

BERNARDS TOWNSHIP - TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
COMBINED AGENDA - REGULAR MEETING
February 10, 2026 – 7:30 PM

The meeting will be held in the Warren Craft Meeting Room, in the Municipal Building, 1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ. The meeting will be live streamed and can be found by clicking on the “Watch a Meeting Live” icon on the home page, www.bernards.org and can also be viewed live on Optimum/Cablevision TV - Channel 15 and Verizon FiOS TV - Channel 2135.

Estimated
Times

A G E N D A

7:30 PM

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER** Video
- 2) **FLAG SALUTE**
- 3) **MAYOR’S OPENING MEETING STATEMENT**
- 4) **ROLL CALL**
- 5) **EXECUTIVE SESSION (if required)**
- 6) **PRESENTATIONS**
 - A. [Resolution #2026-0155](#) - Acknowledging the Reaccreditation of the Bernards Township Police Department by the New Jersey Association of Chiefs of Police

7:45 PM

- 7) **PUBLIC WORK SESSION (if required)**
- 8) **CORRESPONDENCE**
- 9) **PUBLIC COMMENT** (*Agenda Items Excluding Ordinances Listed for Public Hearing*)
- 10) **STAFF COMMENTS, TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE COMMENTS AND BOARD / LIAISON REPORTS**
- 11) **FIRE & RESCUE APPOINTMENT**
- 12) **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
- 13) **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. **Consent Agenda**

The items listed within the consent agenda portion of the meeting have been referred to the Township Committee for reading and study, are posted on the agenda on the website, are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion of the Township Committee with no separate discussion. If separate discussion is required, the item may be removed from the agenda by township committee action and placed on the regular agenda under new business.

 - 1) [Resolution #2026-0159](#) – Approval of the Bill List Dated 02/10/2026
 - 2) [Resolution #2026-0161](#) – Municipal Services Agreements between Bernards Township and Various Condominium Associations
 - 3) [Resolution #2026-0162](#) – Authorizing Submission of a Grant Application to The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs' (DCA) Division of Local Government Services (DLGS) for the Local Recreation Improvement Grant (LRIG): \$100,000.00 for the Department of Parks & Recreation
 - 4) [Resolution #2026-0163](#) - Acknowledgment of Receipt of the Friends of the Kennedy Martin-Stelle Farmstead [2025 Annual Report](#)
 - 5) [Resolution #2026-0164](#) - Resolution Authorizing the Friends of the Kennedy-Martin-Stelle Farmstead, Inc. to Lease, License, Rent or Otherwise Permit the Use of the Farmstead Property for Classes, Programs, Events and Meetings Consistent with the Purpose of a Lease Agreement with Chris Lind to Use Space Solely as Artist Studio



Please call 24 hours in advance (908) 204-3001
if accommodations are required, including assistive listening devices (ALD).

- 6) [Resolution #2026-0166](#) - Personnel Appointment Robert Houlihan-Fire Prevention Inspector (Part Time)
 - 7) [Resolution #2026-0167](#) - Acknowledgement of Receipt of the 2025 Historical Society [Annual Report](#)
 - 8) [Resolution #2026-0169](#) - Authorizing the Donation of Gasoline and/or Diesel Fuel to the Basking Ridge Fire Company No. 1 & First Aid Squad, and Liberty Corner Fire Company
 - 9) [Resolution #2026-0170](#) - Change Order #1 Authorizing Purchasing from Educational Services Commission of New Jersey Co-Op #ESCNJ 22/23-23 for Restoration of the Health Department Kitchen Area to First Onsite Property Restoration, 30 Abeel Road, Monroe, NJ 08831 For an additional amount of \$7,032.18
 - 10) [Resolution #2026-0171](#) - Authorizing and Approving Purchase of one (1) 2024 Ford F-150 Police Responder XL 4WD SuperCrew 5.5' Box from the Cranford Police Cooperative Pricing System Contract Item #2 to Fred Beans Management Company, Inc, 3960 Airport Boulevard, Doylestown, PA 18902 In the Amount Not to Exceed \$46,085.00
 - 11) [Resolution #2026-0172](#)- Unused Vacation Accrual Due Patricia Pane Bernards Township-Health Department
 - 12) [Resolution #2026-0173](#) - Authorization for Tax Refund
 - 13) [Resolution #2026-0174](#) - Unused Vacation Accrual Due Bryson Buchanan Bernards Township-Police Department
 - 14) [Resolution #2026-0175](#) - Authorization for Tax Refund
- B. [Resolution #2026-0160](#) - Resolution of the Township Committee of the Township of Bernards Adopting An "Affirmative Marketing Plan" For The Township Of Bernards
- C. [Ordinance #2593](#) - An Ordinance of the Township of Bernards, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, Amending, Revising and Supplementing the Code of the Township of Bernards, Chapter 21, "Land Development," to add Section 21-87 "Incorporation of New Jersey Administrative Code Sections 5:99-1.1 to 5:99 – 9.4 and New Jersey Administrative Code Sections 5:80-26.1 to 26.23"- Introduction
- D. Township Committee Appointment(s):
 Ryan Wallace, Green Team, RM, 1 yr. term expiring, 12/31/26
 Alicia Subervi, Parks, Pathways, & Recreation, RM, 1 yr. term expiring, 12/31/26
- E. Approval of Minutes
 01/27/2026 Open Session Minutes

14) PUBLIC COMMENT

15) EXECUTIVE SESSION (if required)

16) ADJOURNMENT

Christine V. Kieffer, Municipal Clerk

(Note: Copies of Resolutions and other supporting documents listed on this agenda can be found on the pages below)



Please call 24 hours in advance (908) 204-3001 if accommodations are required, including assistive listening devices (ALD).



Resolution of the Township of Bernards

1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
908-766-2510; www.bernards.org

Resolution #2026-0155

Acknowledging the Reaccreditation of the Bernards Township Police Department
by the New Jersey Association of Chiefs of Police

WHEREAS, the Bernards Township Police Department has successfully achieved reaccreditation through the New Jersey Association of Chiefs of Police (NJSACOP) Law Enforcement Accreditation Program; and

WHEREAS, reaccreditation by the NJSACOP signifies continued compliance with professionally recognized best practices, policies, and procedures for law enforcement agencies throughout the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the reaccreditation process reflects the Bernards Township Police Department's ongoing commitment to professionalism, accountability, community trust, and excellence in public service; and

WHEREAS, the Bernards Township Committee wishes to formally recognize this achievement and the dedication of the officers, command staff, and civilian personnel of the Police Department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Bernards, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the Bernards Township Committee hereby congratulates the Bernards Township Police Department on its reaccreditation by the New Jersey Association of Chiefs of Police; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Bernards Township Chief of Police and the New Jersey Association of Chiefs of Police for their records.

Agenda and Date Voted: 02/10/2026

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify this is a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the Bernards Township Committee on 02/10/2026.

Christine V. Kieffer, Municipal Clerk



Resolution of the Township of Bernards

1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

908-766-2510; www.bernards.org

Resolution #2026-0159

Approval of the Bill List Dated 02/10/2026

BE IT RESOLVED, that the bill list dated 02/10/2026 be audited, and if found correct, be paid.

