

**MINUTES OF THE REORGANIZATION MEETING AND WORKSESSION
OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL - TOWNSHIP OF EDISON**

JANUARY 6, 2020

The Reorganization Meeting of the Municipal Council was held at the Municipal Complex on Monday, January 6, 2020. The Meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by the Township Attorney, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were Councilmembers Brescher, Coyle, Diehl, Gomez, Joshi, Patil and Ship-Freeman.

Also present were Township Clerk Russomanno, Deputy Clerk McCray, Township Attorney Northgrave, Business Administrator Ruane, Health Director Elliot, Acting Recreation Director Fircha, Township Engineer O’Krepky, Engineer O’Brien, Police Captain Shannon, Fire Chief Latham and Cameraman

The Township Clerk advised that adequate notice of this meeting, as required by the Open Public Meetings Act of 1975, has been provided by an Annual Notice sent to The Home News Tribune, The Star Ledger, the Sentinel and News India Times on December 13, 2019, and posted in the Main Lobby of the Municipal Complex on the same date.

NOMINATIONS FOR POSITION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT

The Township Attorney opened the nominations for President of Council.

Councilmember Gomez nominated Joyce Ship-Freeman, This nomination was seconded by Councilmember Diehl.

There being no other nominations, on a motion made by Councilmember Diehl, seconded by Councilmember Coyle and duly carried, the nominations were closed.

The Township Attorney then asked for a Roll Call for the nomination of Joyce Ship-Free for Council President.

AYES - Councilmembers Coyle, Diehl, Gomez, Joshi, Patil and Ship-Freeman

NAYS – Councilmember Brescher

The Township Clerk then administered the Oath of Office to Council President Ship-Freeman.

STATEMENT OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Integrity is the most valuable and respected quality of a leader. This is what I live by. Your character should never change and it should be something you can believe in. As I campaigned traveling from door to door listening to many constituents, my goal was to stay focused and empower others to share leadership. This is not my first leadership position and it will not be my last. Indulge me for a minute here is a small list of the positions I have held, director of the Academic Assistance Program, President Emeritus Perth Amby Teachers association (PASSE) Chairperson of the school leadership team, Y.M.C.A. Board Trustee Fundraising Chair, Dept. of Education Amistad State Commissioner, NJREA Policy Board member, Library Board President/Vice President just to name a few. Obtaining a Bachelor of Science from The College of New Jersey and a Masters of Art from Kean University has afforded me the opportunity to give back to my community Edison, NJ. I also know about Team Work being a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated. The team I am representing right now is “Team Edison”. I will not be afraid to make the tough decisions to move our town forward in the right direction while trying to keep our taxes at a minimum. I want to reach out to the county and state to help us defer costs that drain our economy. My vision for Edison the Fifth Largest Municipality in this state, I would like to bring back jobs that have been outsourced, examining old warehouses, look for open land and find areas that would help our economic growth so that it would not solely depend on taxpayer money. Look at the towns that surround us they are developing projects to help defray cost. We need taxpayers to be alright with the way their money is being spent. Quality of life projects such as, Splash Parks, much needed Recreation Centers, Summer Music, roller rinks, etc. Finally, I would like everyone to know that I represent everyone in Edison. Take a good look at your tax bill, does it say your political affiliation, No but I believe in fair equitable treatment for

everyone. Diversity sounds nice, but it is just a words if you don't have inclusion. Let's all work together to make sure we move into the 21st Century. I depend on you to stay involved and we can get the job done.

NOMINATIONS FOR POSITION OF COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT

The Council President Ship-Freeman opened the nominations for Vice President of Council.

Councilmember Diehl nominated Sam Joshi. This nomination was seconded by Councilmember Gomez.

There being no other nominations, on a motion made by Councilmember Gomez, seconded by Councilmember Diehl and duly carried, the nominations were closed.

The Council President Ship- Freeman then asked for a Roll Call for the nomination of Sam Joshi for Council Vice President.

AYES - Councilmembers Coyle, Diehl, Gomez, Joshi, Patil and Council President

NAYS –Councilmember Brescher

The Township Clerk then administered the Oath of Office to Council Vice President Joshi.

STATEMENT OF COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT

Good evening. First I'd like to congratulate my colleagues Joe Coyle and Ajay Patil on their reelection as well as the two newly elected officials Richard Brescher and Joyce Ship Freeman. I look forward to working with each of you. Ms. Ship Freeman congratulations on becoming President. Edison is the fifth largest municipality in New Jersey and I am humbled and grateful to serve as the Vice President of the Council this year. For those of you who don't know me, let me tell you a little bit about myself. I was born and raised in Edison and take so much pride in being a thoroughbred product of Edison. I began volunteering in Edison Township when was 14 years and I have worked tirelessly as an intern or an employee every single year since. I was the youngest to serve on the fair rental housing authority, youngest to serve on the Zoning board. This will mark the beginning of my third year on the Council. Since taking office, every single week, I have spoken to hundreds of residents and worked on numerous initiatives for Edison as a whole as well as smaller neighborhood issues throughout our 32 square miles. I've been strategic about working on issues that I can get done. This year, I am looking forward to moving the needle further. Edison is faced with significant challenges. Edison had two historically significant referendums last year, a \$190 million referendum for schools and another for public utilities. The message of those referendums the will of the public was clear. Our priority needs to be effective tax base stabilization, efficient government and improvements to our overall quality of life. I look forward to working with my colleagues to address this years' budget on these matters. Smart growth planning and communication with the Board of Education is vital to the well being of our Township. I have stated many times before, we absolutely need to revisit Edison's master plan. Through smart growth long term planning our redevelopment initiatives can be something we are all proud of. The master plan impacts our quality of life, our tax base as well as our schools. Although the Council does not traditionally get involved with Board of Education matters, it is clear that the residents have spoken out and we have an overcrowding crisis and residents do not want to bear the full burden simply through taxes. We need to think outside of the box on these solutions. I am asking the township council, administration and the Board of Education to begin a dialogue for a shared services agreement with Middlesex County College. Our county college, right here in Edison, is one of the best and most beautiful in New Jersey. Their campus is massive and some of their classrooms are state of the art. I am hoping an agreement of land, classroom space or recreational services can come to fruition, even if it is just a small start. I am also looking forward to working with my colleagues and the administration on public safety hiring and promotional reform. I am unequivocally supportive of their work but as politicians, we need to take ownership when policies are outdated. We will also work to form a proper utility authority. This is something the administration kicked off in January after our referendum last year. While we are working on these issues, we absolutely need to work on smaller initiatives that improve our township. Our Raritan River has the potential of becoming a jewel for Edison and the state of NJ. Our Middlesex greenway should also transform to an outdoor murals museum. Over the last few months I had these plan drawings designed and I intend to show the waterfront park plan as well as the murals museum plan through Facebook live. Our libraries should also be expanded. Our \$5 million library budget should be reflected in its structure and services. All of these initiatives require the support of

4 members of the Council, as well as the Mayor. I am grateful for being elected as your Council Vice President and I am looking forward to serving you all.

PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS

Council President Ship-Freeman opened the meeting to the public for comments on Proposed Resolutions R.001-012020 through R.012-012020

None

There were no comments from the public regarding Proposed Resolutions. On a motion made by Councilmember Diehl seconded by Councilmember Gomez and duly carried, the public hearing was closed.

Councilmember Joshi, asked to pull Resolution R.012-012020 to table, he feels there is no need to spend an additional One Hundred Thousand Dollars to have a second attorney.

Councilmember Brescher feels this is reasonable for the council to have an attorney to represent them.

Councilmember Coyle agrees with Councilmember Brescher.

Councilmember Brescher asked Council President Ship-Freeman to verify on appointments we receive resumes. The Library appointment didn't have a resume attached.

Council President Ship-Freeman, the resume was given a few months ago to the Mayor.

There was discussion moving forward we should have resumes on appointments and professionals attached to their resolutions.

The following Resolutions R.001-012020 through R.003-012020 and R.005-012020 through R.011-012020 were adopted under the Consent Agenda on a motion made by Councilmember Diehl and seconded by Councilmember Coyle.

RESOLUTION R.001-012020

AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF A CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF EDISON

WHEREAS, Chapter 148 of the Public Laws of 1997 requires the Governing Body to adopt an annual Cash Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, the following banks are authorized depositories for Municipal Funds consistent with the Governmental Unit Depository Protection Act and may be used by the Chief Financial Officer for the deposit of Township funds:

- TD Bank – North Edison, NJ
- Bank of New York/Chase, National Community Division, Edison, NJ
- Capital One Bank/North Fork Bank, Edison, NJ
- Provident Bank, Edison, NJ
- PNC Bank, Edison, NJ
- Bank of America, Edison, NJ
- Columbia Savings Bank, Edison, NJ
- Metuchen Savings Bank, Metuchen, NJ
- Ocean First Bank, Monroe, NJ
- Valley National Bank, So. Plainfield, NJ
- Investor's Savings Bank, Edison, NJ
- State of New Jersey, Cash Management Fund
- U.S. Bank, Morristown, NJ
- Fulton Bank of NJ, Edison, NJ
- Unity Bank, Edison, NJ
- Indus American Bank, Iselin, NJ
- J.P. Morgan Chase Bank

,and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer is directed to use this cash management plan as a guide in depositing and investing the funds of the Township of Edison, and

WHEREAS, the following investments are permitted for use by the Chief Financial Officer:

1. Interest bearing bank accounts and certificates of deposit in authorized banks for deposit of local unit funds.
2. Government money market mutual funds that comply with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-15.1 (e).
3. Any federal agency or instrumentality obligation authorized by Congress that matures within 397 days from the date of purchase, and has a fixed rate of interest not dependent on any index or external factors.
4. Bonds or other obligations of the local unit or school district of which the local unit is a part.
5. Any other obligations with maturities not exceeding 397 days, as permitted by the Division of Investments of the Department of the Treasury for investment by local units.
6. Local government investment pools which comply with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-15.1 (e) and conditions set by the Division of Local Government Services.
7. New Jersey State Cash Management Fund.
8. Repurchase agreements of fully collateralized securities, which comply with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-15 (a).

,and

WHEREAS, the priority of investment policies shall be, in order of descending importance: security, liquidity, and yield with funds managed to meet the Township of Edison’s cash flow needs.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED by the Council of the Township of Edison, Middlesex County, New Jersey that the foregoing shall serve as the cash management plan of the Township of Edison for the year 2020.

RESOLUTION R.002-012020

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Municipal Council of the Township of Edison that the following are hereby designated as the official newspapers of Edison Township for the purpose of publication of all legal notices, to the extent permitted by law, and to the extent each publication complies with the legal requirements for official newspapers for municipalities:

- The Home News Tribune, Neptune, New Jersey
- The Star Ledger, Newark, New Jersey
- The Sentinel, Freehold, New Jersey
- Gujarat Samachar, Edison, New Jersey
- Desi Talk, Jersey City, New Jersey
- News India Times, Jersey City, New Jersey

RESOLUTION R.003-012020

Fixing Rate of Interest, Grace Period, and Year End Penalty for Tax and Sewer

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-66.1, taxes in municipalities operating under a calendar based fiscal year shall be payable for the first quarterly installment of the year on February 1, for the second quarterly installment on May 1, for the third quarterly installment on August 1, and for the fourth quarterly installment on November 1; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:4-67 provides that the governing body may fix the rate of interest to be charged for the non-payment of taxes, assessments &/or other municipal liens or charges; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:4-67(a), further provides that taxes shall not be subject to interest charges if payment of any installment is made within the tenth calendar day following the date upon which the same became payable; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:4-67 (c), provides that within the current fiscal year if any delinquency is in excess to \$10,000.00, a penalty not to exceed 6% may be charged; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Municipal Council of the Township of Edison, that in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:4-66 et seq, the rate of interest to be charged on delinquent taxes and all other municipal liens or charges for the first, second, third and fourth quarterly installments of year **2020** shall be eight percent (8%) per annum on the first \$1,500.00 of delinquency and eighteen percent

(18%) per annum on any amount in excess of \$1,500.00 to be calculated from the date the tax was payable until the date of actual payment to the collector is received provided that no interest shall be charged if payment of any installment is made on or before the tenth calendar day following the date upon which same became payable; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the rate of interest on unpaid sewer utility for **2020** bills shall be eighteen percent (18%) per annum on any delinquency to be calculated from the date the bill was payable until the date of actual payment, provided that no interest shall be charged if payment of any bill is made within thirty (25) calendar days following the billing date or before the tenth calendar day following the date upon which same became payable, whichever is later; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the rate of interest on unpaid water utility for **2020** bills shall be eighteen percent (18%) per annum on any delinquency to be calculated from the date the bill was payable until the date of actual payment, provided that no interest shall be charged if payment of any bill is made within thirty (25) calendar days following the billing date or before the tenth calendar day following the date upon which same became payable, whichever is later; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a penalty of six percent (6%) be charged on all delinquent municipal charges in excess of \$10,000.00 that are not paid prior to the end of **2020** calendar year.

