and Whitehouse Fire Company No. 1, Inc., are hereby made and established as said Fire Department.

***Ordinance #18-2023 cont'd:***

**§ 21-4 Rules and regulations; selection of Chief.**

The Township Committee may adopt rules and regulations for the conduct, control, and duties of the Chief of said Fire Department. The Chief of each fire company which shall constitute the Fire Department shall meet within 30 days of the effective date of this article and elect from among themselves an Acting Chief of the Readington Township Fire Department, and thereafter in the month of January 1969 they shall meet again and elect annually in January and name the new Acting Chief, who shall be from one of the companies not previously having the Acting Chief. After the first four Acting Chiefs, the appointment shall be on a rotating annual term, with the Acting Chief being elected in the same order as were the first four.

**§ 21-5 Adoption of rules, regulations, and amendments.**

When rules and regulations affecting this article are passed, they shall be passed only upon written notice to all fire companies, and any amendments thereafter made to these rules and regulations may only be made upon 30 days' prior written notice to all fire companies.

**§ 21-6 Township Chief.**

A. Effective January 1, 2024, there shall be a Township Fire Chief, who shall report to the Township Administrator and shall be in command/have oversight of all Fire Companies now in existence or to be created.

B. The Township Chief, by education and experience shall be qualified to manage the Readington Township Fire Department and shall be responsible for the supervision of the several fire companies with respect to firematic operations, developing the operating budget for each Company and the entire Fire Department, capital improvements and planning, coordinating training exercises, coordinating the scheduling of the purchase of apparatus and specialty equipment among the various companies, and any other duties so assigned by the Township Administrator. The township Chief may delegate such duties as necessary for the efficient operation of the Fire Department.

**§ 21-7 Company Chief.**

There shall be a continuation of each Fire Company having a Chief, which shall now be known as Company Chief and shall report to the Township Chief as outlined in § 21-6. Each said Fire Company shall have its own chain of command officers.

**SECTION 2.** All other language not specifically changed by this ordinance amendment shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION 3.** The sections, subsections and provisions of this Ordinance may be renumbered as necessary or practical for codification purposes.

**SECTION 4.** All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

**SECTION 5.** If the provision of any article, section, subsection, paragraph, subdivision or clause of this ordinance shall be adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder of any such article, section, subsection, paragraph, subdivision or clause and, to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Albanese to introduce this ordinance, seconded by Mr. Mueller and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese -Aye  
Mr. Heller - Aye  
Mr. Mueller - Aye  
Mr. Panico - Aye  
Mayor Huelsebusch - Aye

*The Public Hearing was scheduled for August 7, 2023 at 7:45 p.m.*

2. ***An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Ordinance #02-2022 of the Readington Township Salary Ordinance for Officers and Employees of the Township of Readington***

The following ordinance was offered for introduction:

***An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Ordinance #20-2022 of the Readington Township Salary Ordinance for Officers and Employees of the Township of Readington***

***Ordinance #17-2023***

***SECTION 1.***

***SUPERVISORY AND SUPPORT PERSONNEL***

ROAD SUPERVISOR	<del>\$90,000</del>	<del>\$115,000</del>
PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR	\$90,000	\$115,000

***SECTION 2.*** All other language not specifically changed by this ordinance amendment shall remain in full force and effect.

***SECTION 3.*** The sections, subsections and provisions of this Ordinance may be renumbered as necessary or practical for codification purposes.