February 10, 2026
09:34 AM

TOWNSHIP OF BERNARDS
Check Register By Check Date

Page No: 1

Check #	Check Date	Vendor	Amount Paid	Reconciled/Void Ref Num

CASH - CHECKING CURRENT CHECKING				
146376	02/10/26	90239 SCHLEY, DAVID L	400.00	1870 Direct Deposit
146377	02/10/26	90335 CHISHOLM, MARC	30.00	1870 Direct Deposit
146378	02/10/26	90400 ALBANESE, CHRISTOPHER	258.34	1870 Direct Deposit
146379	02/10/26	90500 BALDASSARE, TRACY	286.86	1870 Direct Deposit
146380	02/10/26	90608 UNTAMO, TRAVIS MILLER	30.00	1870 Direct Deposit
146381	02/10/26	90753 MARLING, DAWN	321.70	1870 Direct Deposit
146382	02/10/26	90756 KANALEY, MACKENZIE	70.00	1870 Direct Deposit
146383	02/10/26	90759 KOLESAR, DAVID	144.50	1870 Direct Deposit
146384	02/10/26	A0044 APPROVED FIRE PROTECTION CO.	375.08	1870 Direct Deposit
146385	02/10/26	A0168 ALLIED OIL COMPANY, LLC	9,953.08	1870 Direct Deposit
146386	02/10/26	A0453 AMAZON.COM SERVICES LLC	1,223.14	1870 Direct Deposit
146387	02/10/26	A0611 AMERICAN WEAR, INC	837.40	1870 Direct Deposit
146388	02/10/26	B0203 DIFRANCESCO BATEMAN, PC	4,946.14	1870 Direct Deposit
146389	02/10/26	B0581 BUY WISE AUTO PARTS	437.92	1870 Direct Deposit
146390	02/10/26	D0033 DEMCO, INC	8,794.36	1870 Direct Deposit
146391	02/10/26	D0380 DRIVERS TIRE & SERVICE CENTER	169.95	1870 Direct Deposit
146392	02/10/26	E0002 EDMUNDS GOVTECH	261.87	1870 Direct Deposit
146393	02/10/26	E0224 EXCELLENT BUILDING SERVICES	2,795.00	1870 Direct Deposit
146394	02/10/26	E0345 EFFLUENT RETRIEVAL SERVICE	35,262.06	1870 Direct Deposit
146395	02/10/26	G0066 GRAINGER INC	647.25	1870 Direct Deposit
146396	02/10/26	G0201 GENERAL CODE LLC	1,295.00	1870 Direct Deposit
146397	02/10/26	G0300 GOLD TYPE BUSINESS MACHINES	2,400.00	1870 Direct Deposit
146398	02/10/26	G0333 BEDMINSTER CAR WASH	283.80	1870 Direct Deposit
146399	02/10/26	G0495 GARDEN STATE LANDSCAPES, INC	6,760.00	1870 Direct Deposit
146400	02/10/26	K0354 KANOPY INC	358.00	1870 Direct Deposit
146401	02/10/26	M0165 METRO HYDRAULIC JACK CO.	307.74	1870 Direct Deposit
146402	02/10/26	M0353 MIDWEST TAPE LLC	2,849.87	1870 Direct Deposit
146403	02/10/26	N0083 NJRPA	125.00	1870 Direct Deposit
146404	02/10/26	N0415 NATIONAL FUEL OIL INC	12,029.00	1870 Direct Deposit
146405	02/10/26	O0110 ONE SOURCE OF NEW JERSEY, LLC	1,608.06	1870 Direct Deposit
146406	02/10/26	O0135 OUTHUSE LLC	345.00	1870 Direct Deposit
146407	02/10/26	R0050 ROTO-ROOTER	2,055.00	1870 Direct Deposit
146408	02/10/26	R0393 RESEARCH&DESIGN LANDSCAPE LLC	79,274.82	1870 Direct Deposit
146409	02/10/26	S0443 STAPLES ADVANTAGE	69.78	1870 Direct Deposit
146410	02/10/26	T0066 CENGAGE LEARNING CREDIT SVCS	80.22	1870 Direct Deposit
146411	02/10/26	T0192 TURN OUT UNIFORMS INC	95.00	1870 Direct Deposit
146412	02/10/26	T0378 THE GUARDIAN LIFE INS CO OF AM	93.61	1870 Direct Deposit
146413	02/10/26	W0409 WEATHERTITE SOLUTIONS	975.00	1870 Direct Deposit
146414	02/10/26	W0410 WARSHAUER ELECTRIC SUPPLY CO.	3,890.22	1870 Direct Deposit
146415	02/10/26	A0250 AMBASSADOR MEDICAL SERVICES	240.00	1871
146416	02/10/26	A0742 ALLEGIANCE TRUCKS LLC	328.24	1871
146417	02/10/26	A0780 ASCENDIENT HEALTHCARE ADVISOR	10,000.00	1871
146418	02/10/26	A0785 ALFA TRAINING INTERNATIONAL	700.00	1871
146419	02/10/26	B0015 BRODART COMPANY	4,124.97	1871
146420	02/10/26	B0017 BRIDGEWATER RESOURCES, INC.	1,110.93	1871
146421	02/10/26	B0026 BERNARDS TOWNSHIP CURRENT	11,593.04	1871
146422	02/10/26	B0031 BERNARDSVILLE PRINT CENTER	393.26	1871
146423	02/10/26	B0034 BERNARDS TOWNSHIP PAYROLL ACCT	734,930.98	1871
146424	02/10/26	B0098 BERNARDS TOWNSHIP (RECREATION)	5,223.72	1871
146425	02/10/26	B0518 BERNARDSVILLE HARDWARE	29.97	1871
146426	02/10/26	B0527 B&H PHOTO-VIDEO	6,874.34	1871
146427	02/10/26	C0024 GANNETT NEW JERSEY NEWSPAPERS	48.36	1871
146428	02/10/26	C0200 CALIBRE PRESS, INC.	329.00	1871
146429	02/10/26	C0482 OPTIMUM	135.00	1871
146430	02/10/26	C0482 OPTIMUM	14.58	1871
146431	02/10/26	C0482 OPTIMUM	47.95	1871
146432	02/10/26	C0482 OPTIMUM	40.63	1871
146433	02/10/26	C0545 AHS HOSPITAL CORP	724.50	1871
146434	02/10/26	C0613 CIGNA GROUP INSURANCE	1,646.11	1871
146435	02/10/26	C0685 CONSTELLATION NEW ENERGY, INC	191.93	1871
146436	02/10/26	C0697 BB&T/CPS	57.20	1871
146437	02/10/26	C0972 COSTELLO'S ACE HARDWARE	113.32	1871
146438	02/10/26	C0977 CROSSING GUARD SERVICES, LLC	10,658.82	1871
146439	02/10/26	C0984 CREATURE COMFORT PET THERAPY	120.00	1871
146440	02/10/26	C0992 CONCENTRA MEDICAL CENTERS	151.00	1871
146441	02/10/26	C0999 CIOCCA FORD LINCOLN OF	29,129.55	1871
146442	02/10/26	C1009 CAHILL, LIAM OR JENNIFER	150.00	1871
146443	02/10/26	E0267 EAW SECURITY	1,000.00	1871
146444	02/10/26	E0295 ELECTRO BATTERY SYSTEMS INC	284.19	1871
146445	02/10/26	E0342 EB EMPLOYEE SOLUTIONS, LLC	13,926.45	1871
146446	02/10/26	E0346 EXTECH OPERATING LLC	3,168.00	1871
146447	02/10/26	F0024 FISCHER, JOSEPH	1,100.00	1871
146448	02/10/26	F0330 FIDELITY SECURITY LIFE INS	356.70	1871
146449	02/10/26	G0098 JCP&L	358.13	1871
146450	02/10/26	G0098 JCP&L	176.88	1871
146451	02/10/26	G0098 JCP&L	17.11	1871
146452	02/10/26	G0098 JCP&L	455.65	1871
146453	02/10/26	G0699 GINO'S NURSERY	597.50	1871
146454	02/10/26	G0721 GANESAN, MURUGAPPA	165.00	1871
146455	02/10/26	H0178 HOSE SHOP, INC.	62.39	1871
146456	02/10/26	I0487 INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES, LLC	632.74	1871
146457	02/10/26	J0283 JAIN, NEHA	70.00	1871
146458	02/10/26	K0039 KOBESKY, GREGG S.	56.50	1871
146459	02/10/26	K0400 KONICA MINOLTA	238.80	1871
146460	02/10/26	K0400 KONICA MINOLTA	250.00	1871
146461	02/10/26	L0372 LIFESAVERS, INC	905.20	1871

