

**TOWNSHIP OF LONG HILL  
ORDINANCE 531-24  
AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE POSITION OF DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY, NAMING THE  
PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR AS THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITY AND SUPPLEMENTING AND  
AMENDING CHAPTER 2 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED "ADMINISTRATION"**

**WHEREAS**, the Township retained the services of Municipal Resources, Inc. ("MRI") to develop a high-level overview of the Long Hill Township Police Department for the purposes of assessing risk management and potential organizational enhancements; and

**WHEREAS**, MRI issued its report in October 2022, and the Township Committee has implemented a number of the recommendations contained therein; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee thereafter saw the need for an experienced professional to review the study prepared by MRI and to develop an implementation plan; and

**WHEREAS**, retired Long Hill Chief of Police and current Harding Township Administrator Robert Falzarano was found to be a uniquely-qualified candidate to perform that function; and

**WHEREAS**, Long Hill Township thereafter entered into a shared services agreement with Harding Township to authorize Robert Falzarano to provide police assessment and consulting services for the Long Hill Township Police Department; and

**WHEREAS**, Robert Falzarano issues a comprehensive report dated November 21, 2023, in which he made a number of findings and recommendations; and

**WHEREAS**, after review Robert Falzarano's report and consulting with Mr. Falzarano, it was determined that the best way to implement the recommendations contained in the MRI and Falzarano reports was to hire a Public Safety Director with the requisite knowledge and experience to oversee the operations of the Police Department and to obtain new accreditation for the Long Hill Township Police Department;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, as follows:

**Section 1.** Article V entitled "Municipal Offices and Employees" is supplemented and amended by creating a new section 2-23 entitled "Public Safety Director" which reads as follows:

**§ 2-23 PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR**

- 1) There is hereby established the administrative position of Public Safety Director.
- 2) In its sole discretion, the Township Committee may appoint a Public Safety Director.

- 3) The Public Safety Director shall serve for a term established by the Township Committee at the time of appointment.
- 4) The person appointed to the position of Public Safety Director shall be qualified by training and experience for the duties of the position. The person shall not be appointed unless he or she meets the following minimum qualifications:
  - a) A bachelor's degree (master's degree preferred) from an accredited college or university in public safety administration, police science or a related field.
  - b) A minimum of 10 years' experience as a member of a police department or other law enforcement agency, five years of which shall have been in a command level (captain, deputy chief or chief) and administrative capacity.
  - c) The Public Safety Director shall be designated as the "appropriate authority" in accordance with the provisions of *N.J.S.A 40A:14-118*. Under the general direction of the Township Administrator, the Public Safety Director shall have control over the Police Department in such manner as may be consistent with all applicable statutes, ordinances and regulations. The Public Safety Director shall be responsible for the administration, regulation and discipline of the Police Department. All officers of the Police Department shall perform their duties subject to the supervision and control of the Public Safety Director.
  - d) The duties of the Public Safety Director shall include but not be limited to the following:
    - i) Administer and enforce rules and regulations and special emergency directives for the disposition and discipline of the force and its officers and personnel.
    - ii) Prescribe the duties and assignments of all subordinates and other personnel, subject to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 40A:14-118*.
    - iii) Delegate authority as he or she may deem necessary for the efficient operation of the force to be exercised under his or her direction and supervision.
    - iv) Report at least monthly to the Administrator in such form as shall be prescribed by the Township Committee on the operation of the force during the preceding month, and make such other reports as may be requested by the Township Committee
    - v) Provide the Administrator and Township Committee with recommendations related to conditions of the Police Department and its improvements and needs.
    - vi) Obtain and maintain State and National accreditation of the Police Department.