***SECTION 4.*** All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

***SECTION 5.*** If the provision of any article, section, subsection, paragraph, subdivision or clause of this ordinance shall be adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder of any such article, section, subsection, paragraph, subdivision or clause and, to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Mueller to introduce this ordinance, seconded by Mr. Albanese and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese -Aye  
Mr. Heller - Aye  
Mr. Mueller - Aye  
Mr. Panico - Aye  
Mayor Huelsebusch - Aye

*The Public Hearing was scheduled for August 7, 2023 at 7:45 p.m.*

3. ***An Ordinance Amending Chapter 65 "Alarms" of the Code of the Township of Readington***

The following ordinance was offered for introduction:

***AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 65 "ALARMS "  
OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON***

***Ordinance #16 -2023***

***BE IT ORDAINED*** by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that the following amendments shall be made to Chapter 65 "Alarms " of the Township of Readington as follows (changes marked ***thus*** signify new language; changes marked ~~thus~~ signify deletions):

***SECTION 1. Sec. 65-1 Purpose***

***§65-1 Purpose.***

The purpose of this chapter is to regulate and control the installation, operation and maintenance of private alarm systems within the Township in order to insure that the quality of alarm responses rendered to the public will be maintained at a high level, to eliminate potential harm resulting in responses to false alarms, and to alleviate conditions otherwise leading to unnecessary drain on the manpower, time, space, facilities, and finances of the Township and its Police and ~~Volunteer~~ Fire Departments.

***§65-2 Scope.***

***A.***

The purpose of this chapter is to provide standards and regulations for various types of intrusion, burglary, fire and other emergency alarm equipment which produce a visual or audible signal or function by direct line, radio, telephone or by any other means requiring a response by the Police Department, ~~Volunteer~~ Fire Department or other municipal agencies.

***B.***

The provisions of this chapter shall apply to alarm businesses and to any person who operates, maintains or owns any alarm device, dial alarm, or local alarm designed to produce a visual or audible signal of an emergency and designed to summon or alert, directly or through others, the police, fire service, or other municipal agencies in response to any type of alarm signal.

***§65-3 Definitions.***

The following definitions shall apply in the interpretation and enforcement of this chapter unless otherwise specifically stated:

**ALARM BUSINESS**

Any business operated by a person, partnership, corporation or other individual or entity, which engages in the activity of altering, installing, leasing, maintaining, repairing, replacing, selling, servicing or responding to a fire or burglar alarm systems(s) or which causes any of these activities to take place. Excluded from this definition, however, are retail establishments which sell alarm systems over the counter and do not service same.

**ALARM DEVICE**

Any type of alarm-activating equipment which provides warning of burglary, intrusion, fire, flood or like peril.

**ALARM SYSTEM**

Equipment or a device, or an assembly of equipment and devices to signal the presence of an emergency or hazard requiring urgent attention and to which the Police Department, Fire Department or other municipal agencies may be expected to respond.

*Ordinance # 16-2023 cont'd:*

**ALARM USER**

Any person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, company or organization or entity of any kind in control of any building, structure or facility wherein an alarm device or system is maintained, and including but not limited to owners, tenants, subtenants or otherwise.

**CHIEF OF POLICE**

The Chief of Police of the Township or his or her designated representative.

**DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE**

The designated representative of the Chief of Police or the Fire Official who performs a function required or permitted by this chapter under the supervision of the Chief of Police or the Fire Official.

**DIAL ALARM**

Any type of alarm system using telephone lines, transmitting an alarm directly through the communications switchboard, answering service, or alarm company console, providing warning of intrusion, fire or other peril.

**FALSE ALARM**

Any alarm or signal of an alarm actuated by inadvertence, negligence, intentional or unintentional act of a person, domestic animal and/or household pet other than an intruder, and including alarms caused by mechanical failure, malfunction or improper installation of the alarm system and related equipment. It shall further include improper adjustment (sensitivity) to suppress false indications due to short flashes of light, wind, noises, rattling or vibrations of doors or other forces.

**FIRE ALARM EQUIPMENT**

Includes the following:

**A.**

Devices which automatically detect heat, smoke or other products of combustion;

**B.**

Manual systems which actuate a fire alarm signal;

**C.**

Mechanical systems designed and equipped to detect fires, actuate and alarm, and suppress such fires, to include water flow alarms.

**FIRE OFFICIAL**

The Fire Marshal of the Township or his or her designated representative.

**FIRE SERVICES**

Authorized fire companies providing fire protection and suppression to the Township.