146462	02/10/26	M0055	MCASC	40.00	1871
146463	02/10/26	M0518	KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS SOL.	49.50	1871
146464	02/10/26	M0518	KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS SOL.	119.90	1871
146465	02/10/26	M0899	MR JOHN	65.00	1871
146466	02/10/26	M1036	MOORE, CONNIE	115.00	1871
146467	02/10/26	N0006	NEW JERSEY AMERICAN WATER CO.	298.64	1871
146468	02/10/26	N0017	NJ STATE LEAGUE OF MUNICIPAL.	230.00	1871
146469	02/10/26	N0032	NJ STATE DEPT HEALTH/SR SVCS	445.80	1871
146470	02/10/26	N0050	NJ SHADE TREE FEDERATION	150.00	1871
146471	02/10/26	N0053	NJ UNEMPLOYMENT COMP. FUND	4,605.29	1871
146472	02/10/26	N0082	NJAPZA TREASURER	120.00	1871
146473	02/10/26	N0389	NJ MOTOR VEHICLE COMMISSION	60.00	1871
146474	02/10/26	N0462	N M PREMIUM FOODS, INC	1,245.30	1871
146475	02/10/26	N0512	NAT'L ASSOC OF FIELD TRNG OFC	375.00	1871
146476	02/10/26	N0530	NATIONAL HIGHWAY PRODUCTS, INC	1,795.60	1871
146477	02/10/26	O0100	OVERDRIVE, INC.	4,526.57	1871
146478	02/10/26	O0105	O.C.A. BENEFIT SERVICES, LLC	64.35	1871
146479	02/10/26	O0165	ONLC TRAINING CENTERS	1,195.00	1871
146480	02/10/26	P0014	PUBLIC SERVICE ELEC. & GAS CO	2,666.65	1871
146481	02/10/26	P0046	RESERVE ACCOUNT	1,100.47	1871
146482	02/10/26	P0602	LINDE GAS & EQUIPMENT INC	116.75	1871
146483	02/10/26	P0724	PACE ANALYTICAL SERVICES LLC	3,195.00	1871
146484	02/10/26	P0754	PECKHAM MATERIALS CORP	6,736.00	1871
146485	02/10/26	P0781	POSIT SCIENCE CORPORATION	1,000.00	1871
146486	02/10/26	P0783	PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICE LLC	2,226.05	1871
146487	02/10/26	Q0002	CINTAS CORP. - #062	364.52	1871
146488	02/10/26	Q0028	QUALITY AUTO GLASS, INC	586.32	1871
146489	02/10/26	R0005	RECORDER PUBLISHING CO., INC	61.20	1871
146490	02/10/26	R0005	RECORDER PUBLISHING CO., INC	80.58	1871
146491	02/10/26	R0023	RICHIES TIRE SERVICE, INC.	423.28	1871
146492	02/10/26	R0025	RIDGE RESTAURANT	495.94	1871
146493	02/10/26	R0308	ROUTE 23 AUTO MALL	454.60	1871
146494	02/10/26	R0493	RIDGE BAGEL & CAFE	2,530.48	1871
146495	02/10/26	S0067	SOMERSET COUNTY TREASURER	6,472,182.87	1871
146496	02/10/26	S0067	SOMERSET COUNTY TREASURER	557.06	1871
146497	02/10/26	S0068	SOMERSET COUNTY TREASURER	688,602.82	1871
146498	02/10/26	S0083	SOMERSET COUNTY ASSESSORS ASSN	350.00	1871
146499	02/10/26	S0115	SOMERSET COUNTY POLICE CHIEFS	550.00	1871
146500	02/10/26	S0736	SOMERSET COUNTY	125.20	1871
146501	02/10/26	S1191	SAVO,SCHALK,CORSINI,GILLESPIE,	6,812.00	1871
146502	02/10/26	T0308	TORO NSN	2,100.00	1871
146503	02/10/26	T0372	TLO, LLC	215.00	1871
146504	02/10/26	U0131	UGI ENERGY SERVICES, LLC	0.00	02/10/26 VOID 0
146505	02/10/26	U0131	UGI ENERGY SERVICES, LLC	7,375.24	1871
146506	02/10/26	U0133	UTRS, INC	3,440.00	1871
146507	02/10/26	U0137	US BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION	700.00	1871
146508	02/10/26	V0037	VILLAGE SUPERMARKET, INC.	19.98	1871
146509	02/10/26	V0056	VERIZON WIRELESS	1,456.88	1871
146510	02/10/26	V0058	VERIZON	131.64	1871
146511	02/10/26	V0058	VERIZON	680.00	1871
146512	02/10/26	V0058	VERIZON	62.82	1871
146513	02/10/26	V0124	VERIZON BUSINESS FIOS	349.00	1871
146514	02/10/26	V0177	VERIZON	424.59	1871
146515	02/10/26	V0249	VON HALLE, KENNETH	1,854.27	1871
146516	02/10/26	W0019	WEST CHESTER MACHINERY &SUPPLY	986.72	1871
146517	02/10/26	W0429	WANG, DAXUAN	54,233.02	1871
146518	02/10/26	X0005	XTEL COMMUNICATION	5,573.73	1871

Check #	Check Date	Vendor	Amount Paid	Reconciled/Void	Ref Num
CASH - CHECKING CURRENT CHECKING					
Report Totals			Continued		
		Paid	Void	Amount Paid	Amount Void
	Checks:	103	1	8,129,250.27	0.00
	Direct Deposit:	39	0	182,139.77	0.00
	Total:	142	1	8,311,390.04	0.00

Totals by Year-Fund	Fund	Budget Total	Revenue Total	G/L Total	Total
CURRENT FUND	5-01	33,851.30	0.00	0.00	33,851.30
GOLF COURSE UTILITY	5-26	4,320.00	0.00	0.00	4,320.00
Year Total:		38,171.30	0.00	0.00	38,171.30
CURRENT FUND	6-01	8,141,518.51	0.00	0.00	8,141,518.51
DOG FUND	6-12	640.94	0.00	0.00	640.94
GOLF COURSE UTILITY	6-26	5,260.15	0.00	0.00	5,260.15
Year Total:		8,147,419.60	0.00	0.00	8,147,419.60
CAPITAL FUND	C-04	2,400.00	0.00	0.00	2,400.00
PUBLIC GRANTS	G-02	17,732.68	0.00	0.00	17,732.68
TRUST FUNDS	T-13	95,581.38	0.00	0.00	95,581.38
PROJECTS		10,085.08	0.00	0.00	10,085.08
Total Of All Funds:		8,311,390.04	0.00	0.00	8,311,390.04

Agenda and Date Voted: 02/10/2026

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify this is a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the Bernards Township Committee on 02/10/2026.

Christine Kieffer , Municipal Clerk



Resolution of the Township of Bernards

1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
908-766-2510; www.bernards.org

Resolution #2026-0161

Municipal Services Agreements Between Bernards Township and Various Condominium Associations

WHEREAS, various condominium associations were created in accordance with N.J.S.A. 46:8B-1 et seq. to be responsible for the administration and management of the condominium units and condominium property located in Bernards Township, Somerset County, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, these associations consist exclusively of unit owners of the respective Condominiums; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with L.1989, c.299 (N.J.S.A. 40:67-23.1 et seq.), the Township is required either to perform certain specified services on public roads and streets in the Condominiums, which are qualified private communities, or to reimburse said Condominiums to the extent specified in that statute for the actual costs to the Associations of providing said specified services; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Bernards seeks to enter into Municipal Services Agreements with the following condominium associations;

Amherst Mews Homeowner's Association	Maple Run Condo Association
Barons at Basking Ridge Condo Association	Patriot Hill Condo Association
Countryside Manor Condo Association	Patriot Mews Community Association
Hamilton Crest Condo Association	Society Hill at Bernards I
Hamilton Woods Condo Association	Society Hill at Bernards II
Lord Stirling Village Association	Spring Ridge Master Association
St. Andrews at Bernards Condo Association	Hamilton Ridge Condo Association
Ridge Condo Association	The Cedars at Basking Ridge Condo Association

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Bernards, Somerset County, New Jersey, that in accordance with L.1989, c.299 (N.J.S.A. 40:67-23.1 et seq.), the parties hereby covenant and agree to enter into said Municipal Services Agreements with the above-named Associations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to execute the agreements on behalf of the Township.

Agenda and Date Voted: 02/10/2026

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT:

Bernards Township originated the agreements with the various Associations between the years 1992-2001. The Township performed a review of the preexisting agreements in 2025 to ensure all applicable information was up to date including, but not limited to, number of streetlights, the length of private roads within the Associations, and current management companies. The above-mentioned Boards for the Associations have signed off on the new agreements and will take effect upon passage of this resolution.

Date: 02/10/2026

Sean McCarthy, CFO

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify this is a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the Bernards Township Committee on 02/10/2026.

Christine Kieffer, Municipal Clerk



Resolution of the Township of Bernards

1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
908-766-2510; www.bernards.org

Resolution #2026-0162

Authorizing Submission of a Grant Application to
The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs' (DCA) Division of Local Government
Services (DLGS) for the Local Recreation Improvement Grant (LRIG):
\$100,000.00 for the Department of Parks & Recreation

WHEREAS, the Bernards Township Department of Parks & Recreation desires to apply for and obtain a grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for approximately \$100,000.00 to carry out a project to improve park facilities, pathways and ADA accessibility.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Bernards, that it does hereby authorize the application for such a grant, recognizes and accepts that the Department may offer a lesser or greater amount and does further authorize the execution of any such grant agreement; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, upon receipt of the fully executed agreement from the Department, the Township Committee of the Township of Bernards does further authorize the expenditure of funds pursuant to the terms of the agreement between the Bernards Township Department of Parks & Recreation and the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Bernards that Jennifer Gander of the Bernards Township Parks & Recreation Department serves as the Project Manager for this grant application and the Project Manager and CFO are hereby authorized to sign the grant on behalf of the Township.

Agenda and Date Voted: 02/10/2026

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Grant funding for 2026 would be requested for various improvements to the Community Center located at 289 South Maple Avenue, our department's primary programming and meeting space which also serves as a polling location for regular elections and early voting. Potential projects include improved ADA accessibility in the parking lot, connecting walking paths, building entrances and connecting patio area, as well as building access and security enhancements and HVAC upgrades.

Bernards Township was awarded funding in 2023 and 2024 for park accessibility improvements. Grant funding would be used in conjunction with requested capital improvement funds to continue to complete ADA accessibility improvement recommendations noted in our Access Audit and Transition Plan.

The Local Recreation Improvement Grant has been established by the State of NJ to support improvement and repairs to public recreation, with a recommended maximum award of \$100,000. Matching funds are not required however, the scoring criteria includes a local match component. Grant awards will be announced mid-April 2026.

