

**JOINT TOWNSHIP MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2022
JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
1010 WELDON ROAD
LAKE HOPATCONG, NJ 08749**

**7:00 PM
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

1. Call to Order – Board of Education

Board President Poulas called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM and read the Open Meeting Statement: In accordance with the Open Meeting Law, the Jefferson Township Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place thereof posted in the Jefferson Township Municipal Building, with copies of such notice delivered or mailed or electronically mailed to the following: DAILY RECORD and posted on the Jefferson Township Board of Education website (www.Jefftwp.org) and a copy of said notice delivered to the Municipal Clerk of the Township of Jefferson and the Jefferson Township Library.

2. Roll Call – Board of Education

Mrs. Giacchi called the roll. All Board of Education members were present except for Mrs. Perez.

Mrs. Gould	<u> X </u>	Mrs. Perez	<u> A </u>	Mr. Terpstra	<u> X </u>
Mr. Millar	<u> X </u>	Mrs. Small	<u> X </u>	Mrs. Wildermuth, Vice President	<u> X </u>
Mr. Natale	<u> X </u>	Mr. Stewart	<u> X </u>	Mrs. Poulas, President	<u> X </u>

3. Call to Order – Township Council President

Council President Senatore read the meeting statement as follows: This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. Notice of this meeting of **October 17, 2022** was sent to the official newspapers of the Township, the Daily Record and the Star Ledger, on **September 20, 2022** and was posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building on **September 20, 2022** and has remained continuously posted as the required notices under the Statute. In addition, a copy of this notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

4. Roll Call – Township Clerk

	Present	Absent
Mr. Birmingham	X	
Mr. Kalish	X	
Mr. Smith	X	
Vice President Dunham		X
President Senatore	X	
Mr. Ryan, Township Attorney	X	
Ms. Reilly, Township Clerk	X	

Ms. Reilly called the roll. All Council members were present except for Vice President Dunham, who was absent. Also in attendance were Mayor Eric Wilsusen and Administrator Debi Millikin.

5. Pledge of Allegiance - Salute to the Flag

President Poulas asked Board Member Michael Stewart to lead the flag salute.

6. Superintendent’s Report – Board of Education

- **Good News and Progress** - Superintendent Jeanne Howe gave her report.

7. Administrative Reports of Mayor and Administrator – Mayor Wilsusen

Mayor Wilsusen thanked the Board for the opportunity to hold a joint meeting and said the school and the Township work cooperatively throughout the year. He said he feels it is important for the public to see this.

Mayor Wilsusen reported attending the Public Works appreciation barbeque on October 7th, the ribbon cutting at Magic Lube and Rubber Automotive Services on Espanong Road, Fire Company #2's open house, and the Economic Development Committee's round table on October 4th at Stonewater, which was well attended by the business community.

Mayor Wilsusen announced the following upcoming events: Chamber of Commerce networking event on October 26th at 7:30 pm at Stonewater, the Fall Festival and Haunted House hosted by the Recreation Department on October 27th, and the Jefferson Police Halloween event on October 30th from 9-12. He said the fall newsletter is in the mail. He mentioned that the Trails Plan for walking, biking, and hiking on the open space in Jefferson is progressing. He reminded Council that the plan is being funded by a one million-dollar private donation. Mayor Wilsusen said the Township is working through the numerous DEP regulations and hopes to start construction in the spring on the Compton-Goble tract.

Mayor Wilsusen said there is a community needs assessment posted on the Township's website and he encouraged members of the community to take the survey.

Mayor Wilsusen said his Mayor's Wellness Campaign helped sponsor speaker Cornell Thomas, referenced earlier in Mrs. Howe's report. He said he will be a speaker on the Mayor's Wellness Campaign at the November League of Municipalities Conference. He thanked his wife, who is the Township's Community Educator.

Mayor Wilsusen stated that he and Ms. Millikin will be headed to White Rock School in November to talk to the students about government.

