

## **INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE**

**Workshop Meeting held at the Municipal Building, Great Meadows, NJ,  
June 7, 2017 7:00 PM**

This is a Workshop meeting of the Township Committee of Independence Township, Warren County, New Jersey. This meeting was called to order by Mayor Robert Giordano at 7:00 pm with the following announcement: "Adequate notice of this meeting was given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by providing a schedule of regular meetings to the Star Gazette and The Express Times, posting a copy thereof on the Township bulletin board and filing a copy thereof in the office of the Municipal Clerk." The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was led by Mayor Giordano.

### **ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Mayor Robert Giordano, Carmen Feula, Deputy Mayor Cogle, Mike Pennington and Deborah Hrebenak.

**Absent:** Bonnie Kelsey

### **Proclamation Eagle Scout Award**

Proclamation for Eagle Scout Awards to Austin Stern and Patrick Williams. Austin Stern completed a butterfly garden at Stephens State Park and Patrick Williams completed an outdoor patio at the Northeast Branch of the Warren County Library.

### **Consent Agenda:**

**Oath of Office given to Joseph Bozzone, Rafael Ortiz, Michael Meistrell**

### **Resolution 17-44**

**Title or Subject: APPOINTMENTS/ PATROLMAN**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Independence the following appointment is hereby made:

*Joseph Bozzone*-Police Officer Recruit Step, at a rate of \$ 30,000.00 while attending the police academy effective July 17, 2017. After successful completion of the academy, the next step is Probationary \$ 42,448.32 for one (1) year from the date of graduation.

### **Resolution 17-45**

**Title or Subject: APPOINTMENTS/ PATROLMAN**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Independence the following appointment is hereby made:

*Rafael Ortiz*-Police Officer Recruit Step, at a rate of \$ 30,000.00 while attending the police academy effective July 17, 2017. After successful completion of the academy, the next step is Probationary \$ 42,448.32 for one (1) year from the date of graduation.

### **Resolution 17-46**

**Title or Subject: APPOINTMENTS/ PATROLMAN**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Independence the following appointment is hereby made:

*Michael Meistrell*-Police Officer Recruit Step, at a rate of \$ 30,000.00 while attending the police academy effective July 17, 2017. After successful completion of the academy, the next step is Probationary \$ 42,448.32 for one (1) year from the date of graduation.

**Resolution 17-47**

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF CONTRACT  
AMENDMENT TO THE 2016, 2017 and 2018 CONTRACT BETWEEN  
TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE AND THE WARREN COUNTY PBA LOCAL  
NO. 280**

**WHEREAS** negotiations were entered into between the Township of Independence, in the County of Warren, and Warren County PBA Local No. 280 to amend the 2016-2018 Contract; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of these negotiations, an agreement was reached regarding these matters;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY that:**

1. The Police Contract for the years 2016-2018 is hereby amended with a copy of which is annexed hereto, and is made a part thereof of the 2016-2018 Contract. The amendment is hereby accepted by the Township of Independence, and the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute same, and the execution of said amendment is hereby approved by the Township Committee
2. The amendment is approved by the Township subject to approval by Warren County PBA Local No. 280.
3. Copies of this resolution will be provided to the Warren County PBA Local No. 280, Township Administrator, Chief of Police, Chief Finance Officer, Personnel Officer and any other interested parties.
4. A certified copy of the amendment is to be forwarded to the Public Employment Relations Commission as per N.J.S.A. 34: 13A-8.2.

Carmen Feula Resolution 17-44, 17-46, and 17-47 as written. Deputy Mayor Cogle seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Cogle, Mr. Feula, Mr. Pennington and Mayor Giordano  
Nays: None recorded  
Abstain: None recorded

Motion carries with four (4) affirmative votes.

Deputy Mayor Cogle made a motion to approve Resolution 17-45 as written. Mr. Feula seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Cogle, Mr. Feula, Mr. Pennington and Mayor Giordano  
Nays: None recorded  
Abstain: None recorded

Motion carries with four (4) affirmative votes.

**Public Comment:** John Cummins – Recreation Director, The Independence Soccer Club wants the township to take over the soccer club.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Cogle to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 p.m. Mr. Feula seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Feula, Deputy Mayor Cogle, Mr. Pennington and Mayor Giordano

Nays: None recorded

Abstain: None recorded

Motion carries with four (4) affirmative votes.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah M. Hrebenak, RMC  
Clerk/Administrator