Jennifer Gander
Director, Parks & Recreation

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify this is a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the Bernards Township Committee on 02/10/2026.

Christine V. Kieffer, Municipal Clerk



Resolution of the Township of Bernards

1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
908-766-2510; www.bernards.org

Resolution #2026-0163
Acknowledgement of Receipt of the
Friends of the Kennedy Martin-Stelle Farmstead
2025 Annual Report

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ordinance #1775 originally adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Bernards on March 29, 2005, authorizing a lease agreement with the Friends of the Kennedy-Martin-Stelle Farmstead, Inc. for a 4.397± acre tract known as Block 8401, Lot 23 (formally known as Block 85, Lot 20.03), 450 King George Road, Basking Ridge; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to said lease, and N.J.S.A. 40A:12-14(c) the Friends of the Kennedy Martin-Steele Farmstead, Inc., must submit an annual report to the Township setting out in detail the progress of the buildings preservation, restoration, renovations or operations and the progress of all fund-raising activities and grant applications, the proposed use for the buildings upon commencement of operation, the occupancy and utilization of the buildings during the preceding year, the activities of the Tenant undertaken in furtherance of the public purpose for which the leasehold was granted, the approximate value of cost, if any, of such activities in furtherance of such purpose and an affirmation of the continued tax exempt status of the Tenant pursuant to both State and federal law.

WHEREAS, the 2025 annual report and 2025 programming schedule has been submitted as required and is on file with the Township Clerk.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Bernards that the 2025 Annual Report of the Friends of the Kennedy Martin-Steele Farmstead be acknowledged as submitted.

Agenda Date and Vote: 02/10/2026

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify this is a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the Bernards Township Committee on 02/10/2026.

Christine V. Kieffer, Municipal Clerk

Friends of the Kennedy Martin Stelle Farmstead Annual Report for 2025

On behalf of the Friends of the Kennedy Martin Stelle Farmstead, we thank the members of the Township Committee and Township Staff, the Administration, Public Works, Engineering, Police and Fire, Recreation and the Community Service Team for their support of the Farmstead. We appreciate your support and your confidence in us and look forward to continuing to work cooperatively with you in the future.

2025 Summary of Activity

In 2025 the Farmstead:

- expanded our public outreach by hiring a new Marketing Director.
- created new videos highlighting the Farmstead's history using county grant funding.
- added more in-person classes and a new screenwriting teacher to our faculty.
- hosted art exhibits in the gallery, including a new summer exhibition featuring works by artists from the New Jersey Art Association.
- participated in the Somerset County Historical Society's first ever membership drive party at Raritan Valley Community College.
- continued collaborations with the Potters' Guild of New Jersey, the Chatham Adult School, the Lord Stirling Theater Company (LSTC), Ridge High School, Garden State Watercolor Society, The Alliance of Youth Leaders United States, Basking Ridge Chapter; NJ Highlands Coalition and the NJ Art Association (new).
- partnered with Bernards Township and the Basking Ridge Business Association (BRBA) to celebrate the town's 265th anniversary at a special event: *Colonial Farms: The Original Work From Home*.
- received official approval of last year's New Jersey Historic Trust (NJHT) grant at the \$577.4K level. With this approval we now have access to over \$1.2 Million in grants including remaining funds from Somerset County for Historic Preservation (SCHP) which are deployed as matched funds for the NJHT Grant.
- and, using these historic preservation grant funds, completed a number of SCHP Grant related projects and began the initial preparation work for creating additional ADA parking and rebuilding the Wagon House.

Activities Furthering the Public Purpose for Which the Leasehold Was Granted

Farmhouse public use: The Farmhouse was open to the public for events, exhibits, and in-person classes. Upstairs, the Farmhouse has five studios rented to artists. Farmstead tenants have continual (24/7) access to the studios. The public can, and the Board of Trustees does, actively use the facilities for meetings.

English Barn public use: The English Barn and grounds were open to the public for special events including Spring and Fall theater performances, a Barn Dance fundraiser in May, and a Father's Day concert featuring the patron-favorite "Brass Works" quintet. In September we partnered with Bernards Township and the BRBA to celebrate the town's 265th anniversary, showcase new history panels for the town (that were researched and created by our own Trustee and Historian Megan Lipset), offer free antique appraisals and

recognize the Mayor for her 5 years of service to Farmstead Arts. The barn is rented annually in the Spring to the Potters' Guild of NJ.

Historic Preservation/Adaptive Reuse

Our focus for 2025 was on completing several of the projects which were placed on hold during the application process for 2024 NJHT Capital Grant which has as its focus the rebuilding of the Wagon House as a Welcome Center. With the final NJHT Grant approval and funding, we now have access to over \$1.2 Million to significantly improve the Farmstead, roughly half funded by 2 Somerset County Historic Preservation grants for Barn, Cow Shed and related infrastructure and site improvements and half from the state of NJ to rebuild the Wagon House.

During 2025 we completed the renovation of the Farmhouse Porch/Office, replaced the Farmhouse main entrance door with a historically accurate customized door designed to match the door in the gallery and installed the "recognition" signage, required by NJHT, that allowed us to proceed with our NJHT projects.

Significant work was done to prepare for the addition of ADA parking and to prepare the Cow Shed Foundation for the future installation of bathrooms and a catering kitchen to support events in the barn and on the patio.

Additional project work was done to plan the installation of fans in the barn to make barn more comfortable during the hot summer months and we updated our security system.

Arts Programming, General Operating, and Historic Preservation Support

For 2025, the Friends of the Kennedy Martin Stelle Farmstead received a \$30,000 Local Arts Program (LAP) grant from Somerset County for general operating support. These funds were allocated towards utilities, payroll, and arts programming and were increased by \$1,100 at the end of the year when another organization forfeited their funds. In addition, we were awarded \$8,330 through a Somerset County History Partnership (CHPP) grant for updating our historic videos. Farmstead Arts also received a \$24,200 NJ Cultural Trust grant to hire a consultant to revise our Strategic Plan and up to \$2,000 award from the NJ Society of the Cincinnati to create a historically accurate display of Col Ephraim Martin, one of the Farmstead's owners who served in the Revolutionary War, to include a wearable replica of his military uniform.

For Historic Preservation, Farmstead Arts has a very experienced, motivated team of volunteers that includes two architects (one paid), financial experts, an engineer, a retired probations officer and a MIS/accounting professional. Our contracted Architect, Dan Lincoln, was part of the initial team that launched Farmstead Arts and was recognized with an award during the pandemic by Somerset County for his extensive, fine work in Historic Preservation.

Calendar of Events at Farmstead Arts - 2025

Please see the accompanying report for information about Farmstead programming.

Operating Revenues, Members' Dues and Donations

In 2025, we received approximately \$18,336.76 in membership dues and donations, \$55,397.50 in non-construction grants, \$77,567.81 in program/fundraising revenue and \$23,485.00 in studio rentals. LAP funding from the County increased from \$21,000 to \$30,000, and we received an additional \$1,100 in re-allocated LAP funds. Our annual appeal was much better than a year ago, at almost the same number of responses but almost double the average donation and we passed a financial audit by Accountant Tabor, as required by the NJHT grant.

Human Resources

In October, we welcomed a new Marketing Director, Richard Huckins, who brings valuable expertise to elevate our outreach efforts, having served as a Trustee and volunteer. This position compliments Robin Storms, Operations Manager, to ensure smooth coordination across our programs and operations. Farmstead Arts ended the year with 2 part-time employees, each working up to 20 hours per week, and had 2 unpaid interns working in the Fall. Payroll services are managed by Paychex.

At the Annual meeting, current trustees and Bernards Township residents, Angela Hartmann, Treasurer, and Trustee Pam Reid, both extended their tenure on the Board for another 3-year term. Trustee and Officer Richard Huckins resigned to assume the paid part-time Marketing Director position and Trustee Stella Perna was elected to complete his term as Corporate Secretary. During the year, long term neighbor, friend and liaison with the neighbors for Farmstead Arts, Tom and Patrice Whitehouse, moved from Basking Ridge. Our volunteer professional chef, who greatly assisted with large fundraisers involving food, Robert Dick aka Chef "Buddy," unexpectedly passed away. Our first ever intern Cathy Kelly retired from the Board, having married and moved out of state. All other trustees and officers remained the same, with all but one being residents of Bernards Township.

Trustee Members

Leslie Workman - President
Sherilyn Pastor - First Vice president
Brian Workman - Second Vice President
Angela Hartmann - Treasurer
Stella Perna - Corporate Secretary
Shona Veasey - Trustee
Pamela Reid - Trustee
Megan Lipset - Trustee
Michael Fitzpatrick - Trustee
Robert Franco - Trustee

Advisory Members

Artist Advisor: Margaret Fanning
Honorary Trustee: Ann Osterdale Rosenblum
Honorary Trustee: Carolyn Kelly
2025 Township Committee Liaison: Janice Fields

Key Support

Operations Manager: Robin Storms
Marketing Director: Richard Huckins
Pro-Bono Bookkeeper: Dennis Dinsmore
Accountant: Bob Tabor

Tax Exempt Status

The Friends of the KMS Farmstead maintained tax exempt status under both state and federal law.