Ms. Millikin said all computer issues have been resolved and remote access is working. She said the DPW has been working hard on drainage issues and will be working in Lake Shawnee next. She commended the DPW for their hard work. Ms. Millikin said Riverview Paving expects to begin milling on October 26th in Lake Shawnee.

Ms. Millikin reported that Fire Company #1 will be holding their final inspection on the new pumper truck this week in Wisconsin. She said they anticipate final delivery of the vehicle in November.

Ms. Millikin updated Council on the State Health benefits and said rates will be going up 22.3% for employees. She explained that she requested the Township's claims history in July and then attempted to get quotes. She said the private company she approached declined to quote due to the non-Medicare retiree claims experience, but that the Township received good quotes from the North Jersey Health Insurance Fund. Ms. Millikin told Council joining the NJHIF will save employees about 8% on their healthcare benefits, and their plans will mirror those offered by the State. She said the only difference is that the vendor will be Aetna instead of Blue Shield Blue Cross.

Ms. Millikin told Council she recommended the Township join the NJHIF, and that a representative will be coming Wednesday to speak to employees. She said the Township is required to provide the State a sixty (60) day notice if Jefferson withdraws from the plan. She said she would like to have this done prior to November 1st and that she and the Township Clerk have figured out a fast track schedule.

Ms. Millikin said she will be out of the country from October 25th through November 2nd and will miss the next Council meeting.

Mayor Wilsusen commended Ms. Millikin for the time and effort she has put into the health benefits issue, as well as for being proactive and requesting the claims history before the State announced its increases.

8. Council Reports – Township Council

Councilman Birmingham mentioned that he was on the school board in his 20's and there are currently three (3) former Board of Education members sitting on the Township Council. He said that people are aware that the school population is dropping but the State cuts seem to be overwhelming and make it difficult to provide services to the students.

Councilman Birmingham said he noticed the Board of Education is going to be voting to opt out of the State Health benefits plan this evening. He stated that when school employees retire, their health benefits are paid for by the State, but when municipal employees retire, the Township covers their costs, and therefore the school budget has a cushion the Township doesn't have. He thanked the Board of Education for the time and effort they put into their positions.

Councilman Kalish thanked Ms. Reilly, Ms. Giacchi and Ms. Millikin for setting up this meeting, thanked the Board of Education for inviting the Council, and said it's a great opportunity for everyone to get to know each other. He mentioned that he was away and so wasn't able to attend some of the events previously mentioned. He thanked Ms. Millikin for the time and effort she has put into the benefits issue.

Councilman Smith said he attended the Economic Development function at Stonewater and plans to attend the Chamber of Commerce function as well. He thanked Ms. Millikin for looking into the healthcare issue and said it's a big part of the budget.

Council President Senatore reported attending the Economic Development event at Stonewater and commented on how much participation has grown in a year. She said she and her family attended Sunday's National Honor Society's Nourish NJ 5K. She stated that she is very glad to have this joint meeting so the town can see that we are all one and work as a team. Council President Senatore mentioned that shared services between the school and Township will be outlined during the joint presentation.

9. Presentations - Board of Education

- Pathway to Biliiteracy Student Achievements - Mr. Derek Sica, K-12 Supervisor of World Language, ESL, Music, F&CS, and G&T

Superintendent Howe introduced Mr. Sica, and he introduced the foreign language teachers and the students receiving awards.

- School Year 2022 State Assessment Results - Dr. Roger Jinks, Jr., Assistant Superintendent
- Dr. Jinks reviewed his presentation, which he said is available on the school's website. He mentioned that the last testing benchmarks are not from 2021 but from 2019 due to Covid.

10. Joint Discussion with Township Council

- **Shared Services Presentation – Ms. Giaachi, Ms. Millikin**

Ms. Millikin reviewed the Township and Board of Education's Shared services, specifically the shared use of the Municipal Garage facility and the recent agreement to replace the fuel tanks, the Dial-A-Ride maintenance provided by the Board of Education, the licensed Sewage Treatment Plan Operator provided by the Township to perform required inspections and operational oversight at the Jefferson Township High School and Arthur Stanlick School, the High School turf field maintenance provided by the Township, the use of school facilities for the Township's Recreation programs, and the debt service provided by the Township for the conversion of the Drummond Building and the Stanlick Sewage Treatment Plant.

