

Township of West Milford
Passaic County, New Jersey

~ Resolution 2011 – 272 ~

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD, COUNTY OF PASSAIC, STATE OF NEW JERSEY REQUESTING ASSISTANCE FOR THE WEST MILFORD MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY TO ADDRESS THE PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERN IDENTIFIED BY THE NJDEP IN CONNECTION WITH THE MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey Department of Environmental protection has made notification to the Township of West Milford and the West Milford Municipalities Utilities Authority (MUA) relative to deficiencies in the MUA system; and

WHEREAS, The MUA is an antiquated system that requires significant financial investment to improve the operation of the authority for the good of its users; and

WHEREAS, on June 1, 2011, the West Milford Commissioners of the MUA along with their contracted professionals, appeared before the Township Council to offer a comprehensive report on the MUA's history, current accomplishments and future direction and goals; and

WHEREAS, during said meeting those officials affiliated with the MUA conveyed to the Council the technical problems that plague the MUA, the expense associated with addressing those problems and its difficulty to currently fund and update the Township's numerous facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners of the MUA expressed to the Governing Body that borrowing the funds necessary to address the MUA's longstanding problems would put an undue financial burden on the MUA users; and

WHEREAS, the West Milford Township Council recognizes that millions of people in New Jersey depend on clean drinking water that emanates from the streams and reservoirs in West Milford; and

WHEREAS, the MUA's malfunctioning facilities may jeopardize the surrounding water bodies and streams that are the source and origin of New Jersey's water supply; and

WHEREAS, The Council of West Milford would respectfully request a united Governing Body to invite a delegation of State Legislators, the West Milford MUA committee and officials from the NJDEP to meet for the purpose in obtaining funding from state and federal agencies to address the MUA's infrastructure problems; and

WHEREAS, the West Milford Council would also request the assistance of State Legislators and the NJDEP in pursuing options for the sustainability of the West Milford MUA; and

WHEREAS, The West Milford Council would encourage and request the support of: The Greenwood Lake Bi-State Commission, The Pequannock River Coalition, The Highlands Coalition, and The Highland's Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Township Council of the Township of West Milford in its goal to define a solution of MUA facilities and to take a direction that has merit and benefit for all West Milford residents, both MUA users and non-users, with an end result that protects the drinking waters of New Jersey residents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to the West Milford Municipal Utilities Authority, the Greenwood Lake Bi-State Commission, the Pequannock River Coalition, the Highlands Coalition, the Highland's Council, US Congressman Scott Garrett; US Senator Robert Menendez; US Senator Frank Lautenberg; NJ Senator Joseph Pennacchio; NJ Assemblymen Alex DeCroce and Jay Webber.

Adopted: August 3, 2011

Adopted this 3rd day of August, 2011
and certified as a true copy of an original.

Antoinette Battaglia, Township Clerk