Summary

Overall, 2025 was a good year. While we are staff challenged and various long-term friends of the Farmstead have moved on, the art center is running smoothly, attendance is good, and we have retained two Bernards Township trustees.

We continue to make good progress on our historic preservation goals and are looking to make significant progress in 2026, with the addition of ADA Parking, expansion of the gravel parking lot, installation of fans in the barn and further progress on the much-anticipated addition of bathrooms in the Cow Shed. Our historic preservation efforts continue to shine although the current cost environment has eroded the construction funds' ability to deliver completion on the projects budgeted and we expect to seek additional funding as early as next year.

While we remain resource challenged, in early 2026, we expect an extensive, revised, consultant prepared Strategic Plan to be presented to us, that will help us address these challenges. If we are to grow and adequately maintain operations, especially at these levels of Historic Preservation, we are expecting the need to expand staff, at meaningful expense. However, in the meantime, we continue to make good progress.

Respectfully submitted,



Leslie Workman
Board of Trustees
President
Friends of the Kennedy Martin Stelle Farmstead



Resolution of the Township of Bernards

1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
908-766-2510; www.bernards.org

Resolution #2026-0164

Resolution Authorizing the Friends of the Kennedy-Martin-Stelle Farmstead, Inc. to Lease, License, Rent or Otherwise Permit the Use of the Farmstead Property for Classes, Programs, Events and Meetings Consistent with the Purpose of a Lease Agreement with Chris Lind to Use Space Solely as artist studio

WHEREAS, the Township of Bernards owns the real property identified as Block 8401, Lot 23 (formally known as Block 185, Lot 20.03), consisting of approximately 4.397± acres, and located at 450 King George Road in the Township of Bernards, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey (the “Property”); and

WHEREAS, the Property contains an “English Barn,” “Farm House,” “Wagon House,” “Cow Shed,” and other ancillary structures, which are on the New Jersey Historic Register and the National Register of Historic Places; and

WHEREAS, the Township and the Friends of the Kennedy-Martin-Stelle Farmstead, Inc. (“Friends”) entered into Lease Agreement C1775-1, dated March 29, 2005, for the Property (the “Lease”), which was thereafter amended to increase the term of the Lease; and

WHEREAS, Sections 2 and 3 of the Lease provide that Friends may provide access to Township residents for meetings and other appropriate events, provide alternate uses, and sublet or assign any interests in the Lease, subject to the prior written approval of the Township; and

WHEREAS, by email dated February 2, 2026 the Friends requested approval to permit a lease agreement with Chris Lind for use of space solely as an artist studio; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has reviewed the proposed non-exclusive license agreement and finds it consistent with public purposes of the Lease and Mission and Vision of the Friends.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Bernards, in the County of Somerset and State of NJ, that the Township of Bernards hereby grants authorization to the Friends of the Kennedy-Martin-Stelle Farmstead, Inc., to enter into a non-exclusive lease agreement with Chris Lind, 36 Debra Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920 from February 1, 2026 to January 31, 2027; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township hereby explicitly reserves the right to revoke the authorization herein granted to Friends at its sole discretion.

Agenda and Date Voted: 02/10/2026

CERTIFICATION
I hereby certify this is a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the Bernards Township Committee on 02/10/2026.

Christine V. Kieffer, Municipal Clerk

12-month License for Chris Lind at KMS Farmstead. Dated: 02/02/2026	EXPLANATORY STATEMENT	Leslie Workman, President
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Resolution of the Township of Bernards

1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
908-766-2510 • www.bernards.org

Resolution #2026-0166

Personnel Appointment

Robert Houlihan – Fire Prevention Inspector (Part Time)

WHEREAS a part-time Fire Prevention Inspector position became available due to a restructuring; and

WHEREAS the Fire Official, Township Administrator/COO, Chief Financial Officer and Human Resources Officer have deemed it necessary to fill this position; and

WHEREAS Robert Houlihan is qualified to fill said position; and

WHEREAS the Fire Official, Township Administrator/COO, Chief Financial Officer and Human Resources Officer recommend the appointment of Robert Houlihan to the position of part-time Fire Prevention Inspector.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Bernards, that Robert Houlihan be appointed part-time Fire Prevention Inspector effective February 16, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$30.00 for a 20-hour work week.

Agenda and Date Voted: 02/10/2026

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify this is a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the Bernards Township Committee on 02/10/2026.

Christine V. Kieffer, Municipal Clerk

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

A part-time Fire Prevention Inspector position became available due to a restructuring. The DCA has changed their requirements to include that all individuals performing fire inspections be certified Fire Prevention Inspectors. Mr. Houlihan has been employed with the Township of Bernards since 2013 as a Smoke Detector Inspector and obtained his Fire Inspector Certification January of this year. Mr. Houlihan and has the necessary knowledge, certifications and experience in fire prevention for this role.

Emily Pfeiffenberger, HR Officer



Resolution of the Township of Bernards

1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
908-766-2510; www.bernards.org

Resolution #2026-0167

Acknowledgement of Receipt of the 2025 Historical Society Annual Report

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ordinance #994, on January 12, 1990, the Township of Bernards and the Historical Society of Somerset Hills entered into a 50-year lease agreement for lease of the township-owned Brick Academy located at 15 West Oak Street, Block 1506, Lot 10, Basking Ridge; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to said agreement and N.J.S.A. 40A:12-14c, the Historical Society of Somerset Hills must submit an annual report to the Township setting out the use to which the building was put during the preceding year, the activities of the Society undertaken in furtherance of the public purpose for which the leasehold was granted, the approximate value or cost, if any, of such activities in furtherance of such purpose, and an affirmation of the continued tax exempt status of the Society pursuant to both State and Federal law; and

WHEREAS, the 2025 annual report has been submitted as required and placed on file with the Municipal Clerk.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Bernards that the 2025 Annual Report of the Historical Society of Somerset Hills be acknowledged as submitted and is on file in the Municipal Clerk's office.

Agenda Date and Vote: 02/10/2026

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify this is a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the Bernards Township Committee on 02/10/2026.

Christine V. Kieffer, Municipal Clerk



2025 Annual Report
The Historical Society of the Somerset Hills
Submitted by Sue Zibelli, Chairman

Board of Trustees

Sue Zibelli	Chairman
Leslie Brownwitt	President
Sue Manion	Treasurer
Cynthia Crosson	Recording Secretary
Jon Booth	Historic Preservation and Restoration, Building Maintenance
Leslie Brownwitt	Education
Roy Crego	Archives, Content Management, Social Media, Website
Sue Manion	Corresponding Secretary
Ruth Melillo	Event Committee Chair
William J. Kearns, Esq	Advisory Trustee
Michael C. Vaccaro, Esq	Advisory Trustee

The Board of Trustees comprises of nine volunteer members. The Board convened ten times during 2025.

A general membership meeting was held in November. General membership meetings may include business updates, announcements and guest speakers.

A Volunteer Appreciation Gathering was held in October at Café Azzurro in Gladstone.

The Historical Society of the Somerset Hills (THSSH) is the oldest historical society in the Somerset Hills and surrounding area, in existence for over 90 years. THSSH is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization.

Executive Summary

The primary objective of The Historical Society of the Somerset Hills (THSSH) in 2025 was to create cultural opportunities and enrichment for the local community by providing programs and initiatives that inform, educate and foster interest in local history.

- **Education** – Bernards Township and Bernardsville

The popular Early American Schoolhouse education program for 3rd grade students was provided to over 350 children from five Bernards Township schools. The educational program, “Connecting Through Time,” was provided to 100 - 5th grade students from Bernardsville Middle School in May. Two former teachers from the Education Committee resigned leaving the Education Program with a gap that needs to be filled. THSSH is exploring a youth program with the Museum of Early Trades and Crafts (METC) for first and second grade students.

Tours of the “Astor Mansion” were provided to a local Girl Scout troop, and also to Saint James 1st grade students, as well as to visitors during the Mayor’s Fall Festival where THSSH had a Welcome Table for the first time. A tour of the Brick Academy was provided by THSSH trustees to a Cornell fraternity group in April. Trustees provided a tour of the Brick Academy Museum to a team of 10 teachers from Ridge High School to discuss a collaboration on the state’s America 250 “History Happened Here” education initiative. THSSH developed a “History Happened Here” Education Program to offer to local high school students to align with the state’s initiative.