Ms. Millikin mentioned that the Township Council adopted the shared service agreement for the Municipal Garage facility at its last meeting. Ms. Giacchi said that operationally, both the School team and the Township team work well together.

Ms. Gould commented that at one point, discussions were being held regarding the construction of bathrooms at the turf field and eliminating the port-a-johns. She said the bathroom was going to be constructed by the Township and then maintained by the school, and she was wondering about the status of the project.

Mayor Wilsusen said the previous administration was trying to put something together but ran into issues as the project is cost prohibitive because of school building standards. He told Ms. Gould that the project is still alive and that financing it through private donations is being considered. He mentioned that he has met with former Mayor Felter and the Athletic Director regarding this issue. Mayor Wilsusen said the Township is willing to help out with public works support.

Ms. Gould suggested the project remain alive as the bathroom facilities are much needed and that most of the negative feedback that is received about the turf field has to do with the port-a-johns, which are overused and overwhelmed.

11. Public Comment – Township Council President

Council President Senatore opened the public comment portion of the meeting with the consent of the members present and asked speakers to state their name and address for the record.

Jaime Grater – 62 East Shore

Ms. Grater told the Township Council that the Lakeside Field bathroom is gross and the port-a-johns are not being serviced. She also said she has called the municipal offices for various issues and was unhappy with the service she received.

Mayor Wilsusen replied that he was aware of the issue at Lakeside Field and this had to do with use by the football program. He said that the bathrooms are cleaned twice a week and more port-a-johns have been added. He said he was very surprised to hear Ms. Grater's comments about the municipal staff as most of the comments he receives are very positive. Mayor Wilsusen told Ms. Grater that if she is unsatisfied in the future she should call him immediately, as it is harder to address these comments generically and after the fact.

Council President Senatore mentioned that coaches can get in touch with the Recreation Director and have locks put on specific port-a-johns for their team's use.

With no one else wishing to be heard, Council President Senatore closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

12. Comments From The Audience – Board of Education (on agenda items only, if applicable)

Public participation shall be governed by the following rules (Per District Policy #0168):

1. The Public participation period shall be for **thirty minutes** or fewer;
2. A participant must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface comments by an announcement of his or her name, place of residence, and group affiliation, if appropriate;
3. Each statement made by a participant shall be **limited to three minutes duration**;
4. No participant may speak more than once on the same topic until all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard;
5. Participants may not yield their time to another individual;
6. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer;
7. The presiding officer may:
 - a) Interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant;

- b) Request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum;
- c) Request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person's conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting;
- d) Call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action; and
- e) Waive these rules when necessary for the protection of privacy or the efficient administration of the Board's business.

Please note that "Comments from the Audience" is not a time for dialogue – it is an opportunity for you to share a comment with the Board of Education. In addition, by law, administrators and Board of Education members are not permitted to publicly discuss personnel matters, student discipline, or other issues requiring confidentiality. While we may not respond to your comments, all input shared with the Board of Education is taken very seriously, and will be discussed at future deliberations by the Board of Education and its Committees.

- **Christine Orna**
Ms. Orna addressed the Board of Education regarding the testing numbers.
- **Joshua Gould**
Mr. Gould addressed the Board of Education regarding the "no backpack" policy and asked them to reconsider.

Board of Education President asked Mrs. Howe to address the comments from the audience. Mrs. Howe said the school is focusing on an action plan to try to raise the scores. She told Mr. Gould that there would be more comments about the backpack issues during the Education Committee reports.