- vii) Examine all applicants for positions on the police force and recommend candidates for appointment by the Township Committee
- viii) Prefer charges against and in his or her discretion, pending a final hearing on the charges, suspend any officer or member of the force and otherwise exercise control over all subordinates, subject to law,
- ix) Employ special police in emergencies and discharge them at the expiration of the emergency.
- x) Establish performance criteria for the Police Department as a whole as well as its individual members and conduct periodic evaluations to assure compliance with those criteria.
- x) Keep abreast of the public safety requirements of the Township and formulate policies, plans and procedures responsive to determined needs.
- xi) Develop organization, manpower and resource recommendations and upon approval of same by the Township Committee, effect their implementation.
- xii) Establish and maintain relations with school, civil and private organizations to assure a full understanding of the public safety effort.
- xiii) Conduct public relations and public information programs on behalf of the Police Department in order to maintain the required relationship between the Police Department and the citizens of the Township.
- xiv) Promote a close liaison with the various agencies of the Township, and to attend all meetings of the Township Committee, when necessary, to better coordinate the functioning of the Police Department with the work of all municipal agencies.
- xv) Regularly review the ordinances of the Township dealing with public safety to assure their propriety with the prevailing public safety needs of the Township.
- xvi) Annually prepare a budget request for the Police Department and administer same.
- xvii) Plan and implement an ongoing program of training and education, subject to the approval of the Township Committee for all members of the Police Department, so that they will be fully apprised of current developments in law enforcement.
- xviii) Otherwise function in an executive coordination capacity in evaluating, planning, organizing, and assisting the Police Department.

**Section 2.** Section 2-14.2 entitled "Designation of Appropriate Authority [for the Police Department]" is hereby amended to read as follows:

**§ 2-14 POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**§ 2-14.1 Establishment.**

A Police Department is hereby established in the Township, under the name of "Police Department of the Township of Long Hill, Morris County, New Jersey."

The following positions and line of authority are hereby created:

One Chief of Police

One Captain

Two Lieutenants

Eight ~~Nine~~ Sergeants

Sixteen Police Officers (plus additional officers equal to the vacancies in Superior Officer ranks set forth above).

The creation of these positions shall not require the Township Committee to fill each position and any position hereunder established may, in the sole discretion of the Township Committee, remain vacant.

**§ 2-14.2 Designation of Appropriate Authority.**

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:14-118, the Township Public Safety Director is hereby designated as the "appropriate authority."

**§ 2-14.3 Chief of Police; Powers and Duties.**

The Township may appoint a Chief of Police who shall have all of the powers set forth in N.J.S.A. 40A:14-118 and who shall be directly responsible to the Public Safety Director as the appropriate authority for the efficiency and routine day-to-day operations of the Police Department. The Chief of Police shall, pursuant to policies established by the Township Committee:

- a. Administer and enforce rules and regulations and special emergency directives for the disposition and discipline of the force and its officers and personnel.
- b. Have, exercise and discharge the functions, powers and duties of the force.
- c. Prescribe the duties and assignments of all subordinates and other personnel.
- d. Delegate authority as the Chief may deem necessary for the efficient operation of the force to be exercised under the Chief's direction and supervision.

- e. Report at least monthly to the Administrator in such form as shall be prescribed by the Township Committee on the operation of the force during the preceding month and make such other reports as may be requested by the Township Committee.

**§ 2-14.4 Appointment of Police Officers.**

- a. All members of the Long Hill Township Police Department shall be appointed by the Township Committee in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:14-118 et seq.
- b. Appointments to the Long Hill Township Police Department shall be made in accordance with the Police Department Rules and Regulations which have been approved by the Appropriate Authority in accordance with Subsection **2-14.5**.

**§ 2-14.5 Rules and Regulations.**


The Appropriate Authority in his or her sole judgment, may adopt and amend the Rules and Regulations for the government and discipline of the Police Department and members thereof. The Rules and Regulations may fix and provide for the enforcement of such Rules and Regulations and the enforcement of penalties for the violation of such Rules and Regulations, and all members of the Police Department shall be subject to such Rules and Regulations and penalties.

**Section 3.** Any and all other ordinances or parts thereof in conflict or inconsistent with any of the terms hereof are hereby repealed to such extent as they are so in conflict or inconsistent.

**Section 4.** In case any article, section or provision of this ordinance shall be held invalid in any court of competent jurisdiction, the same shall not affect any other article, section or provision of this ordinance except insofar as the article, section or provision so declared invalid shall be inseparable from the remainder or any portion thereof.

**Section 5.** This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication as required by law.

ATTEST

  
Megan Phillips, RMC

  
Guy Piserchia, Mayor

*First Reading and Introduction: January 24, 2024*

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