- **Research** – Nationwide

Close to 30 research requests were addressed by Trustees throughout 2025, with 11 in-person visits to THSSH’s Research Room in the Brick Academy. The Archive Committee, consisting of one Trustee and three volunteers, remained active during 2025. The Committee met regularly at the Brick Academy to develop and work on proper management of our archives and donated materials. The Online Collections Catalog contained close to 500 public access records as of December 2025.

- **Museum** – Somerset Hills

For his Eagle Scout project, a local Scout filmed the 'Natirar Estate and Kate Macy Ladd Convalescent Home' exhibit at the Brick Academy Museum. The museum was open to the public the first Sunday of each month from 2-4pm.

- **Communications** – Nationwide

Members received three issues of “*Inside the Brick Academy*” newsletters, along with the annual report. Copies of the newsletter are also left at Bernards Township Town Hall. An email communication is sent at the same time as the newsletter to members, as well as non-members. The email highlights programs and events and includes a Volunteer Spotlight. The email leads readers to the current newsletter on our website, as well as our Blog and Facebook page. Copies of the 2025 Programs & Events brochure were left at Bernards Township Town Hall, and in local food and business establishments.

- **Website and Social Media** – Nationwide

THSSH continued to communicate news and information through our website www.thssh.org, and through eMail. Our Facebook page has 549 followers; our Instagram page has 375 followers.

- **Programs and Events** – Somerset Hills, surrounding area

In February at Pendry Natirar in Peapack, THSSH hosted an event “Natirar – A Journey Through Time. A New Members Meet and Greet was held at Café Azzurro in Peapack. This was the first time THSSH offered this event to new members as an opportunity to meet other new members, as well as to learn

how to help THSSH cultivate interest in local history. A Wasp Takes Wing: The Story of Ann Baumgartner Carl speaker program was held at the Brick Academy in April. The March to Yorktown Day Panel Discussion and Exhibit program was held at the Brick Academy in July, kicking off THSSH's first America 250 celebration. Over 40 people attended. A YouTube video of the program was created that garnered 110 views. An Afternoon Tea at Blairsdon event was held in September. A Volunteer Appreciation Gathering was held in October at Café Azzurro in Peapack as a way for all THSSH volunteers to get to meet each other. The Prohibition 2025 program, combined with the THSSH Annual Membership Meeting, was held at the Gladstone Tavern in November. The year ended with a Holiday Party in December at St Bernard's Parish Hall and Church in Bernardsville.

- **Advocacy**

THSSH participated in Bernards Township's Charter Day Festival and Somerset County's Weekend Journey through the Past where over 60 people visited the Brick Academy. Trustees worked with a Bernards Township Committee member to develop Bernards Township merchandise to be sold at Charter Day, and other township events, as well as THSSH events. A tumbler was created with a THSSH logo on one side and Bernards Township logo on the opposite side.

Trustees attended the Somerset County Historical Society Membership Drive Party at Raritan Valley Community College in August. The About Us page on the society's website was revised to include logos of affiliated organizations.

Two Trustees were appointed to Bedminster Township's new Jacobus Vanderveer House (JVH) Commission.

THSSH Trustees were appointed to the Bernards Township Patriotic Subcommittee, a committee formed to coordinate the efforts of THSSH, the Ross Farm, the Kennedy-Martin-Stelle Farmstead, and other non-profit organizations in Bernards Township that are planning America 250 programs and events. THSSH appointed a Trustee to sit on the Bernardsville America 250 Committee.

- **Historic Restoration and Preservation and Brick Academy Maintenance**

THSSH continues to work with parties to advise on the historic importance of properties. THSSH took action to inform Bernards Township on the historic dating of the former Lord Stirling School that is being considered for demolition. Two Trustees gave a tour of the Brick Academy to two archaeologists from the Lord Stirling team.

The 38-star centennial flag that hung on the wall of the Brick Academy Museum was sent to a textile conservation workshop for restoration. A "Save the Flag" donation campaign was launched on Flag Day.

- **Membership – Nationwide**

Total membership in 2025 was 241. THSSH welcomed 56 new members in 2025. A new "Member Meet and Greet" reception was held in March at Café Azzurro in Gladstone where 25 members attended and 18 signed up to be volunteers.

- **Donations** – Nationwide

THSSH received \$16,500 in donations. Several artifacts were donated to the museum including books and photographs relating to Blairsden and the Blair family; photographs of St. Bernards Episcopal Parish House in Bernardsville; McMurtry, Child, Drake photo albums and letters; Tiger family photographs and papers; Van Dorn family papers; Tambourine used by the Basking Ridge Fire Department; framed Frederick C. Olcott portrait.

Education

Print publications are available free of charge at the Brick Academy:

- THSSH Pamphlet – Highlights the history of the Brick Academy, the mission of The Historical Society of the Somerset Hills, ongoing projects, fund raising events, museum hours, and membership information.
- Inside the Brick Academy Newsletter – Published three times a year and mailed to our membership, this newsletter comprises society news, event calendar, and local interest stories.
- Volunteer Brochure – Describes the primary THSSH committees, which include Affiliate Organizations; Archives & Research; Bookstore; Building Maintenance; Clerical; Community Outreach; Education; Fund Raisers; Gardens & Grounds; Hospitality; Membership; Museum; Newsletter; Production; Public Relations; Publicity; Speaker Programs; Website/Social Media

On sale at the Brick Academy is the *Around and About Basking Ridge, Liberty Corner and Lyons* picture book, as well as other history related books.

Archives & Research

THSSH archives is coveted by local and distant researchers who contact THSSH via our website, phone, and mail to request local research assistance. The primary information requested is local family and house documents and pictures; historic maps; local historic figures; and buildings.

THSSH received close to 29 research requests that were addressed in person and remotely by Trustees.

A donated portrait of Frederic C. Olcott was picked up in North Carolina by Advisory Trustee Michael Vaccaro who drove it to the Brick Academy.

Museum

The Brick Academy serves as a museum of local artifacts and historical information about the towns in the Somerset Hills – Bedminster, Peapack-Gladstone, Far Hills, Bernardsville, and Bernards Township/Basking Ridge, the only one of its kind in the Somerset Hills.

The top floor, restored to an 1890s period schoolroom with an authentic potbelly stove, period schoolroom furniture, and classroom objects, is used for education programs. Along with the 1890s schoolroom display, the top floor displays a timeline of the building; poster images and biographies of important people who had once attended the Classical School of Basking Ridge, the precursor to the Brick Academy; a schoolwork display case that showcases students' work from the early 1900s; and a bobsled that was used in the township in the early 1900s.

The lower floor, which is mainly used for research and meetings, has on display late 1800/early 1900 maps of the Somerset Hills towns, artifacts from local post offices, and other notable artifacts.

The main floor displays a permanent exhibit: 'What Put Somerset Hills on the Map.' Included in the exhibit are 8" x 10" color photographs of many of the magnificent homes on the Bernardsville Mountain. THSSH has been given the rights to many of the photos for this exhibit by the Turpin Real Estate Agency. In addition to building our library with these important photos, the Museum Committee has been building relationships with many organizations in the Somerset Hills, including Hamilton Farm, Trump National Golf Club, Natirar, Matheny, Meadowbrook Inventions, the USGA, the Jacobus Vanderveer House and Museum, the Farmstead Arts Center, and the Boudinot-Southard-Ross Estate, to name a few.

A temporary exhibit "The Natirar Estate and Kate Macy Ladd Convalescent Home," was on display at the historical society's headquarters museum at the Brick Academy throughout 2025. The exhibit showcases the Natirar estate, which encompassed 1,000 acres in Peapack-Gladstone, and the convalescent home.

In the interest of collaborating with other history organizations, the Museum Committee has provided on long-term loan to the Boudinot-Southard-Ross Estate a collection of tools and kitchen utensils.

THSSH museum and archives collections are catalogued, digitized and entered into Rutgers' New Jersey Digital Highway (NJDH), a digital repository that preserves the state's cultural resources and artifacts for use by current and future generations of citizens, educators, researchers and students. Resources are available and maintained 24/7 and maintained in perpetuity. THSSH joins 50 other New Jersey historical organizations participating in NJDH.

Website and Social Media

The Historical Society of the Somerset Hills (THSSH) online:

- Website: www.thssh.org
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/historicalsocietynj>
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/historicalsocietynj/>

Donations

- Several artifacts were donated to the Museum.
- THSSH received \$16,500 in donations. Donations and Bequests are received from our school programs, current and past members, and their families.
- Membership dues paid in 2025 were \$2,400.
- Revenue is generated through program and event ticket sales, as well as book sales.
- Gift items sold through our website, and at the Brick Academy and community events, amounted to \$370.
- Non-profit organizations that conduct meetings at the Brick Academy provide a contribution.

- Area residents and out-of-town visitors to our museum leave donations in our donation box at the Brick Academy.

Brick Academy Utilization

In addition to our museum, research room, education programs, speaker programs, and community events, the Brick Academy is normally utilized by outside groups for their meetings and programs.