13. Township Council Minutes – Township Clerk

March 8, 2022 (Regular)
May 4, 2022 (Regular)
October 5, 2022 (Regular)

Council Member	By	2 nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Birmingham		X	X			
Mr. Kalish			X			
Mr. Smith	X		X			
Vice President Dunham						X
President Senatore			X			

14. Township Council Consent Agenda– Township Clerk –

***Matters listed on the Consent Agenda Resolution are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion of the Council and one roll call vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member requests an item be removed for consideration.**

***PERMITS/LICENSES**

- None for October 17, 2022

***APPOINTMENTS**

- None for October 17, 2022

***CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:**

- 22-238 Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Bills
- 22-239 Resolution Authorizing Contract for Purchase of 2024 Freightliner 114sd and Chassis Through ESCNJ 20/21-55 for the DPW With Surcharges
- 22-240 Resolution Authorizing Contracts for Purchase of 2023 Dump Body, Snow Plow and Salt Spreader Per ESCNJ 20/21-55 for the DPW

- 22-241 Resolution Awarding Contract to Bob Viersma & Sons, Inc. for the Renovations to Kennedy Field
- 22-242 Resolution Authorizing Contracts with Certain Approved New Jersey State Cooperative Pricing System Contract Vendors for Contracting Units – Asphalt Paving Systems and Authorizing Change Order No. 1
- 22-243 Resolution Authorizing Contracts with Certain Approved New Jersey State Cooperative Pricing System Contract Vendors for Contracting Units – Morris Asphalt Co, Inc. and Authorizing Change Order No. 1
- 22-244 Resolution Authorizing Contracts with Certain Approved NJ State Cooperative Pricing Council Contract Vendors for Contracting Units – Atlantic Communications
- 22-245 Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of a Ford E450 Type III Medallion 170 (Gas Engine), Body Length 170” Ambulance From P.L. Custom Body & Equipment Co., Inc. Under the Houston-Galveston Area Council National Cooperative
- 22-246 Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Jefferson Opposing the Rate Increases to the State Health Benefits Program

Council Member	By	2 nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Birmingham			X			
Mr. Kalish			X			
Mr. Smith	X		X			
Vice President Dunham						X
President Senatore		X	X			

15. **Board of Education**
- **Student Representatives**
 - **Committee Reports**
 - **Minutes of Meetings**
 - **Finance and Building Needs**
 - **Personnel**
 - **Education**
 - **Policy**
 - **Recognition of Monthly Reports**
 - **Communications**

Board of Education members gave their committee reports and some discussion ensued.

Mrs. Howe stated that she wanted to recognize Carol Beier, who is retiring, for her nineteen (19) years of service.

16. **Public Comment – Township Council President**

Council President Senatore opened the public comment portion of the meeting with the consent of the members present and asked speakers to state their name and address for the record.

With no one wishing to be heard, Council President Senatore closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

17. **Comments From The Audience – Board of Education**

please refer to Section #12, “Public participation shall be governed by the following rules (per district policy #0167)”

- **Christine Orna**
Ms. Orna addressed the Board of Education regarding school security and how the four (4) minute bathroom limit affected female students.
- **Jaime Grater**
Ms. Grater addressed the Board of Education regarding their policy for home schooled students and participation in varsity sports, the Middle School master schedule conflict between band and chorus, the future of Milton School, and testing scores.

Councilman Kalish said he also had similar questions about Milton School.

Board of Education President asked Mrs. Howe to address the comments from the audience. Mrs. Howe she will bring comments about the bathroom situation back to the administration. She discussed the improvements to school security that she was allowed to comment on publicly and said she works with Chief Castimore on security issues. She mentioned that there are monthly fire drills and school security drills, and the goal is to get an SLEO3 (Special Law Enforcement Officer) for this building and eventually one for every school building.

Mrs. Howe stated that she would speak with Ms. Grater directly about the sports issues and reported that there is a scheduled meeting regarding the middle school master schedule. She discussed plans to improve test scores and said discussions continue about Milton School.

- Ron Roberts
Mr. Roberts approached the Board of Education after the comment period had closed but Board President Poulas said she would allow his comments, which were in reference to the fact that he believes County and Area Band and Chorus are no longer supported by the school.