**INDEPENDENT SMOKE DETECTOR**

A device having an audible alarm indicating smoke and/or having an audible alarm indicating smoke and/or fire within a structure and not connected to an alarm system or to any external sounding device outside of the structure.

**LICENSEE**

The person who holds the license to install, operate and maintain the alarm/alarm console pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

**LOCAL ALARM**

Any alarm system which, when activated, produces a signal not connected to an alarm console or the communication switchboard, including, but not limited to, business burglar alarms actuating bell or other sound generating devices and/or light emitting devices providing warning of intrusion or other peril. The term "local alarm" shall not include an alarm system solely connected to a registered motor vehicle, nor shall the term include equipment designed to signal solely within a building or series of buildings and which does not emit signals, visible or audible, to persons outside such building or buildings, i.e., independent smoke detector.

*Ordinance # 16-2023 cont'd:*

**PERMITTEE**

Any person who owns an alarm device who has obtained a permit according to the provisions of this chapter. All permits shall be issued and fees paid therefore on a one-time basis.

**PERSON**

Any natural person or individual, or any firm, partnership, association, limited partnership, sole proprietorship, corporation or any other business entity.

**WRITTEN NOTICE**

Notice by certified mail, return receipt requested.

**§65-4 Registration.**

**A.**

No person shall install, operate or maintain any alarm system unless the alarm system has been registered with the Township Police Department. The Police Department shall provide a copy of all approved registration forms to the Township Fire Official.

**B.**

An alarm system shall be deemed registered at such time as a registration form supplied by the Police Department is completed as to all information requested therein. Among the information to be provided on the registration form is the following:

**(1)**

The name, address and telephone number of the owner or tenant or occupier of the property, if other than the owner, upon which the alarm system is installed.

**(2)**

The name, address and telephone number of the installer of the system.

**(3)**

The type of system.

**(4)**

A list of the names, addresses and telephone numbers of the person(s) to be contacted in the event of an alarm or in an emergency situation determined by the Police or Fire Department.

**(5)**

The name, address and twenty-four-hour telephone number of the person or company maintaining the alarm system.

**C.**

No further renewal registration shall be required unless and until there has occurred any material change in the information previously submitted with respect to any alarm system, in which event it shall be the duty of the owner and user of the alarm system, within 10 days of such material change, to file a supplemental or revised registration containing accurate, current information.

**D.**

A one-time fee in the amount as provided in [Chapter 245, Fees, § 245-4](#), shall accompany each registration. Upon change or reregistration for new owners or users, there shall be a fee as provided in [Chapter 245, Fees, § 245-4](#). Upon payment of the fee and filing of the registration, two decals will be issued. The decals will be placed in plain view, near the front/main entrance and rear/secondary entrance of the premises.

~~[\[Amended at time of adoption of Code \(see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. II\)\]](#)~~

*Ordinance # 16-2023 cont'd:*

**E.**

All preexisting alarm systems shall comply with the requirements of this section within 60 days of the date of the final adoption of the ordinance codified in this chapter.

**F.**

Excluded from this provision are independent smoke detectors that do not emit an audible or visible signal outside of the structure.

**§65-5 New alarm systems; installation, activation and operation.**

**A.**

Each alarm system as defined in this chapter and installed after the effective date of this chapter shall utilize discrete circuitry for multipurpose alarm systems to insure appropriate emergency response.

**B.**

Any alarm system which requires for its operation electricity supplied by a public utility may be equipped with a battery rendering it operable in the event of a power outage if so desired by the property owner. Such a battery backup shall be required for any alarm system which will trigger itself automatically in the event of a power outage.

**C.**

Every alarm system must be provided with a device which will shut off the alarm after 10 minutes of activation.

**D.**

Every burglar alarm system shall be equipped with a time delay of at least 15 seconds which may include an audible signal of the same length of time, said time delay to be designed to prevent accidental activation of the system. The 15 second audible signal, if utilized, shall be audible only within the structure and not externally.

