

Township of West Milford

Passaic County, New Jersey

~ Resolution 2015 – 306 ~

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD, COUNTY OF PASSAIC, STATE OF NEW JERSEY APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THE AMENDMENT TO THE MUNICIPAL SHARED SERVICES DEFENSE AGREEMENT (MSSDA)

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of the Township of West Milford entered into the Municipal Shared Services Defense Agreement (“MSSDA”) for the purpose as set forth therein, which included retaining a common expert in the Declaratory Judgment action (“Litigation”) that was filed in accordance with In the Matter of the Adoption of N.J.A.C. 5:96 and 5:97 by the New Jersey Council on Affordable Housing, 221 N.J. 1 (2015) (“Decision”); and

WHEREAS, the MSSDA identified Dr. Robert Burchell, a distinguished professor at Rutgers University, as the expert to be retained; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Burchell became ill and has been unable to complete the obligations under the Research Agreement as set forth in the MSSDA; and

WHEREAS, as a result, Rutgers University has exercised its right to terminate the Research Agreement as permitted under its terms; and

WHEREAS, the MSSDA requires modification to allow the members to retain one or more alternative experts, consultants and/or other professionals for the Litigation; and

WHEREAS, an Amendment to the MSSDA (“Amendment”) has been prepared to effectuate the modification; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of West Milford recognizes that the Litigation requires immediate action and may require further expedited actions by its counsel determined to be necessary and appropriate; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of West Milford has determined that it is in the best interests of the citizens of the Township to approve the Amendment, and/or to affirm and ratify the Amendment, and to authorize their designated counsel to take actions on behalf of the municipality with regard to the multiplicity of issues raised and associated with the continued implementation of the MSSDA;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of West Milford, as follows:

1. The terms and conditions of the Amendment to MSSDA on file in the Clerks Office are hereby approved, and/or ratified and confirmed.
2. The Mayor and Township Clerk, be and are hereby authorized to execute the aforesaid Amendment.
3. The Township Council of the Township of West Milford hereby authorizes Jeffrey R. Surenian, Esq., to execute an agreement on behalf of Township of West Milford with Econsult Solutions, Inc.

The Township Council of the Township of West Milford hereby authorizes Jeffrey R. Surenian, Esq., to execute on behalf of the Township with the approval of the Township’s designated counsel such other agreement(s) as are advisable to effectuate the purposes of the MSSDA as amended.

4. The Township Council of the Township of West Milford further authorizes its designated counsel to approve such other changes to the MSSDA as may be necessary to effectuate its purposes, and to take action on behalf of the municipality with regard to the multiplicity of issues raised and associated with the implementation of the MSSDA provided that the action will not require the municipality to appropriate and commit any additional funding for the MSSDA.

In the event such changes and actions require the municipality to appropriate and commit any additional funding for the MSSDA, Township of West Milford shall only be responsible for such funding if it authorizes same.

5. If additional monies are needed to effectuate the intent and purpose of the MSSDA, no such services shall be authorized by designated counsel without further action from the Township.
6. A copy of the Municipal Shared Services Agreement and Amendment to same shall remain on file in the Township Clerk's office and available for public inspection.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Adopted: September 16, 2015

Adopted this 16th day of September, 2015
and certified as a true copy of an original.

Antoinette Battaglia, Township Clerk