Mrs. Howe replied that she would look into this issue.

18. Old Business – Board of Education

There was no old business discussed by the Board of Education.

19. New Business – Board of Education

There was no new business discussed by the Board of Education.

20. Adjournment of Township Council at 9:11 PM – Township Council President

Prior to adjournment, Council President Senatore announced that Council will hold a special meeting on Monday, October 24th at 8:00 am for the purpose of considering a resolution to withdraw from State Health Benefits and joining the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund.

Council Member	By	2 nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Birmingham	X		X			
Mr. Kalish			X			
Mr. Smith			X			
Vice President Dunham						X
President Senatore		X	X			

Motion made by Councilman Kalish, second by Councilman Smith, to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 pm, with all members in favor signifying by "Aye."

21. Closed Session – Board of Education

There was no closed session.

22. Adjournment of Board of Education

Motion by Mrs. Gould, seconded by Mrs. Small, to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 PM, with all members in favor.

October 17, 2022

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTION #22-228

“RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF BILLS”

WHEREAS, the Business Administrator has reviewed and approved purchase orders requested by the Township Department Heads; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Office has certified that funds are available in the proper account; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Office has approved payment, upon certification from the Township Department Heads that the goods and/or services have been rendered to the Township; and

WHEREAS, purchases under State Contract or under Morris County Cooperative Purchasing Agreement were made where applicable.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Jefferson, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, that the current bills, dated **October 17, 2022** and on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the Treasurer and approved by him/her for payment, be paid.

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTION #22-239

“RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACTS FOR PURCHASE OF 2024 FREIGHTLINER 114sd and CHASSIS THROUGH ESCNJ 20/21-55 for the DPW WITH SURCHARGES”

WHEREAS, the Township of Jefferson may by resolution and without advertising for bids, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11 of the Local Public Contracts Law, purchase goods or services under the State Contract; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Jefferson has the need to purchase a **20024 Freightliner 114sd and Chassis utilizing ESCNJ 20/21-55**; and

WHEREAS, ESCNJ 20/21-55 **2024 Freightliner 114sd and Chassis** was awarded to **Hoover Truck and Bus Center, 149 Gold Mine Road, Flanders, NJ 07836**; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Jefferson desires to purchase in the amount of **\$104,438.66 ESCNJ 20-21-55 through** this resolution as well as the Freightliner Surcharge of \$2,900.00 and Additional Surcharge \$3,800.00 for a total amount of \$111,138.66 and properly executed contract, which shall be subject to all the conditions applicable to the State contracts; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.5 (b) a certificate showing availability of funds has been provided to the Township by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township, certifying that the funds for said contract are available and are designated to a line item appropriations designated below and totaling **\$111,138.66**

C-04-55-922-010-905

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Jefferson that the Township Administrator is authorized to purchase **20024 Freightliner 114sd and Chassis utilizing ESCNJ 20/21-55** in the amount of **\$111,138.66** to Hoover Truck and Bus Center, 149 Gold Mine Road, Flanders, NJ 07836.

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTION #22-240

“RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACTS FOR PURCHASE OF 2023 DUMP BODY, SNOW PLOW AND SALT SPREADER PER ESCNJ 20/21-55 for the DPW”

WHEREAS, the Township of Jefferson may by resolution and without advertising for bids, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11 of the Local Public Contracts Law, purchase goods or services under the State Contract; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Jefferson has the need to purchase Dump Body, Snow Plow and Salt Spreader utilizing ESCNJ 20/21-55; and

WHEREAS, ESCNJ 20/21-55 was awarded to **Tony Sanchez LTD., 1685 US Route 46, Ledgewood, NJ 07852**; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Jefferson desires to purchase in the amount of **\$95,976.51 ESCNJ 20/21-55 through** this resolution and properly executed contract, which shall be subject to all the conditions applicable to the State contracts; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.5 (b) a certificate showing availability of funds has been provided to the Township by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township, certifying that the funds for said contract are available and are designated to a line item appropriations designated below and totaling **\$95,976.51**

C-04-55-922-010-905

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Jefferson that the Township Administrator is authorized to purchase two **Dump Body, Snow Plow and Salt Spreader through ESCNJ,20/21-55 in the total amount of \$95,976.51** to Tony Sanchez LTD., 1685 US Route 46, Ledgewood, NJ 07852.