Advocacy & Affiliations

The Historical Society is a member of The Somerset County Historical Society, League of Historical Societies of New Jersey, American Association for State and Local History, and Crossroads of the American Revolution.

THSSH participated in the Bernards Township Charter Day Festival in May. THSSH also participated in Somerset County's Weekend Journey through the Past in October.

2026 Outlook

The Historical Society of the Somerset Hills will continue to pursue its mission to acquire, conserve and share artifacts and information on matters of local historic interest; cultivate interest in local history; partake in community events; encourage the preservation of local historic resources; facilitate historic research; and preserve, operate and interpret the Brick Academy.

- To strengthen and grow the organizational structure of THSSH's Board of Trustees.
- Trustees will be actively engaging current members to volunteer on THSSH committees, as well as for programs and events.
- THSSH will maintain its image as a premier historical society through committee work.
- Programs will be offered that appeal to our members and to the community.
- Our website and social media strategy will continue to share information regarding local events and history in the Somerset Hills.
- THSSH will work toward growing sources of income to achieve financial independence.

Respectfully submitted:

Susan Zibelli

Susan Zibelli, THSSH Chairman

February 2, 2026



Resolution of the Township of Bernards

1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
908-766-2510; www.bernards.org

Resolution #2026-0169

Authorizing the Donation of Gasoline and/or Diesel Fuel to the Basking Ridge Fire Company No. 1 & First Aid Squad, and Liberty Corner Fire Company

WHEREAS, on 2/12/13 a Commodity Resale System resolution was passed which included the resale of Gasoline and Diesel Fuel to the Basking Ridge Fire Company No. 1 and First Aid Squad, and Liberty Corner Fire Company; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Bernards greatly appreciates the service provided by the all volunteer fire and first aid squads; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Bernards desires to further aid the fiscal operation of volunteer emergency services by donating gasoline and/or diesel fuel from the municipal pumps to be used in emergency service vehicles through December 31, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Bernards that the 2026 annual maximum value of donated gasoline and/or diesel fuel will be as follows:

- | | |
|---|---------|
| 1. Basking Ridge Fire Company No. 1 and First Aid Squad - | \$8,500 |
| 2. Liberty Corner Fire Company - | \$7,500 |

Agenda and Date Voted: 02/10/2026

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify this is a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the Bernards Township Committee on 02/10/2026

Christine V. Kieffer, Municipal Clerk

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT:

The donation of gasoline and/or diesel fuel to the Basking Ridge Fire Company No. 1 and First Aid Squad, and Liberty Corner Fire Company by the Township further aids the fiscal operations of the all volunteer fire and first aid squads.

Pat Monaco, Township Administrator/COO

February 3, 2026



Resolution of the Township of Bernards

1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
908-766-2510; www.bernards.org

Resolution #2026-0170

Change Order #1 Authorizing Purchasing from Educational Services Commission of New Jersey Co-Op #ESCNJ 22/23-23 for Restoration of the Health Department Kitchen Area to First Onsite Property Restoration, 30 Abeel Road, Monroe, NJ 08831
For an additional amount of \$7,032.18.

WHEREAS, the Bernards Township Committee on December 9, 2025 passed resolution # 2025-0431 in the amount of \$45,916.19 authorizing the restoration and repair of the Health Department kitchen area as awarded under Educational Services Commission of New Jersey Co-Op #ESCNJ 22/23-23; and

WHEREAS, Educational Services Commission of New Jersey Co-Op awarded a contract to First Onsite Property Restoration, 30 Abeel Road, Monroe, NJ 08831; and

WHEREAS, the Township is authorized to make purchases through cooperative and State contracts pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-10 and 12; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available in the Sustaining Local Public Health Grant Account: G-02-27-COV-225 (\$7,032.18); and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Bernards that the Purchasing Agent be authorized to issue purchase orders to First Onsite Property Restoration, 30 Abeel Road, Monroe, NJ 08831 for an additional amount of \$7,032.18 for a new not to exceed amount of \$52,948.37 through February 28, 2026.

Agenda and Date Voted: 02/10/2026

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

First Onsite has been contracted for complete kitchen restoration and repair services following an asbestos abatement and total gut of the Health Department kitchen. This change order adds required framing and electrical work discovered post-abatement.

Date: 2/1/2026

Dawn Marling, Health Officer

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICERS CERTIFICATION

I, Sean McCarthy, Chief Financial Officer of the Township of Bernards, hereby certify that adequate funds are available in the Sustaining Local Public Health Grant Account: G-02-27-COV-225 (7,032.18).

Date: February 3, 2026

Sean McCarthy, Chief Financial Officer

PURCHASING CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that I have prepared this resolution and reviewed it for accuracy.



Francis J. Decibus
For Purchasing Agent

Date: February 2, 2026

Francis J. Decibus, QPA, RPPO Purchasing Agent

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify this is a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the Bernards Township Committee on 02/10/2026.

Christine V. Kieffer, Municipal Clerk



Resolution of the Township of Bernards

1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
908-766-2510; www.bernards.org

Resolution #2026-0171

Authorizing and Approving Purchase of one (1) 2024 Ford F-150 Police Responder XL 4WD SuperCrew 5.5' Box from the Cranford Police Cooperative Pricing System Contract Item #2 to Fred Beans Management Company, Inc, 3960 Airport Boulevard, Doylestown, PA 18902 In the Amount Not to Exceed \$46,085.00

WHEREAS, the Township of Bernards Police Department wishes to purchase one (1) 2024 Ford F-150 Police Responder XL 4WD SuperCrew 5.5' Box vehicle;

QTY	DESCRIPTION	UNIT TOTAL
1	2024 Ford F-150 Police Responder XL 4WD SuperCrew 5.5' Box vehicle per Quote Dated 01/07/2026 (CPCPS Contract Item #2)	\$51,610.00
Code	WITH ADDITIONAL OPTIONS	
UM_03	Agate Black Metallic	N/C
18B	Black Platform Running Boards	\$255.00
595	Fog Lamps	\$145.00
67T	Integrated Trailer Brake Controller	\$280.00
924	Rear Window Fixed Privacy Glass w/Defroster	\$100.00
59E	Driver Only LED Bulb Spot Lamp (Unity)	\$405.00
	Destination Charge	\$1,995.00
	Co-Op Government Discount	(\$8,705.00)
	Vehicle Total	\$46,085.00

and;

WHEREAS, it is the combined recommendation of the Police Chief, Administrator and Purchasing Agent to award this purchase to: Fred Beans Management Company, Inc, 3960 Airport Boulevard, Doylestown, PA 18902 in the amount of \$46,085.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available in the budget; the line-item appropriation to be charged is line account #6-01-25-251-295 (\$46,085.00); and

WHEREAS, the Township is authorized to make purchases through cooperative and State contracts pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-10 and -12.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Bernards, Somerset County, New Jersey that the Purchasing Agent is hereby authorized to issue a purchase order for one (1) 2024 Ford F-150 Police Responder XL 4WD SuperCrew 5.5' Box vehicle to Fred Beans Management Company, Inc, 3960 Airport Boulevard, Doylestown, PA 18902 in the amount not to exceed \$46,085.00.

Agenda and Date Voted: 02/10/2026

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The Police Department requires replacement of a 2012 Ford F-250 pickup truck which suffers from significant rust damage and has outlived its useful lifespan. This purchase is consistent with the Police Department's fleet management plan.

Date: 01/16/2026

Chief Timothy King

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER CERTIFICATION

I, Sean McCarthy, Chief Financial Officer of the Township of Bernards, hereby certify that adequate funds are available for the above referenced purchase in the amount not to exceed \$46,085.00. Monies are available in the Police Cars-Payment line account #6-01-25-251-295.



Date: February 3, 2026

Sean McCarthy, Chief Financial Officer

PURCHASING CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that I have prepared this resolution and reviewed it for accuracy.



Francis J. Decibus, QPA, RPPO
Purchasing Agent

Date: January 20, 2026

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify this is a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the Bernards Township Committee on 02/10/2026.

Christine V. Kieffer, Municipal Clerk



Resolution of the Township of Bernards

1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
908-766-2510; www.bernards.org

Resolution #2026-0172

Unused Vacation Accrual Due

Patricia Pane

Bernards Township – Health Department

WHEREAS, the Township Committee adopted Resolution No. 2026-0066 at their regularly scheduled meeting of January 6, 2026, accepting the Personnel Policies and Procedures that outline guidelines for pay-outs when employees leave the Township’s payroll; and

WHEREAS, Patricia Pane’s full-time employment terminated on January 29, 2026; and

WHEREAS, per the requirements of the Township’s Personnel Policy, Patricia Pane is entitled to a Vacation Time Accrual payment for vacation time as calculated below based on an hourly rate of \$42.00. If the employee uses vacation time prior to separation, the calculation below could be less but not more:

	Total Hours Available	Amount Due
Vacation Accrual	39.50	\$1,659.00

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Bernards that the unused accrued vacation payment be approved and distributed in the next available pay cycle.

