

TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON

AMENDING CHAPTER 21 TO THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON CONCERNING FIRE WATCH

ORDINANCE #32-2024

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the residents of the Township of Readington to amend the Township Code at this time to require standards for Fire Watch and Special Events; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes through this Ordinance to amend Chapter 21 entitled “Fire Departments” of the Township Code in order to serve the best interests of the Township and its residents.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Committee of the Township of Readington, in the County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey that:

Section I

Article III

§21-16 Fire watch.

- 1. If the Fire Marshal, Fire Inspector, paid personnel or member of a volunteer fire company is required to inspect, monitor or patrol a building to detect circumstances that might immediately result in a fire while a buildings fire protection system is inoperative, the owner of said building shall reimburse the Township for said fire watch services at the rate of \$100.00 per hour per person.*
- 2. Should fire apparatus or additional equipment need to be utilized, the hourly fee for that equipment shall be assessed at a rate designated in the fire equipment reimbursement schedule.*
- 3. There shall be a minimum fee of \$100.00, provided that no fee shall be assessed in within thirty (30) minutes of being notified of the commencement of the fire watch services, the building owner or their representative arrives at the building and assumes control of the fire watch from the Fire Marshall, Fire Inspector, paid personnel or member of the volunteer fire company.*
- 4. The cost of providing fire watch services shall be certified by the Fire Marshal to the building owner within 30 days of completion. The building owner shall reimburse the Township within 30 days thereof.*

§21-17 Special Events

1. *When determined by the Fire Marshal to be necessary for the purpose of public safety to have a Fire Inspector present during special events, the owner, operator, organizer, sponsor, person or organization responsible for said event shall pay the cost of said inspector at the rate of \$100.00 per hour for the duration of the event.*

Section II

All ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section III

If any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to this section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision and the remainder of this Ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective.

Section IV

This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption and publication in the manner required by New Jersey general law but, in no event, less than 20 days after its final passage by the Township Committee and approval by the Mayor, where such approval is required.

A TRUE COPY OF WHICH ORDINANCE IS PRINTED ABOVE WAS INTRODUCED AT THE MEETING OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE ON **NOVEMBER 4, 2024** AND THAT IT IS THE INTENTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON TO CONSIDER PASSAGE OF SAID ORDINANCE AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE TO BE HELD AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 509 ROUTE 523, WHITEHOUSE STATION, NEW JERSEY, ON **NOVEMBER 18, 2024** AT 7:45 P.M. AT WHICH TIME AND PLACE, OR AT ANY TIME OR PLACE TO WHICH THE MEETING SHALL BE FROM TIME TO TIME ADJOURNED AN OPPORTUNITY WILL BE GIVEN TO ALL PERSONS WHO MAY BE INTERESTED THEREIN TO BE HEARD CONCERNING SAID ORDINANCE.

KARIN M PARKER, *RMC*

MUNICIPAL CLERK