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTION #22-241

**“RESOLUTION AWARDED CONTRACT TO BOB VIERSMA & SONS, INC.,
FOR THE RENOVATIONS TO KENNEDY FIELD”**

WHEREAS, the Township of Jefferson received bids for the Kennedy Field Renovations on October 4, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.; and

WHEREAS, two (2) bids were received as listed; and

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>BASE BID AMOUNT</u>
JCW Inc./dba Natural Green	\$82,600.00
Bob Viersma & Sons, Inc.	\$74,990.00

WHEREAS, **Bob Viersma & Sons, Inc., of Allamuchy, New Jersey** was the lowest bidder with a bid of \$74,990.00; and

WHEREAS, the Park Director and QPA recommend the Township Council award the contract for the Renovations to Kennedy Field; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.5 (b) a certificate showing availability of funds has been provided to the Township by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township, certifying that funds for said contract are available and are designated to a line item appropriations designated below and totaling **\$74,990.00**.

C-04-55-922-011-931

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that the Township Council hereby awards the contract for the **Kennedy Field Renovations, Bob Viersma & Sons, Inc., PO BOX 224, Allamuchy, New Jersey 07820 in the amount of \$74,990.00.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Municipal Clerk of the Township of Jefferson are hereby authorized and directed to execute the contract and other necessary documents in order to effectuate the purpose of this.

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTION #22-242

**“RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACTS WITH CERTAIN APPROVED NEW JERSEY STATE COOPERATIVE PRICING
SYSTEM CONTRACT VENDORS FOR CONTRACTING UNITS – ASPHALT PAVING SYSTEMS AND AUTHORIZING CHANGE
ORDER NO. 1”**

WHEREAS, the Township of Jefferson may, by resolution and without advertising for bids in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11 of the Local Public Contracts Law, purchase and goods or services under the **State of New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program for any state contracts entered into on behalf of the State Division of Purchase and Property in the Department of the Treasury;** and

WHEREAS, the Township of Jefferson has the need on a timely basis to purchase goods or services utilizing **State Contracts;** and

WHEREAS, **State Contract T-2507** was awarded to **Asphalt Paving Systems, P.O. Box 530, Hammonton, New Jersey, 08037** for cape seal micro-surfacing treatment in an amount not to exceed **\$162,145.94 NJ;** and

MINUTES

10.17.22

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WHEREAS, the Township Engineer has submitted and recommended **Change Order. No. 1** in the amount of **\$10,392.01** based on final as-built quantities and the additional cape seal micro-surface treatment on Princess Court increasing the contract total to **\$172,537.95** (an increase of 6.41%); and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available for said payment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of Jefferson, County of Morris, State of New Jersey hereby **approves Change Order No. 1**, for the additional work as detailed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of Jefferson, County of Morris, State of New Jersey hereby approves **Change Order No. 1 for a payment in an amount not to exceed \$172,537.95** to Asphalt Paving Systems, **P.O. Box 530, Hammonton, New Jersey 08037.**

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTION #22-243

“RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACTS WITH CERTAIN APPROVED NEW JERSEY STATE COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM CONTRACT VENDORS FOR CONTRACTING UNITS – MORRIS ASPHALT CO., INC. AND AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1”

WHEREAS, the Township of Jefferson may, by resolution and without advertising for bids in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11 of the Local Public Contracts Law, purchase and goods or services under the **State of New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program for any state contracts entered into on behalf of the State Division of Purchase and Property in the Department of the Treasury;** and

WHEREAS, the Township of Jefferson has the need on a timely basis to purchase goods or services utilizing **State Contracts;** and