RESOLUTION R.005-012020

Explanation: This Resolution awards a Professional Services Contract to Ruderman & Roth LLC and designates the firm to represent the Township of Edison as Township Labor Counsel.

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council (“**Municipal Council**”) of the Township of Edison (“**Township**”) has determined that it is in its best interests and those of Township residents to engage qualified legal counsel, and the Township is authorized pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law, *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.* (“**Local Contracts Law**”) to contract for “professional services” as it may require; and

WHEREAS, Ruderman & Roth LLC (“**Counsel**”) has an excellent reputation in the area of employment law and has sufficient legal staff to handle employment law matters which may arise from time to time in the Township; and

WHEREAS, Allan C. Roth, Esq., managing member of Counsel, has an excellent reputation in the area of employment law, has practiced law for many years, has knowledge of the Township and has available supporting attorney staff at and through Counsel; and

WHEREAS, for these reasons the Mayor and the Municipal Council recommend Counsel for the position of Township Labor Counsel and seek to enter a contract for legal services with Counsel for 2020 (“**Services Contract**,” as attached hereto as *Exhibit A*) to provide for same; and

WHEREAS, the Local Contracts Law, more specifically *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5*, allows for the awarding of a contract for “professional services” without public advertising for bids; and

WHEREAS, prior to the execution of the Services Contract, Allan C. Roth, Esq. will have completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification, which certifies that no individual with a ten percent (10.0%) interest or larger in Counsel has made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Municipal Council in the previous year, and that the Services Contract will prohibit an individual with a ten percent (10.0%) interest or larger in Counsel from making any reportable contributions through the term of the Services Contract, pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Services Contract is not awarded through a “fair and open process” pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the legal services under the Services Contract may include, but are not limited to, representation as to general personnel advice, employment disputes, labor negotiations, litigation defense, layoffs and privatization efforts, subject to the discretion and direction of the Township Attorney; and

WHEREAS, compensation for employment law services included under the Services Contract shall be rendered at the hourly rate of \$150.00 per hour, payable monthly, as set forth in the Services Contract; and

WHEREAS, the Local Contracts Law requires that contracts awarded without competitive bid be authorized by resolution of the municipal governing body and that notice of the award of such contract be publicly advertised.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council of the Township of Edison, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute the Services Contract with Counsel for its representation of the Township as Township Labor Counsel.
2. The Services Contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a “professional service” under the provisions of the Local Contracts Law, more specifically *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5*, because the services in question are of a specialized, technical and professional nature.
3. A certificate showing the availability of funds for the Services Contract authorized hereby has been provided by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township and is made a part hereof indicating that the appropriation for the within expenditure is charged to the applicable accounts and is contingent upon the adoption of a temporary and/or permanent budget for the 2020 calendar year.
4. No payments in excess of the “not-to-exceed” amount of \$200,000.00 will be approved, unless such services/expenditures are negotiated and agreed upon in advance of service delivery.
5. Any modification to the Services Contract shall be in writing and signed by both parties, and upon obtaining said signatures shall immediately become a part of the contract.
6. The Mayor of the Township may, upon ten (10) days written notice, and without cause, terminate the Services Contract.
7. The Services Contract shall, for all purposes, be deemed a New Jersey contract and the provisions of the Services Contract shall be governed and interpreted according to the laws of the State of New Jersey.
8. Counsel shall report directly to the Township Attorney, who will be the chief contact at the Township.
9. Counsel shall notify the Township Attorney when eighty percent (80%) of the “not-to-exceed” amount is attained.
10. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

RESOLUTION R.006-012020

EXPLANATION: This Resolution awards a Professional Services Contract to Apruzzese, McDermott, Mastro & Murphy, P.C. and designates the firm to represent the Township of Edison as Special Labor Counsel.

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council (“**Municipal Council**”) of the Township of Edison (“**Township**”) has determined that it is in its best interests and those of Township residents to engage qualified legal counsel, and the Township is authorized pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law, *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.* (“**Local Contracts Law**”) to contract for “professional services” as it may require; and

WHEREAS, Apruzzese, McDermott, Mastro & Murphy, P.C. (“**Counsel**”) has an excellent reputation in the area of labor law and has sufficient legal staff to handle such matters which may arise from time to time in the Township; and

WHEREAS, Arthur R. Thibault, Jr., Esq., of the firm has an excellent reputation in the area of labor law, has practiced law for many years, has knowledge of the Township and has available supporting attorney staff at and through Counsel; and

WHEREAS, for these reasons the Mayor and the Municipal Council recommend Counsel for the position of Special Labor Counsel and seek to enter a contract for legal services with Counsel for 2020 (“**Services Contract**”), substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A, to provide for the representation of the Township with respect to collective bargaining negotiations; and

WHEREAS, the Local Contracts Law, more specifically *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5*, allows for the awarding of a contract for “professional services” without public advertising for bids; and

WHEREAS, prior to the execution of the Services Contract, Arthur R. Thibault, Esq. will have completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification, which certifies that no individual with a ten percent (10.0%) interest or larger in Counsel has made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee of the Municipal Council in the previous year, and that the Services Contract will prohibit an individual with a ten percent (10.0%) interest or larger in Counsel from making any reportable contributions through the term of the Services Contract, pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Services Contract is not awarded through a “fair and open process” pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the legal services under the Services Contract may include, but are not limited to, representation as to collective bargaining negotiations, subject to the discretion and direction of the Township Attorney; and

WHEREAS, compensation for special labor counsel services included under the Services Contract shall be rendered at the hourly rate of \$205.00 per hour for attorneys, payable monthly, and as further set forth in the Services Contract; and

