

**(AMENDED ON THE FLOOR – 08/12/2019)**  
**Amendments denoted by an asterisk (\*)**

Resolution #2019-229  
08-12-2019

TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE

RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOINT MEETING FOR FIRE  
SERVICES WITH THE TOWNSHIP OF MAPLEWOOD

WHEREAS, South Orange Village ("Village") and the Township of Maplewood ("Township") established a Joint Exploratory Committee to investigate possible shared efficiencies in the delivery of fire protection services in the two municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the Village and Township unanimously accepted the recommendations of an independent report commissioned by the governing bodies finding that "the communities of Maplewood and South Orange would be better served by combining their fire departments into a single entity; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Exploratory Committee reached a number of agreements including but not limited to:

1. No firehouses will be closed.
2. No major apparatus will be removed.
3. \*~~Seventy (70)~~ uniformed fire personnel with one Fire Chief.
4. Each tour will have \*~~seventeen (17)~~ personnel assigned with a minimum of \*~~fourteen (14)~~ on-duty, with current minimum staffing levels unchanged in both departments.
5. No layoffs. Any reduction in personnel will be achieved through attrition.

WHEREAS, in March of 2019, a meeting was held between the Joint Exploratory Committee, the New Jersey Shared Service Czars ("State"), and representatives of New Jersey Firefighters Mutual Benevolent Association ("FMBA") and local firefighter's unions; and

WHEREAS, the firefighters expressed concerns regarding current job protections, retention of ranks and salaries, future promotions and advised of their desire that any future entity be civil service to offer these protections; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Exploratory Committee, with support from legal counsel and the State, confirmed that a new civil service entity could be established under a Joint Meeting as defined in N.J.S.A.40A:65-14 and the Village and Township would be able to service the entity with existing administrative staff and not incur new costs for administrative responsibilities; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Township of South Orange Village on this 12th day of August 2019 that:

1. The Board of Trustees supports the establishment of a Joint Meeting between the Village and the Township which will be part of the New Jersey Civil Service System and be based on the following goals previously established:
  - a. To provide the highest quality fire services to the residents of our towns.
  - b. To maintain an appropriate level of firefighting personnel and equipment to adequately respond to fire, emergency or hazardous incidents.
  - c. To achieve economic and operational efficiencies.
2. The professional staff of the Village and Township are authorized to begin preparation of an ordinance and term sheet to establish the Joint Meeting with the goal of a January 2020 start date.
3. The Joint Exploratory Committee is authorized to work with the appropriate fire department personnel on the establishment of Standard Operating Procedures for the Joint Meeting.
4. The Joint Exploratory Committee is authorized to prepare initial merger costs and seek financial assistance through the monies set aside in the State's shared service appropriations for FY2019.
5. The Joint Exploratory Committee is authorized to seek any and all necessary waivers from the New Jersey Civil Service Commission regarding new hires and promotions to ensure a seamless transition into the new entity no later than January 2020.

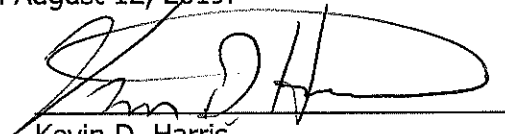
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**(AS AMENDED – 08/12/2019)**

| Trustee Member   | Motion | Second | Ayes | Nays | Abstain | Absent |
|------------------|--------|--------|------|------|---------|--------|
| Clarke           |        |        | X    |      |         |        |
| Coallier         |        |        | X    |      |         |        |
| Hartshorn Hilton |        |        | X    |      |         |        |
| Jones            |        | X      | X    |      |         |        |
| Schnall          | X      |        | X    |      |         |        |
| Zuckerman        |        |        | X    |      |         |        |

#### CERTIFICATION

I, Kevin D. Harris, Village Clerk of the Township of South Orange Village, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees at their meeting held on August 12, 2019.

  
 Kevin D. Harris  
 Village Clerk