WHEREAS, **State Contract T-0896** was awarded to **Morris Asphalt Co., Inc., P.O. Box 305, Lafayette, New Jersey, 07848;** for oil and stone in an amount not to exceed **\$91,373.41;** and

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer has submitted and recommended **Change Order. No. 1** in the amount of **\$4,768.49** based on final as-built quantities and the additional oil and stone on Princess Court increasing the contract total to **\$96,141.90** (an increase of 5.22%); and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available for said payment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of Jefferson, County of Morris, State of New Jersey hereby **approves Change Order No. 1**, for the additional work as detailed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of Jefferson, County of Morris, State of New Jersey hereby approves **Change Order No. 1 for a payment in an amount not to exceed \$96,141.90** to Morris Asphalt Co., Inc., **P.O. Box 305, Lafayette, New Jersey, 07848.**

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTION #22-244

“RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACTS WITH CERTAIN APPROVED NJ STATE COOPERATIVE PRICING COUNCIL CONTRACT VENDOR FOR CONTRACTING UNITS – ATLANTIC COMMUNICATIONS.”

WHEREAS, the Township of Jefferson, may by resolution and without advertising for bids, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11 of the Local Public Contracts Law, purchase goods or services under the New Jersey State Cooperative Purchasing Program contract entered into on behalf of the State Division of Purchase and Property in the Department of the Treasury; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Jefferson has the need on a timely basis to purchase goods or services utilizing NJ State contracts; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey State Cooperative Purchasing Program contract **#T-0109, A83924, was** awarded to **Atlantic Communications, 664 Route 15 South, Lake Hopatcong, NJ 07849** for Zetron Dispatch Console Position 1 for Muster Room and Upgrade to Dispatch Console; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Jefferson desires to purchase, in an **amount not to exceed \$95,889.48** for Zetron Dispatch Console Position 1 for Muster Room and Upgrade of Dispatch Console; through this resolution and properly executed contract, which shall be subject to all the conditions applicable to the current New Jersey State Cooperative Purchasing Program contract; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.5 (b) a certificate showing availability of funds has been provided to the Township by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township, certifying that funds for said contract are available and are designated to a line item appropriations designated below and totaling \$95,889.48.

C-04-55-921-001-901

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Jefferson that the Township Administrator is authorized to purchase Zetron Dispatch Console Position 1 for Muster Room and Upgrade of Dispatch Console **from the approved New Jersey State Cooperative Purchasing Program contract #T-0109, A83924 in an amount not to exceed \$95,889.48 from Atlantic Communications, 664 Route 15 South, Lake Hopatcong, NJ 07849.**

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTION #22-245

"RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A FORD E450 TYPE III MEDALLION 170 (GAS ENGINE), BODY LENGTH 170" AMBULANCE FROM P.L. CUSTOM BODY & EQUIPMENT CO., INC. UNDER THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL NATIONAL COOPERATIVE"

WHEREAS, pursuant to P.L. 2011, c. 139 all contracting units are permitted to use contracts awarded by national or regional cooperatives that were already competitively bid without competitively bidding the goods or services themselves; and

WHEREAS, on July 20, 2016, the Township Council authorized the Township to enter into an agreement with the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) National Cooperative to purchase goods and/or services in order to make the procurement process more efficient and to provide cost savings to the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Houston-Galveston Area Council National Cooperative awarded Contract No. AM10-20 entitled "Ambulances, EMS, and Other Special Service Vehicles" to **P.L. Custom Body & Equipment Co., Inc., 2201 Atlantic Avenue, Manasquan, New Jersey, 08736**; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Jefferson wishes to purchase **one (1) Ford E450 Type III Medallion 170 (Gas Engine), Body Length 170" Ambulance (H-GAC Product Code No. WA01)** from., **P.L. Custom Body & Equipment Co., Inc., 2201 Atlantic Avenue, Manasquan, New Jersey, 08736** for an amount not to exceed \$221,423.00; and