WHEREAS, the Local Contracts Law requires that contracts awarded without competitive bid be authorized by resolution of the municipal governing body and that notice of the award of such contract be publicly advertised.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council of the Township of Edison, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The aforementioned recitals are incorporated herein as though fully set forth at length.
2. The Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute the Services Contract with Counsel for its representation of the Township as Special Labor Counsel.
3. The Services Contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a “professional service” under the provisions of the Local Contracts Law, more specifically *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5*, because the services in question are of a specialized, technical and professional nature.
4. A certificate showing the availability of funds for the Services Contract authorized hereby has been provided by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township and is made a part hereof indicating that the appropriation for the within expenditure is charged to the applicable accounts and is contingent upon the adoption of a temporary and/or permanent budget for the 2020 calendar year.
5. No payments in excess of the “not-to-exceed” amount of \$30,000.00 will be approved, unless such services/expenditures are negotiated and agreed upon in advance of service delivery.
6. Any modification to the Services Contract shall be in writing and signed by both parties, and upon obtaining said signatures shall immediately become a part of the contract.
7. The Mayor of the Township may, upon ten (10) days written notice, and without cause, terminate the Services Contract.
8. In accordance with *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5* of the Local Contracts Law, the Municipal Council hereby directs the Township Clerk to publish once in the official newspaper of the Township, a brief notice, stating the nature, duration, service and amount of the Services Contract authorized for execution herein, which notice shall state that a copy of this Resolution and the Services Contract are on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Township Clerk.
9. The Services Contract shall, for all purposes, be deemed a New Jersey contract and the provisions of the Services Contract shall be governed and interpreted according to the laws of the State of New Jersey.
10. Counsel shall report directly to the Township Attorney, who will be the chief contact at the Township.
11. Counsel shall notify the Township Attorney when eighty percent (80%) of the “not-to-exceed” amount is attained.
12. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

RESOLUTION R.007-012020

RESOLUTION AWARDING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT TO MASER CONSULTING P.A. TO PROVIDE GENERAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE PERIOD FROM JANUARY 1, 2020 TO DECEMBER 31, 2020, TO THE TOWNSHIP OF EDISON

WHEREAS, there exists a need for engineering services in the Township of Edison (the “Township”); and

WHEREAS, Maser Consulting P.A. (“**Company**”) is skilled at and experienced in performing municipal engineering services, and

WHEREAS, the Township is authorized pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law, *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.* (“**Local Contracts Law**”) to contract for “professional services” as it may require; and

WHEREAS, the municipal council of the Township (“**Municipal Council**”) seeks to authorize the Company to provide municipal engineering services to the Township from January 1, 2020 until December 31, 2020, and any other services as may be reasonably required to effectuate same, pursuant to their proposal; and

WHEREAS, the Local Contracts Law, more specifically *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5*, allows for the awarding of a contract for “professional services” without public advertising for bids; and

WHEREAS, prior to the execution of the Services Contract, the Company will have completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification to the Township, which certifies that no individual with a ten percent (10%) interest or larger in the Company has made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Municipal Council in the previous year, and that the Services Contract will prohibit an individual with a ten percent (10%) interest or larger in the Company from making any reportable contributions through the term of the Services Contract, pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Services Contract shall not be awarded through a “fair and open process” pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, compensation to the Company for engineering and related services shall be paid pursuant to the Services Contract, and not to exceed One Hundred Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$180,000.00); and

WHEREAS, the Local Contracts Law requires that contracts awarded without competitive bid be authorized by resolution of the municipal governing body and that notice of the award of such contract be publicly advertised.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council of the Township of Edison, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The aforementioned recitals are incorporated herein as though fully set forth at length herein.
2. The Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Company to perform municipal engineering services to the Township from January 2020 until December 2020, and any other services as may be reasonably required to effectuate same pursuant to the Services Contract.
3. The contract for services described in the Services Proposal is awarded without competitive bidding as a “professional service” under the provisions of the Local Contracts Law, more specifically *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5*, because the services in question are of a specialized, technical and professional nature.
4. In accordance with *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5* of the Local Contracts Law, the Municipal Council hereby directs the Township Clerk to publish once in the official newspaper of the Township, a brief notice, stating the nature, duration, service and amount of the contract for services authorized for execution herein, which notice shall state that a copy of this Resolution and the contract for services is on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Township Clerk.
5. The contract for services has been awarded as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5* without competitive bidding. Total compensation to be paid under the contract for services will exceed \$17,500.
6. A copy of this Resolution, the contract for services and the Company’s completed Business Entity Disclosure Certification shall be available for inspection in the office of the Township Clerk.
7. This Resolution shall take effect immediately

RESOLUTION R.008-012020

EXPLANATION: This Resolution names and authorizes the Township Engineer to execute treatment works approval (TWA) applications and temporary discharge approval (TDA) applications on behalf of the Township of Edison for the purpose of approval of sanitary sewer extensions and/or temporary discharge approvals to Edison’s sanitary sewer system.

WHEREAS, under certain parameters promulgated by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (“**NJDEP**”), it is necessary that an application be submitted with an Edison Township endorsement to the aforesaid agency for treatment works approvals and/or extensions to the Edison Township sanitary sewer system; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to State Law, it is a requirement that the applicants gain approval of the aforementioned Edison Township sanitary sewer system extension from the Middlesex County Utilities Authority (“**MCUA**”) and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (“**NJDEP**”); and

WHEREAS, the required approval for the Edison Township sanitary sewer extensions, and/or temporary discharges to the Edison Township sanitary sewer system, will not be approved unless the applications bear the signature of the Edison Township Engineer, Carl P. O’Brien, P.E., to indicate his approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Municipal Council of the Township of Edison that the Edison Township Engineer, Carl P. O’Brien, P.E., be and is hereby authorized to sign the required applications for treatment works approval (“**TWA**”) for extensions to the Edison Township sanitary sewer system, and for applications for temporary discharge approval (“**TDA**”), as the case may be, for submission to the MCUA and/or the NJDEP.

RESOLUTION R.009-012020

EXPLANATION: This Resolution awards a Professional Services Contract to James P. Nolan & Associates and designates the firm to represent the Township of Edison as Tax Appeal Counsel, and, if the need should arise, Special Counsel.