**E.**

No alarm system may be connected, directly or indirectly, to the Police or Fire Departments.

**F.**

No person shall install, cause to be installed, or permit to be installed any alarm device, by whatever name known, which automatically selects a telephone line dedicated to the Police or Fire Department for the purpose of playing a recorded message to report any emergency. All alarm systems shall be programmed to dial Hunterdon County communications at ~~(201)-782-0911~~ 908-782-0911.

**G.**

All dial alarms shall be capable of being disconnected to allow a call to Police Headquarters or Hunterdon County communications in the event of a false alarm.

**H.**

No Police, Fire or other public department or official shall be responsible in any way for the resetting or maintenance of any alarm system.

**I.**

No alarm business or person owning, using or possessing an alarm system shall cause or permit the giving of repeated false alarms, for test purposes or otherwise, whether intentional, accidental or otherwise. Owners/operators of such alarms shall be governed by the false alarm procedures and penalties set forth in this chapter.

*Ordinance # 16-2023 cont'd:*

**J.**

If any person has any dial alarm connected at the time of the effective date of this chapter, it shall be reprogrammed within 30 days of said effective date to comply with this chapter.

**K.**

The contents of a dial alarm message shall be clear and intelligible and in the format approved by the Chief of Police or Fire Official. No such message shall be transmitted more than two times as a result of a single stimulus of the mechanism. Messages shall not exceed 15 seconds and the time gap between each shall not exceed 10 seconds.

**L.**

The sensory mechanism of dial alarms shall be adjusted so as to suppress false indications and not be actuated by impulses due to short flashes of light, wind, noises, rattling or vibration of doors or other forces unrelated to general alarms.

**M.**

Permits for local alarm systems shall not be issued with respect to buildings which are not owner-occupied, prior to receipt by the Chief of Police of satisfactory proof that the occupant of the building has been notified of the existence of such alarm system, or of the intent to install a local alarm system and the provisions of this chapter.

**N.**

By installing an alarm system and registering same with the Township, each permittee agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Township and the Volunteer Fire Department of Readington Township and mutual aid departments, their agents, servants and employees from and against any and all claims, suits, damages, costs, losses and expenses, and to release the Township, the Volunteer Fire Department of Readington Township and mutual aid departments, their agents, servants and employees from any and all liability or damages in any way resulting from or arising out of or connected with the installation, operation or maintenance of the alarm system or any act or omission connected therewith.

**O.**

Any alarm business and/or property owner having knowledge of the sale or change of tenants in a property shall be responsible for notifying the Police Department when one of its customers possessing an alarm system sells the property or changes tenants. The alarm business shall notify the Police Department of the name of the new owner or tenant and whether or not the new owner or tenant is continuing with an alarm device or system within the property.

**§65-6 Confidentiality.**

All information submitted in compliance with this chapter shall be held in the strictest confidence and shall be deemed a record exempt from public disclosure pursuant to state statute. Any violation of confidentiality shall be deemed a violation of this chapter.

**§65-7 Violations and penalties.**

**A.**

Any person who fails to register an alarm system as required by the provisions of this chapter is subject to a minimum fine of ~~\$50~~ \$250 and maximum fine of ~~\$500~~ \$1,000 for each and every violation.

**B.**

Any owner, user or alarm business who installs such a system that is not in compliance with this chapter is subject to a fine of ~~\$50~~ 500 and may be required to remove such an alarm system.



**Ordinance # 16-2023 cont'd:**

**§65-8 False alarms.**

**A.**

In the case of each false alarm which summons the Police or Fire Department to respond, the Police Chief or Fire Official, as appropriate, shall cause an investigation to be made and shall keep a record of such false alarms on file.

**B.**

In the event of the occurrence of ~~three~~ four (4) false alarms within a twelve-month period, the permittee shall, within three days after written notice to do so from the Chief of Police or Fire Marshal, complete a written report setting forth the cause or causes of the false alarms, the corrective action taken and a statement as to whether the alarm system has been inspected and/or serviced by an alarm service company, and such other information as the Chief of Police or Fire Marshal may reasonably require.