WHEREAS, the Township is in receipt of the requisite documentation required in order to award this contract through the Houston-Galveston Area Council National Cooperative contract; and

WHEREAS, the use of the Houston-Galveston Area Council National Cooperative shall result in cost savings, after all factors, including charges for service, material and delivery, have been considered; and

WHEREAS, the Houston-Galveston Area Council National Cooperative's bidding process for contractors meets the requirements of the "fair & open" definition required by N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.7; and

WHEREAS, the determination by the Township to award this contract under this National Cooperative was previously advertised both in the newspaper and on the Township website; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.5(b) a certificate showing availability of funds has been provided to the Township by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township, certifying that the funds for said contract are available and are designated to a line item appropriations as designated below and totaling \$221,423.00:

G-01-41-790-000-005

C-04-55-807-001-000

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Jefferson, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, that the Township Administrator is authorized to purchase **Ford E450 Type III Medallion 170 (Gas Engine), Body Length 170" Ambulance** from **P.L. Custom Body & Equipment Co., Inc., 2201 Atlantic Avenue, Manasquan, New Jersey, 08736** in an amount not to exceed \$221,423.00.

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTION #22-246

**“RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF JEFFERSON
OPPOSING THE RATE INCREASES TO THE STATE HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM”**

WHEREAS, the State Health Benefits Program (“SHBP”), governed by N.J.S.A. § 52:14-17.25 et seq., offers medical, prescription drug, and dental coverage to qualified state and participating local government public employees, retirees, and eligible dependents; and

WHEREAS, all SHBP plans are self-funded meaning that the money paid out for benefits comes directly from a SHBP account funded by the state, participating local employers, and member premiums; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Pensions and Benefits is responsible for the daily administrative activities of the SHBP, and the State Health Benefits Commission is the executive organization responsible for overseeing the SHBP; and

WHEREAS, the State Health Benefits Commission, comprised of state officials and union representatives, annually considers the calendar year premium levels for the Local Government Employer Group of the SHBP based on recommendations found in the Rate Setting Recommendation Analysis of the Local Government Employee Group; and

WHEREAS, the rate increases for the 2023 Local Government Employer Group, approved by the State Health Benefits Commission on September 14, 2022, included a shocking 24% increase for Active Medical, a 3.7% increase for Active Pharmacy, a 15.6% increase in Early Retiree Medical, and a 0.7% increase for Medicare. Early Retiree Pharmacy had a 5.7% decrease; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Treasury has reported that rates for active members and early retirees would likely be increased between 12% - 20% across the various plans for the upcoming year; and

WHEREAS, such exorbitant rate increases will fall upon the local property taxpayer along with the local public employees at a time where there is record inflation and continuing financial uncertainty; and

WHEREAS, the approved premium increase for most active employees will take thousands more out of their paychecks annually and lead to substantial costs for local governments that will translate into higher property tax bills for struggling families; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of Jefferson in the County of Morris does call upon the State Health Benefit Commission to reconsider the rate increase approved on September 14, 2022; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of Jefferson in the County of Morris supports current efforts underway in the State Legislature to adopt legislation establishing an investigative committee with subpoena power to investigate the provenance of the approved SHBP rate increases; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of Jefferson in the County of Morris urges the legislature to adopt legislation expanding the composition of the State Health Benefits Commission to include representatives from both municipal and county governments; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of Jefferson in the County of Morris further urges the legislature to immediately investigate the efficacy of appropriating funds that the State of New Jersey received from the Federal Government through the American Rescue plan to offset the increased cost to be borne by employees, municipal governments, and county governments as a result of the rate increases approved by the State Health Benefits Commission on September 14, 2022; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Murphy, State Treasurer Muoio, Senate President Scutari, Assembly Speaker Coughlin, Senator Joe Pennacchio, Senator Anthony Bucco, Assemblyman Jay Webber, Assemblywoman Aura Dunn, Assemblyman Brian Bergen, Assemblyman Christian Barranco, and the New Jersey State League of Municipalities.