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council (“**Municipal Council**”) of the Township of Edison (“**Township**”) has determined that it is in its best interests and those of Township residents to engage qualified legal counsel, and the Township is authorized pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law, *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.* (“**Local Contracts Law**”) to contract for “professional services” as it may require; and

WHEREAS, James P. Nolan & Associates (“**Counsel**”) has an excellent reputation in the area of tax appeal law and has sufficient legal staff to handle tax appeal matters which may arise from time to time in the Township; and

WHEREAS, James P. Nolan, Jr., Esq., managing member of Counsel, has an excellent reputation in the area of tax appeals, has practiced law for many years, has knowledge of the Township and has available supporting attorney staff at and through Counsel; and

WHEREAS, for these reasons the Mayor and the Municipal Council recommend Counsel for the position of Township Tax Appeal Counsel, and, if the need should arise, Township Special Counsel for matters where a conflict arises or other matters as they may arise, and seek to enter a contract for legal services with Counsel for 2020 (“**Services Contract**,” as attached hereto as Exhibit A) to provide for same; and

WHEREAS, the Local Contracts Law, more specifically *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5*, allows for the awarding of a contract for “professional services” without public advertising for bids; and

WHEREAS, prior to the execution of the Services Contract, James P. Nolan, Jr., Esq. will have completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification, which certifies that no individual with a ten percent (10.0%) interest or larger in Counsel has made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Municipal Council in the previous year, and that the Services Contract will prohibit an individual with a ten percent (10.0%) interest or larger in Counsel from making any reportable contributions through the term of the Services Contract, pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Services Contract is not awarded through a “fair and open process” pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the legal services under the Services Contract may include, but are not limited to, representation as to tax appeals and special litigation matters, subject to the discretion and direction of the Township Attorney; and

WHEREAS, compensation for employment law services included under the Services Contract shall be rendered at the hourly rate of \$140.00 per hour, payable monthly, as set forth in the Services Contract; and

WHEREAS, the Local Contracts Law requires that contracts awarded without competitive bid be authorized by resolution of the municipal governing body and that notice of the award of such contract be publicly advertised.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council of the Township of Edison, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute the Services Contract with Counsel for its representation of the Township as Township Tax Appeal Counsel, and, if the need should arise, Township Special Counsel.
2. The Services Contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a "professional service" under the provisions of the Local Contracts Law, more specifically *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5*, because the services in question are of a specialized, technical and professional nature.
3. A certificate showing the availability of funds for the Services Contract authorized hereby has been provided by the Acting Chief Financial Officer of the Township and is made a part hereof indicating that the appropriation for the within expenditure is charged to the applicable accounts and is contingent upon the adoption of a temporary and/or permanent budget for the 2020 calendar year.
4. No payments in excess of the "not-to-exceed" amount of \$190,000.00 will be approved, unless such services/expenditures are negotiated and agreed upon in advance of service delivery.
5. Any modification to the Services Contract shall be in writing and signed by both parties, and upon obtaining said signatures shall immediately become a part of the contract.
6. The Mayor of the Township may, upon ten (10) days written notice, and without cause, terminate the Services Contract.
7. The Services Contract shall, for all purposes, be deemed a New Jersey contract and the provisions of the Services Contract shall be governed and interpreted according to the laws of the State of New Jersey.
8. Counsel shall report directly to the Township Attorney, who will be the chief contact at the Township.
9. Counsel shall notify the Township Attorney when eighty percent (80%) of the "not-to-exceed" amount is attained.
10. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

RESOLUTION R.010-012020

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT TO HODULIK AND MORRISON, P.A., A DIVISION OF PKF O'CONNOR DAVIES FOR INDEPENDENT AUDITOR SERVICES TO THE TOWNSHIP FOR THE AUDIT OF FISCAL YEAR 2019 AND ADDITIONAL SERVICES AS NEEDED IN 2020

WHEREAS, the Township is in need of auditing services as well as additional accounting/finance services; and

WHEREAS, the Township recommends Hodulik and Morrison, P.A., a Division of PKF O'Connor Davies, 20 Commerce Drive, Cranford, NJ 07016 for the position of Township Auditor; and

WHEREAS; Hodulik and Morrison, P.A, a Division of PKF O'Connor Davies, has submitted a proposal to provide such services at the amount of \$114,800.00 for the fiscal 2019 audit, as well as an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00 for additional services needed in 2020; and

WHEREAS, Hodulik and Morrison, P.A a Division of PKF O'Connor Davies, hourly rates are \$150.00 per hour for Partner, \$145.00 per hour for Manager, \$120.00 per hour for Senior Associate and \$110.00 per hour for Associate; and

WHEREAS, such services are professional services which, pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5*, may be awarded without competitive bidding; and

WHEREAS, this Contract is not awarded through a "fair and open process" pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, before entering into a contract, Hodulik and Morrison, P.A., a Division of PKF O'Connor Davies will have completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that they have not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Edison in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit Hodulik and Morrison, P.A., a Division of PKF O'Connor Davies from making any reportable contributions through the term of this one year contract; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to *N.J.A.C. 5:30-11.10* funds for Open-End Contracts shall be committed at the time an order is placed and shall not exceed the unit price; and

WHEREAS, no amount shall be chargeable or certified until such time as goods or services are ordered or otherwise called for. Prior to incurring the liability by placing the order, the certification of available funds shall be made by the Chief Financial Officer or Certifying Financial Officer. It shall be the responsibility of the official responsible for issuing the purchase order to notify and seek the certification of availability of funds of the Chief Financial Officer or Certifying Finance Officer, as appropriate (N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.5(b)); and

WHEREAS, the Township Council accepts Edison Township's recommendations as described herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Edison, as follows:

1. The Township is hereby authorized to execute contracts and any other necessary documents, with Hodulik and Morrison, P.A., a Division of PKF O'Connor Davies, 20 Commerce Drive, Cranford, NJ 07016, in the total amount not to exceed \$164,800.00 (\$114,800.00 for the fiscal year 2019 audit, and not to exceed \$50,000.00 for additional services as needed in 2020), as set forth above.
2. This contract is awarded pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 and 19:44A-20.5 et. seq, and without competitive bidding.
3. The Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value shall be placed on file with this resolution.
4. The Township Clerk shall advertise notice of this action in a legal newspaper pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq. and in compliance with the Local Public Contracts Law guidelines.

