

Township of West Milford

Passaic County, New Jersey

~ Resolution 2015 – 143 ~

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD, COUNTY OF PASSAIC AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 2807 ENTITLED “AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONSOLIDATION OF NEWARK WATERSHED CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, NORTH JERSEY DISTRICT WATER SUPPLY COMMISSION AND THE PASSAIC VALLEY WATER COMMISSION”

WHEREAS, Senator O’Toole, by way of Senate Bill 2807, has introduced legislation to establish a Committee to develop a consolidation plan for the Newark Watershed Conservation and Development Corporation, North Jersey District Water Supply Commission and the Passaic Valley Water Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Committee will consist of seven (7) members which specifically includes the Executive Directors of the respective Commissions, as well as other trustees appointed by the Governor; and

WHEREAS, the legislation asks for a plan concerning the consolidation of these entities with a recommendation as to how the entities can achieve savings to the Governor and the Legislature as a result of this investigation; and

WHEREAS, the Township of West Milford, consisting of over 80 squares miles of land of which more than half are critical reservoirs and watershed owned by the Newark Watershed Conservation and Development Corporation and serves hundreds of thousands of New Jersey residents as water consumers throughout the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Township of West Milford is required to serve as the stewards of such lands and forgo ratables, development and the ability to utilize and attain appropriate and equitable tax contributions to the residents of the Township of West Milford; and

WHEREAS, the Township of West Milford certainly is in favor of the consolidation of these entities; and

WHEREAS, the Township, based on its unique and critical contribution to the Newark Watershed Conservation and Development Corporation and the consumers of water throughout the State of New Jersey, hereby seeks certain amendments to this legislation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Township Council of the Township of West Milford, in the County of Passaic and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. That Senate Bill 2807 be amended to include a provision that the Township of West Milford shall be provided one of the seven appointed seats on the Committee as the result of being the land steward for such a significant amount of watershed and reservoir lands served by the Newark Watershed Conservation and Development Corporation.
2. That these entities, when consolidated, shall provide more equity in payments to municipalities who serve as stewards of these lands for the Newark Watershed Conservation and Development Corporation, North Jersey District Water Supply Commission and the Passaic Valley Water Commission. Specifically, these host communities should receive equity or consideration for the land stewardship, preservation, conservation and subsidizing that the residents of these host communities

maintain. Accordingly, the Committee shall make a recommendation in its report as to how to better serve these host communities that support and assist in generating revenue for all of the aforementioned entities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be submitted to Senator O'Toole, and all legislative representatives of the Township of West Milford.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township urges that other significant host communities be provided with an opportunity as well to serve as a Member of the Committee.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Adopted: April 22, 2015

Adopted this 22nd day of April 2015
and certified as a true copy of an original.

Antoinette Battaglia, Township Clerk