**C.**

Owners and/or users of alarm systems shall be subject to the following minimum fine schedule for false alarms:

~~[Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. II)]~~

<del>Number of False Alarms</del>	<del>Minimum Fine/Penalty</del>
<del>1 to 3</del>	<del>Provide written report (as per Subsection <u>B</u> of this section)</del>
<del>4</del>	<del>\$25</del>
<del>5 to 10</del>	<del>\$50 per occurrence</del>
<del>11 or more</del>	<del>\$100 per occurrence</del>

~~The calculation of the number of false alarms shall be without regard to whether the false alarms involved intrusion~~

Number of False Alarms	Minimum Fine/Penalty	
	Residential	Commercial
1 to 4	\$50	\$150
5 to 10	\$150 per occurrence	\$300 per occurrence
11 or more	\$500 per occurrence	\$1,500 per occurrence
For alarms one to four (1 to 4), the penalty may be waived at the discretion of the Fire Official with the acceptance of a written report submitted by the responsible party within 48 hours of the false alarm. Additionally, owners and/or users of alarm systems shall be responsible for the reimbursement of manpower and equipment per the municipal reimbursement rate schedule (attached) after four (4) false alarms.		
The calculation of the number of false alarms shall be without regard to whether the false alarms involved intrusion alarms or fire alarms.		

**§ 65-9 Intentional false alarms.**

Any person who intentionally causes the giving of false alarm shall be in violation of this chapter and subject to a penalty of not less than ~~\$100~~ \$500 and not more than ~~\$1,000~~ \$5,000 and/or imprisonment for any term not to exceed 90 days, and/or by a period of community service not to exceed 90 days, for each such offense.

**§65-10 Testing alarms.**

Any person testing an alarm system covered by the provisions of this chapter shall notify the Police Department and Hunterdon County communications immediately prior to and immediately after the testing is completed. Failure to do so shall constitute a violation of this chapter and subject such person to the penalties set forth in this chapter.

**Ordinance # 16-2023 cont'd:**

**§65-11 Administration cooperation.**

The Chief of Police and Fire Official shall cooperate in all respects in connection with the administration of this chapter and the forms, permits, decals, records and other documents used by the Chief of Police.

**§65-12 Promulgation of rules and regulations.**

The Chief of Police may from time to time promulgate rules and regulations in furtherance of the administration of this chapter which shall be enforced through the Police Department. Such rules and regulations shall become effective upon approval by resolution of the Township Committee.

**§65-13 Enforcement.**

The Township Chief of Police is designated as officer in charge of the enforcement of this chapter. The governing body may designate such assistant enforcement officers for purposes of the enforcement of this chapter as are needed for such purposes. The enforcement officer shall have the authority to use the services of the Police Department or any public authority to enforce the chapter. Any person violating the provisions of this chapter shall be subject, upon conviction thereof, to the penalties as provided in this chapter and in § 1-5, General penalty.

**§65-14 Exceptions**

**A.** The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to general alerting alarms that may be used by fire companies, ambulance squads or civil defense agencies to summon its members. Moreover, the provisions of this chapter do not apply to alarm systems affixed to motor vehicles.

**B.**

Any owner or user of an alarm system who accidentally activates his or her burglar alarm and properly notifies the Police Department within three minutes after activation will not be charged with a false alarm.

**C.**

This grace period shall not apply to false fire alarms.

**SECTION 2.** All other language not specifically changed by this ordinance amendment shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION 3.** The sections, subsections and provisions of this Ordinance may be renumbered as necessary or practical for codification purposes.

