

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
Meeting held at the Municipal Building, Great Meadows, NJ.
March 26, 2019 7:00 p.m.

This is a special meeting of the Township Committee of Independence Township, Warren County, New Jersey. This meeting was called to order by Mayor Robert Giordano at 5:30 p.m. 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, Deputy Mayor Cogle, Bonnie Kelsey, Mike Pennington, Tim Norton and Debi Hrebenak. Also present were Attorney Leslie Parikh and Dennis Riley

Absent: None recorded

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 7:05 pm – 8:45 pm

The following Resolution was approved at 7:05 p.m. to enter Executive Session with a motion by Deputy Mayor Cogle, seconded by Mrs. Kelsey and followed by a unanimous roll call.

WHEREAS: N.J.S. 2:4-12, Open Public Meetings Act, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Independence, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, as follows:

The public shall be excluded from discussion of the hereinafter specified subject matters;

The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

Litigation, Attorney client privileged matters

It is anticipated at this time that the above matter will be made public upon completion of the matter discussed.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Cogle at 8:45 p.m. to exit the executive session, seconded by Mrs. Kelsey followed by a roll call of all ayes.

Mayor Giordano stated that the executive session was to discuss litigation and action may or will not will be taken at this time.

Introduction/First Reading

Ordinance 2019-02

**ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE CREATING THE
POSITION OF MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT HEAD FOR THE POLICE
DEPARTMENT**

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police for the Township of Independence's Police Department (the "Department") was placed on administrative leave and a temporary Acting Officer-in-Charge (the "AOIC") has been appointed; and

WHEREAS, the Township desires to create the position of Department Head for the Police Department in order to assist the temporary AOIC; and

WHEREAS, the position of Municipal Department Head is an unclassified New Jersey Civil Service Local Position; and

WHEREAS, it is the intention of the Mayor and Committee that such position shall be temporary and only filled as-needed and until such time as the position of Chief of Police can be actively filled and/or resumed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Independence, County of Warren, and State of New Jersey as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 63-1(B) entitled "Establishment; composition" is amended as follows (Additions indicated in boldface and italics *thus*; deletions indicated with strike-through ~~thus~~):

The Independence Township Police Department shall consist of certain civilian personnel to fill the positions of Secretary/Clerk/Dispatcher ***and Municipal Department Head***. The Township Committee shall appoint the appropriate numbers of the above-mentioned civilian personnel as is deemed necessary for the efficient operation of the Police Department.

SECTION 2. Section 63-9 entitled "Municipal Department Head of the Police Department" is hereby added as follows:

A. Duties and Powers. During a vacancy in the position of Chief of Police, a Municipal Department Head for the Police Department shall be appointed by the Mayor and Committee to fulfill the following duties:

1. Supervise the Police Chief or Acting Officer-in-Charge, who shall be directly responsible to the Department Head for the efficiency and routine day-to-day operations of the police and fire rank-and-file.

2. Promulgate policies, rules and regulations for the effective disposition of the police function and the discipline of the officers and personnel of the force.

3. Determine the powers, functions, duties and assignments of officers and personnel of the force.

4. Administer, supervise and direct the personnel and functions of the Department.

5. Administer and enforce the rules and regulations and special emergency directives for the disposition and discipline of its officers and personnel.

6. Periodically promulgate reports for the Mayor and Committee regarding the operation of the Department.

7. Perform such other duties as directed by the Mayor and Committee.

B. No Police Power. A person who is appointed as the Department Head hereunder does not acquire and is not conferred police powers by virtue of that designation or appointment or by virtue of the fact that the person had been a police or other law enforcement officer prior to the designation or appointment, and shall not exercise police powers or perform police duties including, but not limited to, the following:

1. operate a marked or unmarked police vehicle, conduct a motor vehicle stop, engage in patrol activities, or answer calls for service;

2. stop, detain, or arrest persons;
3. wear a law enforcement officer uniform of any type or class, display a badge of any type, or otherwise exhibit evidence of police authority;
4. obtain criminal history or motor vehicle record information or access criminal investigative reports;
5. direct internal affairs investigations or access records related to these investigations;
6. direct criminal investigations; or
8. carry a firearm while performing the duties of Department Head of the Police Department

SECTION 3. The Township Ordinance entitled “Salaries and Compensation” shall be amended to add the following position and salary range:

Public Safety	
Municipal Department Head	\$60,000 - \$80,000

SECTION 4. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent herewith are repealed as to such inconsistencies.

