

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE

**TOWNSHIP OF EAST AMWELL
HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
ORDINANCE #18-18**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING
A GREEN TEAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, the Township of East Amwell has a strong desire to protect and maintain its natural beauty through the preservation of farmland and open space within the Township;

WHEREAS, the Township of East Amwell also has a strong desire to protect the Township's wildlife and environment;

WHEREAS, the Township Committee believes that a logical extension of the foregoing is focusing on promoting a more environmentally sensitive lifestyle within the Township, including through (i) the use of renewable energy; (ii) recycling, including recycling traditionally non-recyclable items; (iii) reducing storm water runoff; (iv) reducing the use of pesticides and other potentially harmful products; (v) avoiding the use of non-recyclable products; and (vi) the use of environmentally friendly products.

WHEREAS, the Township Committee believes that an advisory committee should be formed to advise the Township Committee on ways to improve the environmental sensitivity of East Amwell Township and its residents;

WHEREAS, a nonprofit organization called Sustainable Jersey provides tools, training and financial incentives to municipalities within New Jersey to enable them to, among other things, improve the environment and promote sustainability;

WHEREAS, to participate in the Sustainable Jersey program a municipality must form a "green team";

WHEREAS, the Township Committee would like the Township of East Amwell to participate in the Sustainable Jersey program; and

WHEREAS, based on the foregoing, the Township Committee wishes by this Ordinance to establish a "Green Team Advisory Committee."

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell, County of Hunterdon, and State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. The following is hereby added to the Code of the Township of East Amwell as Chapter 30:

Chapter 30: Green Team Advisory Committee.

§ 30-1 **Establishment.** There is hereby established in the Township of East Amwell an advisory committee known as the Green Team Advisory Committee.

§ 30-2 **Members.** The Green Team Advisory Committee will consist of the following members, each of whom will be appointed by the Mayor:

A. Regular Members. Seven regular members, each of whom will be a voting member.

B. Youth Members. Any number of youth members, as determined from time to time by the Mayor of East Amwell Township, who must be between 10-18 years old at the time of their appointment, each of whom will be a non-voting member.

§ 30-3 **Composition of Members; Terms.**

A. Regular Members. Each regular member of the Green Team Advisory Committee must be, at the time of their appointment and throughout their term, a resident of East Amwell Township; except that up to two regular members may be non-residents of East Amwell Township who have significant expertise on environmental matters relevant to East Amwell Township. A regular member may be a member of any other committee(s) or board(s) of the Township, and may be an employee of the Township. The term of each regular member will be three (3) years, except that the terms of the regular members first appointed pursuant to this § 30-3 will be as follows: (i) two regular members will initially have a one (1) year term; (ii) two regular members will initially have a two (2) year term; and (iii) three regular members will initially have a three (3) year term.

B. Youth Members. Each youth member must be a resident of East Amwell Township. The term of each youth member will be one (1) year.

C. Vacancies. If a vacancy occurs with respect to any member other than by expiration of that member's term, the vacancy will be filled by an appointment by the Mayor for the balance of that member's term.

§ 30-4 **Leadership.** At each annual reorganization meeting of the Green Team Advisory Committee, the regular members of the Committee will elect, by a majority vote, a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson. There is no limit on the number of times, consecutively or nonconsecutively, that a person may serve as Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson.

§ 30-5 **Meetings.** The Green Team Advisory Committee will hold public meetings on a regular basis.

§ 30-6 **Quorum.** A quorum of the Green Team Advisory Committee will consist of at least four regular members. Approval of any matter will require the affirmative vote of a majority of a quorum.

§ 30-7 **Removal.** The Mayor will have the right, in the Mayor's sole discretion, to remove any regular member or youth member of the Green Team Advisory Committee. It is expected that each regular member will regularly attend the meetings of the Green Team Advisory Committee. Unexcused absence from three or more of the regularly scheduled meetings in any calendar year is grounds for removal and replacement by the Mayor.

§ 30-8 **Budget.** Each year, the Green Team Advisory Committee will prepare an annual budget, and will submit that budget to the Township Committee for its approval. Approval of any such budget will be in the sole discretion of the Township Committee. The Township Committee will have the right to modify any budget that is proposed by the Green Team Advisory Committee.

§ 30-9 **Compensation.** No member of the Green Team Advisory Committee will receive any compensation for serving on the Committee.

§ 30-10 **Liaisons.** Each year, (i) the Mayor will appoint one member of the Township Committee as its liaison to the Green Team Advisory Committee, (ii) the Board of Health Chairperson will appoint one member of the Board of Health as its liaison to the Green Team Advisory Committee, and (iii) the Environmental Commission Chairperson will appoint one member of the Environmental Commission as its liaison to the Green Team Advisory Committee. Each other committee and board in the Township will have the right, but not any obligation, to appoint a liaison to the Green Team Advisory Committee. No liaison will have any voting rights on the Green Team Advisory Committee.

§ 30-11 **Purpose.** The purposes of the Green Team Advisory Committee are as follows:

- i. To advise the Township Committee on ways to promote greater environmental sensitivity by East Amwell Township and its residents.
- ii. To manage the participation by East Amwell Township in the Sustainable Jersey program.
- iii. To solicit the views of the residents of East Amwell Township regarding environmental matters relevant to East Amwell Township, and report the findings to the Township Committee.
- iv. After obtaining the approval of the Township Committee, to provide recommendations to other committees and boards of East Amwell Township regarding environmental matters they should consider in their deliberations and decisions.
- v. After obtaining the approval of the Township Committee, to seek grants to initiate, support, further, expand or otherwise promote environmental initiatives, programs, practices or ideas within East Amwell Township.

§ 30-12 **Oversight.** The Green Team Advisory Committee will report directly to the Township Committee. The Green Team Advisory Committee is solely an advisory committee and therefore will not have any legislative or judicial authority or enforcement powers.

Section 2. If any provision in this ordinance is, or is held to be, invalid or unlawful, (i) such provision shall, if possible, be deemed amended to the extent necessary to make it valid and lawful, and (ii) such invalidity or unlawfulness shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions of this ordinance.

Section 3. This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its final passage and publication as required by law.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Tim Mathews, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Teresa R. Stahl, Township Clerk

Take notice that the above ordinance was duly passed on first reading at the regular meeting of the East Amwell Township Committee held on August 9, 2018, and will be considered for final adoption on second reading and public hearing at a regular meeting of the Committee to be held on September 13, 2018, at 7:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 1070 Route 202/31, Ringoes, NJ 08551.

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