**SECTION 4.** All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

**SECTION 5.** If the provision of any article, section, subsection, paragraph, subdivision or clause of this ordinance shall be adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder of any such article, section, subsection, paragraph, subdivision or clause and, to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Panico to introduce this ordinance, seconded by Mr. Mueller and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	-Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Mueller	- Aye
Mr. Panico	- Aye
Mayor Huelsebusch	- Aye

*The Public Hearing was scheduled for August 7, 2023 at 7:45 p.m.*

4. ***Acceptance of Maintenance Surety Bond / Toll NJI, LLC (Regency at Readington - Phase 1)***

Attorney Dragan advised on the effective date of the maintenance bonds and wanted to clarify with Toll that the bonds are effective two years from the date the Committee accepts the bonds. Mayor Huelsebusch stated that this will be carried until confirmation is received from Toll.

5. ***Acceptance of Maintenance Surety Bond / Toll NJI, LLC (Regency at Readington Phases 2, 3 & 4)***

Attorney Dragan advised on the effective date of the maintenance bonds and wanted to clarify with Toll that the bonds are effective two years from the date the Committee accepts the bonds. Mayor Huelsebusch stated that this will be carried until confirmation is received from Toll.

6. ***Application for Special Events Permit / Schaefer Farm 2nd Annual Irish Festival***

*A MOTION* was made by Mr. Panico to approve the special event permit, seconded by Mr. Heller and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	-Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Mueller	- Aye
Mr. Panico	- Aye
Mayor Huelsebusch	- Aye

7. ***Update on the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Spending/Anticipation***

Administrator Sheola provided a brief update on the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Funding and the expended projects.

8. ***Update on the Readington Sustainable Jersey Status***

Robert Becker gave a brief update on the Township's Sustainable Jersey status.

9. ***Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Air Packs Under NJ State Contract***

Matt Hoffman, Chief of Readington Fire, spoke to the need for new air packs for volunteer fire fighters.

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

***#R-2023-116***

***RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING  
NEW JERSEY STATE CONTRACT COOPERATIVE PURCHASE***

***WHEREAS***, the Township of Readington wishes to purchase Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) from an authorized vendor under the State of New Jersey Master Blanket #170-FLEET-00819 contract; and

***WHEREAS***, the purchase of goods and services by local contracting units is authorized by the Local Public Contracts Law, *N.J.S.A.* 40A:11-12; and

**Resolution #R-2023-116 cont'd:**

**WHEREAS**, Firefighter One, 34 Wilson Drive, Sparta,, NJ 07871 has been awarded the State of New Jersey Master Blanket #170-FLEET-00819 contract; and

**WHEREAS**, the Purchasing Agent recommends the utilization of this contract on the grounds that it represents the best price available; and

**WHEREAS**, the actual cost for the purchase of sixteen (16) units of SCBA is not expected to \$150,000.00; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Finance Officer has certified the availability of funds for this contract.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that Firefighter One, 34 Wilson Drive, Sparta,, NJ 07871 is awarded the purchase of 16 SCBA units; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Township Administrator is hereby authorized to initiate a purchase order to effectuate the award of this contract; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Mueller to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Panico and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	-Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Mueller	- Aye
Mr. Panico	- Aye
Mayor Huelsebusch	- Aye

Chief Hoffman presented a plaque to the Township on behalf of the Fire Company and thanked the Committee for their support.

10. **Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Two (2) Police Vehicles (SUVs)**

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

**#R-2023-117**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF POLICE PATROL VEHICLES – SUV's**

**WHEREAS**, the Readington Township is a member of the New Jersey State Purchasing Co-operative; and;

**WHEREAS**, the Township Department Police Department is in need of replacement patrol vehicles/SUV's; and

**WHEREAS**, Nielsen of Morristown, East Hanover, NJ has been awarded the contract for Dodge Durango's under NJ State Contract Master Blanket #23-FLEET-34933; and

**WHEREAS**, the estimated cost for two (2) is \$94,693.00; and

**WHEREAS**, the Director of Public Safety and Township Administrator/QPA recommend this purchase; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Body budgeted for replacement patrol vehicles in the 2023 Capital Budget and funded in Ordinance #13-2023; and

**Resolution #R-2023-117 cont'd:**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Governing Body of the Readington Township authorize the appropriate municipal officials to implement the necessary steps and sign the corresponding purchase orders to effectuate the purchase of said vehicles; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Financial Officer Certifies that funds are available for this purchase in the budget line listed above.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Heller to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Mueller and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	-Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Mueller	- Aye
Mr. Panico	- Aye
Mayor Huelsebusch	- Aye

11. **Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of a Triple Combination Pumping Fire Apparatus**

Tim Apgar, Chief of Whitehouse Fire Company, thanked the Committee for their support in purchasing the new fire truck.