RESOLUTION R.011-012020

EXPLANATION: This Resolution awards a Professional Services Contract to Cleary, Giacobbe, Alfieri, Jacobs LLC and designates the firm to represent the Township of Edison as Special Labor Counsel.

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council ("**Municipal Council**") of the Township of Edison ("**Township**") has determined that it is in its best interests and those of Township residents to engage qualified legal counsel, and the Township is authorized pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law, *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.* ("**Local Contracts Law**") to contract for "professional services" as it may require; and

WHEREAS, Cleary, Giacobbe, Alfieri, Jacobs LLC ("**Counsel**") has an excellent reputation in the area of labor law and has sufficient legal staff to handle such matters which may arise from time to time in the Township; and

WHEREAS, Matthew J. Giacobbe, Esq., of the firm has an excellent reputation in the area of labor law, has practiced law for many years, has knowledge of the Township and has available supporting attorney staff at and through Counsel; and

WHEREAS, for these reasons the Mayor and the Municipal Council recommend Counsel for the position of Special Labor Counsel and seek to enter a contract for legal services with Counsel for 2020 ("**Services Contract**," a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A) to provide for the representation of the Township with respect to collective bargaining negotiations; and

WHEREAS, the Local Contracts Law, more specifically *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5*, allows for the awarding of a contract for "professional services" without public advertising for bids; and

WHEREAS, prior to the execution of the Services Contract, Matthew J. Giacobbe, Esq. will have completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification, which certifies that no individual with a ten percent (10.0%) interest or larger in Counsel has made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee of the Municipal Council in the previous year, and that the Services Contract will prohibit an individual with a ten percent (10.0%) interest or larger in Counsel from making any reportable contributions through the term of the Services Contract, pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Services Contract is not awarded through a "fair and open process" pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the legal services under the Services Contract may include, but are not limited to, representation as to collective bargaining negotiations, subject to the discretion and direction of the Township Attorney; and

WHEREAS, compensation for special labor counsel services included under the Services Contract shall be rendered at the hourly rate of \$165.00 per hour for attorneys, payable monthly, and as further set forth in the Services Contract; and

WHEREAS, the Local Contracts Law requires that contracts awarded without competitive bid be authorized by resolution of the municipal governing body and that notice of the award of such contract be publicly advertised.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council of the Township of Edison, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The aforementioned recitals are incorporated herein as though fully set forth at length.
2. The Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute the Services Contract with Counsel for its representation of the Township as Special Labor Counsel.
3. The Services Contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a “professional service” under the provisions of the Local Contracts Law, more specifically *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5*, because the services in question are of a specialized, technical and professional nature.
4. A certificate showing the availability of funds for the Services Contract authorized hereby has been provided by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township and is made a part hereof indicating that the appropriation for the within expenditure is charged to the applicable accounts and is contingent upon the adoption of a temporary and/or permanent budget for the 2020 calendar year.
5. No payments in excess of the “not-to-exceed” amount of \$75,000.00 will be approved, unless such services/expenditures are negotiated and agreed upon in advance of service delivery.
6. Any modification to the Services Contract shall be in writing and signed by both parties, and upon obtaining said signatures shall immediately become a part of the contract.
7. The Mayor of the Township may, upon ten (10) days written notice, and without cause, terminate the Services Contract.
8. In accordance with *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5* of the Local Contracts Law, the Municipal Council hereby directs the Township Clerk to publish once in the official newspaper of the Township a brief notice, stating the nature, duration, service and amount of the Services Contract authorized for execution herein, which notice shall state that a copy of this Resolution and the Services Contract are on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Township Clerk.
9. The Services Contract shall, for all purposes, be deemed a New Jersey contract and the provisions of the Services Contract shall be governed and interpreted according to the laws of the State of New Jersey.
10. Counsel shall report directly to the Township Attorney, who will be the chief contact at the Township.
11. Counsel shall notify the Township Attorney when eighty percent (80%) of the “not-to-exceed” amount is attained.
12. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

AYES - Councilmembers Brescher, Coyle, Diehl, Gomez, Joshi, Patil and Council President Ship-Freeman

NAYS - None

Councilmember Brescher asked to pull Resolution R.004-012020 for separate vote.

Councilmember Joshi asked to pull Resolution R.012-012020 for separate vote.

The following Resolutions will be voted upon separately:

RESOLUTION R.004-012020

EXPLANATION: This Resolution awards a Professional Services Contract to McManimon, Scotland & Baumann, LLC and appoints William W. Northgrave, Esq. of the firm to represent the Township of Edison as Township Attorney.

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council (“**Municipal Council**”) of the Township of Edison (“**Township**”) has determined that it is in its best interests and those of Township residents to engage qualified legal counsel, and the Township is authorized pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law, *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.* (“**Local Contracts Law**”) to contract for “professional services” as it may require; and

WHEREAS, McManimon, Scotland & Baumann, LLC (“**Counsel**”) has an excellent reputation in the area of municipal government, including, but not limited to, the areas of public finance, redevelopment, environmental law, and more particularly local unit general counsel services, and has extensive legal staff and resources and the multi-disciplinary practice necessary to handle any matter in the municipal arena and any other unanticipated legal issue which may arise from time to time in the Township; and

WHEREAS, William W. Northgrave, Esq., a partner at Counsel, has an excellent reputation in the area of municipal government, has practiced law for many years, has knowledge of the Township and has available supporting attorney staff at and through Counsel; and

WHEREAS, for these reasons the Mayor and the Municipal Council recommend William W. Northgrave, Esq. for the position of Township Attorney and seek to enter a contract for legal services with Counsel for 2020 (“**Services Contract**,” as attached hereto as Exhibit A) to provide for same; and

WHEREAS, the Local Contracts Law, more specifically *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5*, allows for the awarding of a contract for “professional services” without public advertising for bids; and

WHEREAS, prior to the execution of the Services Contract, William W. Northgrave, Esq. will have completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification, which certifies that no individual with a ten percent (10.0%) interest or larger in Counsel has made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Municipal Council in the previous year, and that the Services Contract will prohibit an individual with a ten percent (10.0%) interest or larger in Counsel from making any reportable contributions through the term of the Services Contract, pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Services Contract is not awarded through a “fair and open process” pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, compensation for local unit general counsel services included under the Services Contract shall be rendered at the flat rate of \$310,000.00, payable in twelve (12) monthly installments at the first Municipal Council meeting of each month, and shall include advising the Municipal Council; preparing routine resolutions and ordinances; rendering opinions; attending Municipal Council meetings and other matters as defined and delineated by Sections 2-71.2 thru 2.71.7 of the Township Code and the Services Contract; and