SECTION 5. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

SECTION 6. This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication according to law.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Cogle to introduce Ordinance 2019-02 for First Reading. Mrs. Kelsey seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Cogle, Mrs. Kelsey, Mr. Norton, Mr. Pennington, and Mayor Giordano

Nays: None recorded

Abstain: None recorded.

Motion carries with five (5) affirmative votes.

Second reading and public hearing will be on April 9, 2019

Introduction/First Reading

ORDINANCE 2019-03

TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE
COUNTY OF WARREN

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED SALARIES AND COMPENSATION

Be It Ordained by the Township Committee of the Township of Independence, the following salary ranges, being established for Township employees for the year 2019.

Administration	
Mayor	\$ 3,000 - 8,000
Deputy Mayor	\$ 2,000- 5,000
Township Committee Member	\$ 1,200 – 4,000
Municipal Clerk/Registrar	\$ 50,000 - 90,000
Administrator	\$ 8,000-15,000
Tax and Finance	
Chief Financial Officer	\$ 20,000 – 42,000

Tax Collector	\$ 20,000 – 40,000
Tax Assessor	\$ 20,000 – 40,000
Payroll Clerk	\$ 1,500 – 3,500
P/T Clerical	\$ 15.00-25.00/hr.
Municipal Court	
Judge	\$ 10,000 – 20,000
Prosecutor	\$ 6,000- 12,000
Court Administrator	\$ 10,000 – 25,000
Clerk	\$ 500- 1,000
Public Works	
Supervisor	\$ 29.00 - 35.00/hr
Truck Driver	\$ 15.00 – 30.00/hr.
Laborer	\$ 15.00 – 28.00/hr.
P/T Laborer	\$ 12.00-16.00/hr.
Building Janitor	\$ 12.00-16.00/hr.
Building – Zoning	
Construction Official/Fire Sub-Code Inspector/Building Sub-Code Official	\$ 20,000 – 25,000
P/T TACO	\$ 13.00-18.00/hr.
Fire Sub-Code Official	\$ 3,000-4,000
Electrical Inspector	\$ 5,500-7,000
Plumbing Inspector	\$ 6,000-8,000
Zoning Officer	\$ 7,000 –16,000
Land Use Board Administrator	\$ 7,500-10,000
Recreation	
Recreation Administrator/ Senior Coordinator	\$ 20.00-28.00/hr.
P/T Laborer	\$ 14-16.00/hr.
Recycling	
Recycling Coordinator	\$ 500-1,500
Public Safety	
Police Chief	\$ 85,000 –119,000
Municipal Department Head Police Director	\$ 60,000 –80,000
Clerk-Typist	\$ 25,000 – 50,000
Police Matron Call out	\$ 50.00-55.00
Matron Hrs. after call out	\$ 20.00-25.00
Emergency Management Coordinator	\$ 1,000 – 3,000
911 Coordinator	\$ 1,000 – 2,000
Police	
Lieutenant	\$ 98,100-102,068
Sergeant/1 st . Class	\$ 95,568-99,436
Patrolman	\$ 51,848-93,920
Probationary / Recruit	\$ 44,164-45,948

A motion was made by Mr. Norton to introduce Ordinance 2019-03 for First Reading. Mrs. Kelsey seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Cogle, Mrs. Kelsey, Mr. Norton, Mr. Pennington, and Mayor Giordano

Nays: None recorded

Abstain: None recorded.

Motion carries with five (5) affirmative votes.

Second reading and public hearing will be on April 9, 2019

Public Comment: none

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Mr. Pennington to adjourn the meeting at 8:47p.m. Mrs. Kelsey seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Cogle, Mr. Norton, Mrs. Kelsey, Mr. Pennington, and Mayor Giordano

Nays: None recorded

Abstain: None recorded

Motion carries with five (5) affirmative votes.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah M. Hrebenak, RMC/CMR
Municipal Clerk