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

**#R-2023 -118**

**RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF PIERCE TRIPLE COMBINATION PUMPING FIRE APPARATUS**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington wishes to purchase a new triple combination pumping fire apparatus to replace an out-of-date vehicle; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 52:34-6.2 (b) P.L. 2011, c. 139 was enacted into law permitting agencies to use national purchasing cooperatives; and

**WHEREAS**, the Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGACBuy) maintains National Cooperative Purchasing Agreement Contracts, which are competitively awarded nationally leveraged cooperative purchasing contracts, through which members can make purchases; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington is a member of HGACBuy as authorized by N.J.S.A. 52:34-6.2; and

**WHEREAS**, Pierce Manufacturing, Inc of Appleton, WI has been awarded H-GAC's Contract #FS12-19 and the local dealer is Fire & Safety Services, 200 Ryan Street, South Plainfield, NJ 07080; and

**WHEREAS**, the Whitehouse Station Fire Company was not able to find a suitable or similar replacement for the fire pumping apparatus under a NJ State Contract; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Qualified Purchasing Agent has determined that the HGACBuy Contract #FS12-19 best meets the needs of the Township to purchase one (1) New/unused model year 2023 or newer fire apparatus for a total cost of \$823,288.08; and

**WHEREAS**, information regarding the contract may be found at the Township of Readington during regular business hours, as well as on the HGACBuy website at <https://www.hgacbuy.org/products-and-services>; and

**Resolution #R-2023-118 cont'd:**

**WHEREAS**, as required the Notice of Intent to Award Contract under a National Cooperative Purchasing Agreement was published on June 20, 2023 and no objections have been received to date; and

**WHEREAS**, H-GAC has reviewed the quote provided by Fire & Safety Services through H-GAC's Contract FS12-19 and finds the pricing to be in compliance with the terms of the contract.

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Finance Officer has certified the availability of funds for this contract.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, does hereby award the contract in the amount of \$823,288.08 pursuant to the proposal.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this Resolution and the purchase order for this award shall be forwarded to H-GAC so the necessary order confirmation can be prepared by them and sent to the contractor as authorization to proceed.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Mueller to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Panico and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	-Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Mueller	- Aye
Mr. Panico	- Aye
Mayor Huelsebusch	- Aye

12. \* **Release of Developers Escrow (HB Somerville Associates)**

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

13. \* **Discharge of Affordable Housing Agreement / Discharge of Mortgage (Block 21.04, Lot 507.10)**

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

14. \* **Resolution to Authorize Execution of Closing Documents to Effectuate the Sale of Block 21.12, Lot 25 to David Farmer**

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

15. \* **Release of Police Escrow / Jerseyman Triathlon**

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Administrator Sheola requested consideration from the Committee to adopt a resolution for a lead grant assistance program.

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

**#R-2023-119**

***AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO LEAD GRANT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM***

***WHEREAS***, effective July 22, 2022, the Legislature enacted P.L. 2021, c. 182, “An Act concerning certain lead-based paint hazard, and residential rental property, and establishing lead-based paint hazard programs, supplementing P.L. 2003, c. 311 (C. 52:27D-437.1 et al.) amending various parts of the statutory law, and making an appropriation;” and

***WHEREAS***, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-437.16(b)(1), a municipality that maintains a permanent local agency for the purpose of conducting inspections and enforcing laws, ordinances, and regulations concerning buildings and structures, is required to inspect for lead-based paint hazards in certain specified single-family, two-family, and multiple rental dwellings, at the time periods set forth in the statute; and