WHEREAS, compensation for the professional services outside of the scope of local unit general services, including, but not limited to, matters relating to the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, *N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et seq.*; litigation; and bond and note financing, shall be billed at the blended hourly rate of \$190.00 for attorneys, or other rates as provided in the Services Contract; and

WHEREAS, the Local Contracts Law requires that contracts awarded without competitive bid be authorized by resolution of the municipal governing body and that notice of the award of such contract be publicly advertised.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council of the Township of Edison, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute the Services Contract with Counsel, whereby William W. Northgrave, Esq. shall represent the Township as Township Attorney.
2. The Services Contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a “professional service” under the provisions of the Local Contracts Law, more specifically *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5*, because the services in question are of a specialized, technical and professional nature.
3. A certificate showing the availability of funds for the Services Contract authorized hereby has been provided by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township and is made a part hereof indicating that the appropriation for the within expenditure is charged to the applicable accounts and is contingent upon the adoption of a temporary and/or permanent budget for the 2020 calendar year.

4. No payments in excess of the “not-to-exceed” amount of \$310,000.00 will be approved, unless such services/expenditures are negotiated and agreed upon in advance of service delivery.
5. Any modification to the Services Contract shall be in writing and signed by both parties, and upon obtaining said signatures shall immediately become a part of the contract.
6. The Mayor of the Township may, upon ten (10) days written notice, and without cause, terminate the Services Contract.
7. The Services Contract shall, for all purposes, be deemed a New Jersey contract and any provisions of the Services Contract shall be governed and interpreted according to the laws of the State of New Jersey.
8. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A motion was made by Councilmember Brescher to Table – no second – motion died.

A motion was made by Councilmember Diehl seconded by Councilmember Gomez to adopt this Resolution.

AYES - Councilmembers Coyle, Diehl, Gomez, Joshi, Patil, and Council President Ship-Freeman

NAYS – Councilmember Brescher

RESOLUTION R.012-012020

EXPLANATION: This Resolution awards a Professional Services Contract to McCusker, Anselmi, Rosen & Carvelli, P.C. and designates the firm to represent the Township of Edison as counsel to the Municipal Council.

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council (“**Municipal Council**”) of the Township of Edison (“**Township**”) has determined that it is in its best interests and those of Township residents to engage qualified legal counsel, and the Township is authorized pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law, *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.* (“**Local Contracts Law**”) to contract for “professional services” as it may require; and

WHEREAS, McCusker, Anselmi, Rosen & Carvelli, P.C. (“**Counsel**”) has an excellent reputation in the area of municipal government and has sufficient legal staff to handle such matters which may arise from time to time in the Township; and

WHEREAS, John L. Shahdanian II, Esq., of the firm has an excellent reputation in the area of municipal government, has practiced law for many years, has knowledge of the Township and has available supporting attorney staff at and through Counsel; and

WHEREAS, for these reasons the Mayor and the Municipal Council recommend Counsel for the position of Counsel to the Municipal Council and seek to enter a contract for legal services with Counsel for 2020 (“**Services Contract**,” a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A) to provide for the representation of the Township with respect to collective bargaining negotiations; and

WHEREAS, the Local Contracts Law, more specifically *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5*, allows for the awarding of a contract for “professional services” without public advertising for bids; and

WHEREAS, prior to the execution of the Services Contract, John L. Shahdanian, Esq. will have completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification, which certifies that no individual with a ten percent (10.0%) interest or larger in Counsel has made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee of the Municipal Council in the previous year, and that the Services Contract will prohibit an individual with a ten percent (10.0%) interest or larger in Counsel from making any reportable contributions through the term of the Services Contract, pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Services Contract is not awarded through a “fair and open process” pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the legal services under the Services Contract may include, but are not limited to, attendance at all Municipal Council meetings and any additional legal services as directed by the Municipal Council or the Township Attorney; and

WHEREAS, compensation for services included under the Services Contract shall be flat fee of Forty Five Thousand Dollars (\$45,000.00) for attendance at all Council meetings, and such additional legal

services as requested to not exceed a combined One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00), rendered at the blended hourly rate of \$185.00 per hour for attorneys, payable monthly, and as further set forth in the Services Contract; and

WHEREAS, the Local Contracts Law requires that contracts awarded without competitive bid be authorized by resolution of the municipal governing body and that notice of the award of such contract be publicly advertised.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council of the Township of Edison, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The aforementioned recitals are incorporated herein as though fully set forth at length.
2. The Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute the Services Contract with Counsel for its representation of the Township as Counsel to the Municipal Council.
3. The Services Contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a “professional service” under the provisions of the Local Contracts Law, more specifically *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5*, because the services in question are of a specialized, technical and professional nature.
4. A certificate showing the availability of funds for the Services Contract authorized hereby has been provided by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township and is made a part hereof indicating that the appropriation for the within expenditure is charged to the applicable accounts and is contingent upon the adoption of a temporary and/or permanent budget for the 2020 calendar year.
5. No payments in excess of the “not-to-exceed” amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) will be approved, unless such services/expenditures are negotiated and agreed upon in advance of service delivery.
6. Any modification to the Services Contract shall be in writing and signed by both parties, and upon obtaining said signatures shall immediately become a part of the contract.
7. The Mayor of the Township may, upon ten (10) days written notice, and without cause, terminate the Services Contract.
8. In accordance with *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5* of the Local Contracts Law, the Municipal Council hereby directs the Township Clerk to publish once in the official newspaper of the Township a brief notice, stating the nature, duration, service and amount of the Services Contract authorized for execution herein, which notice shall state that a copy of this Resolution and the Services Contract are on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Township Clerk.
9. The Services Contract shall, for all purposes, be deemed a New Jersey contract and the provisions of the Services Contract shall be governed and interpreted according to the laws of the State of New Jersey.
10. Counsel shall report directly to the Township Attorney, who will be the chief contact at the Township.
11. Counsel shall notify the Township Attorney when eighty percent (80%) of the “not-to-exceed” amount is attained.
12. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A motion was made by Councilmember Joshi seconded by Councilmember Diehl to Table this Resolution.