***WHEREAS***, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-437.16(b)(2) a municipality that does not maintain such a permanent local agency must hire a lead evaluation contractor, certified to provide lead paint inspection services by DCA, or enter a shared services agreement as permitted by law, for the purpose of conducting the inspections for lead-based paint hazards; and

***WHEREAS***, Pursuant to Section 9 of P.L. 2021, c. 182, the State of New Jersey has allocated the sum of \$3,900,000 to effectuate the purposes of P.L. 2021, c. 182 (C. 52:27D-437.16). Further, pursuant to the FY 2023 Appropriations Act (P.L. 2022, Chapter 49), DCA received a grant-in-aid amount of \$3,900,000 for P.L. 2021, c. 182, for a total of \$7,800,000 in appropriations to effectuate the purpose of the Act.

***WHEREAS***, DCA has allocated \$7,000,000 of this appropriation to the development of the Lead Grant Assistance Program (“LGAP”) for the issuance of grant funds to municipalities for the purpose of assisting in municipal compliance with P.L. 2021, c. 182.

***WHEREAS***, the Division of Local Government Services (DLGS), within DCA, administers the LGAP; and

***WHEREAS***, the LGAP exists to provide funding to help off-set the costs to municipalities to provide the required inspections at stipulated times of certain single-family, two-family, and multiple rental dwelling units for lead-based paint hazards, pursuant to P.L. 2021, c. 182; and

***WHEREAS***, an authorized municipal officer must execute the attached grant agreement in order to receive LGAP funding.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED***, the Governing Body of Township of Readington does hereby authorize the Administrator to sign the attached grant agreement, and thus bind the Township of Readington to the grant agreement’s terms in order to receive the \$8,800 grant from the DLGS.

***A MOTION*** was made by Mr. Mueller to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Panico and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	-Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Mueller	- Aye
Mr. Panico	- Aye
Mayor Huelsebusch	- Aye

***ATTORNEY’S REPORT***

Attorney Dragan stated that she had nothing further to report.

***ENGINEER'S REPORT***

Engineer O'Brien reported that the electric vehicle charging stations at Quick Chek have been installed and that the NJ transit crossings at Coddington Road and Ridge Road will be closed for repair starting tomorrow. Engineer O'Brien further reported that the culvert replacement on Readington Road will be completed by July 10<sup>th</sup> and PSE&G is looking to replace 11,00 feet of main on Pulaski Road from County Road 523 to Lightfield Road.

***COMMITTEE REPORTS***

**JOHN ALBANESE**

Mr. Albanese stated that he had nothing further to report.

**JONATHAN HELLER**

Mr. Heller stated that he had nothing further to report.

**JUERGEN HUELSEBUSCH**

Mayor Huelsebusch reported that he is working with Raritan Township and Branchburg Township on traffic issues.

**ADAM MUELLER**

Mr. Mueller stated that he had nothing further to report.

**VINCENT PANICO**

Mr. Panico stated that he had nothing further to report.

***COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC***

Larry Lelah commented on and addressed the concerns of the Committee members regarding the flying of drones in the Township and the FAA regulations.

Rick Mansdorfer spoke to communication with the Township regarding the flying of drones during the parade planning process.

Jason Beim commented on the drone industry and future advancements and the need for community outreach and education.

Several members of the drone team also shared their experience and spoke to the safety of flying drones.

Robert Becker commented that drones will be used for the Forest Inventory Grant and inquired about using green vehicles for police vehicles.

Steven Garfield spoke against bow hunting on Bloy tract and requested that the Committee consider removing it from the list of hunting properties.



***COMMENTS FROM THE GOVERNING BODY***

There were none.

As there was no further business, *A MOTION* was made by Mr. Mueller at 9:45 p.m. to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Albanese with vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Submitted by:

Karin M Parker, *RMC*  
Municipal Clerk