AYES - Councilmembers Diehl, Gomez, Joshi, and Council President Ship-Freeman

NAYS – Councilmember Brescher, Coyle and Patil.

Council President Ship-Freeman opened the meeting for comments from the public.

Gloria Ditman, Midland Avenue, she thanked Mr. Lombardi and Mr. Sendelsky for all their time they served on the council and support to the Edison Art Society. They did a good job. The Edison Art Society serves the community only from donations, not tax payer’s dollars. Good Luck to everyone and please remember The Edison Art Society.

Bimal Joshi, 11 Mytle, he Congratulated all council candidates. Congrats to our first African American President and Sam Joshi as the youngest member.

Hearing no further comments, this public hearing was closed, on a motion made by Councilmember Diehl seconded by Councilmember Patil, with all in favor.

6. REPORTS FROM ALL COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

None

**7. ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA;
FROM MAYOR THOMAS LANKEY;**

Councilmember Brescher talked about resume's he didn't see the resume for the Library Board Member. He would like to make sure candidates are qualified and feels the council should interview candidates for Boards.

Council Vice President Joshi added he has seen the resume.

Councilmember Brescher since the board is in such disarray he feels we should interview them.

Councilmember Coyle agrees moving forward when being asked to support appointments the administration should provide resumes.

Ms. Ruane said she will have clerks pull all resumes

8. FROM THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR:

a. through d. No comments were made

e. Councilmember Brescher asked if the administration could re bid out to possibly do a little better.

9. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE:

a. through e. No comments were made

10. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH:

a. and b. No comments were made

11. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW:

a. Council President Ship-Freeman announced we will be removing this from the agenda for further review.

b. No comments were made.

12. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:

a. Councilmember Coyle asked for explanation of this contract.

Ms. Ruane explained we drop off our recycling, this is based on last year Tonage Report.

13. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND SEWER

a. No comments were made.

b. Councilmember Coyle, asked if Mott Macdonald is our only Engineer. What are they doing?

Councilmember Brescher, questioned what plans do have for the \$150,000 for the sewers.

Ms. Ruane will get information tomorrow.

14. FROM THE CHIEF OF FIRE:

a. No comments were made.

15. FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE:

a. No comments were made.

16. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**Council President Ship-Freeman:**

- a. This is the 100 year Anniversary of Woman Suffrage/Voting. She thanked everyone for their support, we are all one team we are the Democratic Team for all constituents.

Councilmember Brescher:

- a. Good evening. Being this is my first year I would like to say tonight, we stand at the forefront of a new Edison. We begin this year with great promise and I, along with all my colleagues on this council stand ready to address the significant issues that plague this town.

I want to thank the residents of Edison for placing their confidence in me and I assure all of our residents, whether you voted for me or not, that I will work tirelessly on your behalf.

The time for speeches is over. It's time to get to work. We have several challenges we need to overcome.

On Infrastructure, this council must allocate the funds necessary to improve our roads, sewers, and buildings. And stop the deterioration of our crumbling building and infrastructure and we must make sure that there is proper oversight and accountability in this process.

On Public safety, we must revisit our current hiring and promotional practices, for our police department so we ensure that we are hiring the best and most qualified individuals while simultaneously holding people accountable for poor performance. We will work to tweak our own laws on how our military are treated so when they are deployed in these scary times their families are fully protected, as they work to protect us and our freedoms we must protect their families while they are away

Tonight, I am also calling for a performance audit to evaluate each of our departments. We need to cut any abuse, and waste, we need to hold our vendors accountable, and mandate that the administration provide a comprehensive facility's plan, conducted by an independent third party, so we know that our departments are being run efficiently and are being funded correctly.

Perhaps no issue is more important than enacting property tax fairness. Our residents are overburdened and many are being priced out of town. Meanwhile, special interest groups are not paying their fair share, leaving residents to carry the burden. Annual increases of our residential property taxes to fill budget gaps is not the answer.

Tonight, I am calling for a committee of the council to assess the issue and propose a comprehensive property tax reform package. As part of this review, we must assess whether large corporations including our hospitals, hotels and warehouses are paying their fair share of taxes. Also as part of this review, we must pass legislation that will significantly increase the fines for non-residents who fraudulently utilize our schools and other services. , as part of this review, we must also review the approval process utilized by our zoning and planning boards and review of our master plan. Finally, we need to look at our outsourced vendors such as our ambulance service, some services should be township run and public safety should be done by the town not a vendor

I ask the public to come to our meetings and hold this body, all of us, accountable of implementing solutions on these four key areas - Infrastructure, public safety, efficiency, and property tax fairness. In the coming weeks I will introduce legislation on each of these issues. I promise to update the public on a monthly basis so we can gauge our performance.

Councilmember Coyle:

- a. He congratulated Joyce Ship- Freeman being the first African American on the Council. I think it a true credit our party has changed. Moving forward we are very fortunate to have a Freeholder and Assemblyman from Edison we should take advantage of this opportunity in this town. Happy to see you here look forward to working with you to get things done. We need to improve Public Safety. He Thanked the Edison Residents for his second term on this council. He will walk every street in Edison to make sure the quality of life is better. He plans to continue his work beautifying Edison.

Councilmember Diehl:

- a. He said hello to everyone it's so nice to see a room full of friends and family. He congratulated all on their election. Council President and Council Vice President I enjoyed your remarks about diversity, it one thing to talk and another to put into action. We can all work together with unique minds, we are all one team, its Team Edison.

Councilmember Gomez:

- a. He congratulated all council colleagues. To Council President and Vice President I am here to help you in any way I can. It's all about moving Edison forward and in the right direction for 2020.

Councilmember Joshi:

- a. Looking forward to another year ahead

Councilmember Patil:

- a. This is a Historical moment Congratulations to Joyce being the first African American on the council and to our youngest member Sam. He thanked Congressman Frank Pallone and all the residents for their support. He will do his best to moving this township forward.

There being no further business, on a motion made by Councilmember Diehl seconded by Councilmember Gomez, the meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Joyce Ship-Freeman
Council President

Cheryl Russomanno, RMC
Municipal Clerk