Agenda and Date Voted: 02/10/2026

CFO CERTIFICATION

I, Sean McCarthy, Chief Financial Officer of the Township of Bernards, do hereby certify that there are adequate funds for this expenditure. Funds are available in the Public Health Services S&W Line, Account #6-01-27-330-101 for an amount not to exceed \$1,659.00

Sean McCarthy, CFO

Date: February 3, 2026

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify this is a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the Bernards Township Committee on 02/10/2026.

Christine V. Kieffer, Municipal Clerk



Resolution of the Township of Bernards

1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
908-766-2510; www.bernards.org

Resolution #2026-0173 Authorization for Tax Refund

WHEREAS, an overpayment of property taxes has occurred due to Pennymac Loan Services LLC mistakenly paying the property taxes for a property in Bernards Township, when the payment was intended for a property they service in Wildwood, NJ; and

WHEREAS, Pennymac has requested in writing that the overpaid funds be refunded to correct the error and clear their account; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has recommended issuing a refund to Pennymac to resolve the issue.

Block/Lot	Quarter/Year	Amount	Issue Refund to
9203/34.02/CONDO	1Q26	\$2,226.05	Pennymac Loan Service LLC Attn: Property Tax Refund Dept 6101 Condor Dr Moorpark, CA 93021

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Bernards, that we do hereby approve and authorize these refunds.

Agenda and Date Voted: 02/10/2026

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify this is a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the Bernards Township Committee on 02/10/2026

Christine V Kieffer, Municipal Clerk

Interpretive Statement: A refund is required because the lender made an incorrect payment, resulting in an overpayment on the account. The Tax Collector recommends refunding the overpaid amount to Pennymac in order to resolve the issue and clear the account.

Kevin Sant'Angelo, Tax Collector



Resolution of the Township of Bernards

1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
908-766-2510; www.bernards.org

Resolution #2026-0174

Unused Vacation Accrual Due

Bryson Buchanan

Bernards Township – Police Department

WHEREAS, the Township Committee adopted Resolution No. 2026-0066 at their regularly scheduled meeting of January 6, 2026, accepting the Personnel Policies and Procedures that outline guidelines for pay-outs when employees leave the Township’s payroll; and

WHEREAS, Bryson Buchanan’s full-time employment will terminate on February 19, 2026; and

WHEREAS, per the requirements of the Township’s Personnel Policy, Bryson Buchanan is entitled to a Vacation Time Accrual payment for vacation time as calculated below based on an hourly rate of \$33.89. If the employee uses vacation time prior to separation, the calculation below could be less but not more:

	Total Hours Available	Amount Due
Vacation Accrual	126.00	\$4,270.14

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Bernards that the unused accrued vacation payment be approved and distributed in the next available pay cycle.

Agenda and Date Voted: 02/10/2026

CFO CERTIFICATION

I, Sean McCarthy, Chief Financial Officer of the Township of Bernards, do hereby certify that there are adequate funds for this expenditure. Funds are available in the Police Department S&W Line, Account #5-01-25-240-101 for an amount not to exceed \$4,270.14

Sean McCarthy, CFO

Date: February 4, 2026

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify this is a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the Bernards Township Committee on 02/10/2026.

Christine V. Kieffer, Municipal Clerk



Resolution of the Township of Bernards

1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
908-766-2510; www.bernards.org

Resolution #2026-0175 Authorization for Tax Refund

WHEREAS, an overpayment of property taxes has occurred due to the property owner having set up Auto-Pay on his account and then remitting a separate, one-time payment through our website; and

WHEREAS, The property owner has requested in writing that the overpaid funds be refunded to correct the error and clear their account; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has recommended issuing a refund to the property owner to resolve this overpayment.

Block/Lot	Quarter/Year	Amount	Issue Refund to
8901/124/CONDO	1Q26	\$1,854.27	Kenneth Von Halle 130 Alexandria Way Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Bernards, that we do hereby approve and authorize these refunds.

Agenda and Date Voted: 02/10/2026

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify this is a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the Bernards Township Committee on 02/10/2026

Christine V Kieffer, Municipal Clerk

Interpretive Statement: A refund is necessary due to an incorrect second payment made by the property owner, which resulted in an overpayment on the account. The Tax Collector recommends refunding the excess amount to the property owner to resolve the issue and clear the account.

Kevin Sant'Angelo, Tax Collector



Resolution of the Township of Bernards

1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
908-766-2510; www.bernards.org

Resolution #2026-0160

Resolution of the Township Committee of the Township of Bernards Adopting An
“Affirmative Marketing Plan” For The Township Of Bernards

WHEREAS, in accordance with the New Jersey Uniform Housing Affordability Controls (“UHAC”) (N.J.A.C. 5:80-26, et seq.), and the terms of a Consent Order Conditional Compliance Certification (N.J.S.A. 52:27D-304(q)) entered on January 8, 2026, by the Hon. William G. Mennen, J.S.C., which was entered into as part of the Township’s Declaratory Judgment action entitled In the Matter of the Application of the Township of Bernards, County of Somerset, Docket No. SOM-L-157-25, the Township of Bernards is required to adopt an updated Affirmative Marketing Plan to ensure that all affordable housing units created, including those created by the rehabilitation of rental housing units within the Township of Bernards, are affirmatively marketed to low and moderate income households, particularly those living and working within Housing Region 3, encompassing the Township of Bernards.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Bernards, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, do hereby adopt the following Affirmative Marketing Plan:

Affirmative Marketing Plan

- A. All affordable housing units in the Township of Bernards shall be marketed in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 5:80-26.16 as issued December 15, 2025, and attached to this Resolution No. 2026-___ (the “New Affirmative Marketing Regulations”).
- B. The Township’s Administrative Agent, or the Administrative Agent of any specific developer, shall administer the Affirmative Marketing Plan in accordance with the New Affirmative Marketing Regulations. The Administrative Agent has the responsibility to income qualify very low, low and moderate income households; to place income eligible households in very low, low and moderate income units upon initial occupancy; to provide for the initial occupancy of very low, low and moderate income units with income qualified households; to continue to qualify households for re-occupancy of units as they become vacant during the period of affordability controls; to assist with outreach to very low, low and moderate income households; and to enforce the terms of the deed restriction and mortgage loan as per N.J.A.C. 5:80-26-1, et seq.

C. The Township’s Administrative Agent shall provide the Municipal Housing Liaison with the information required to comply with monitoring and reporting requirements pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:80-26-1, et seq. and N.J.A.C. 5:99-1.1, et seq., specifically N.J.A.C. 5:80-26.16 and N.J.A.C. 5:99-7.2(a)1.

D. To the extent Sections 21-85.3e1(a) and 21-85.8 of the Township’s Land Development Ordinance are inconsistent with the New Affirmative Marketing Regulations, the latter shall govern and so supersede Sections 21-85.3e1(a) and 21-85.8.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the appropriate Township officials and professionals are authorized to take all actions required to implement the terms of this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect pursuant to law.

Agenda and Date Voted: 02/10/2026

ATTEST:

BERNARDS TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE:

By: _____
Christine V. Kieffer, RMC
Township Clerk

By: _____
Ana Duarte McCarthy, Mayor

CERTIFICATION
I hereby certify this is a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the Bernards Township Committee on 02/10/2026.

Christine Kieffer, Municipal Clerk



Ordinance of the Township of Bernards

1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
908-766-2510; www.bernards.org

ORDINANCE #2593

An Ordinance of the Township of Bernards, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, Amending, Revising and Supplementing the Code of the Township of Bernards, Chapter 21, “Land Development,” to add Section 21-87 “Incorporation of New Jersey Administrative Code Sections 5:99-1.1 to 5:99 – 9.4 and New Jersey Administrative Code Sections 5:80-26.1 to 26.23”

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Bernards (the “Township”), County of Somerset and State of New Jersey, that Chapter 21, “Land Development,” of the Code of the Township of Bernards shall be amended, revised and supplemented as follows:

WHEREAS, on December 15, 2025, the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs adopted effective December 15, 2025, with an expiration date of December 15, 2032, new regulations at N.J.A.C. 5:99 -1.1 to 5:99- 9.4 to establish procedures to be used in addressing requirements set forth in N.J.S.A. 52:27D-301 et seq., and the New Jersey Municipal Land Use Law, N.J.S.A. 40:55D-1 et seq., and

WHEREAS, on November 6, 2025, the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency adopted with an effective date of November 6, 2025, with an expiration date of May 30, 2031, new regulations at N.J.A.C. 5:80-26.1 to 5:80-26.23 with Appendices D-1, D-2, D-3, D-4, F-1, F-2, P-1 and P-2 designed to implement the New Jersey Fair Housing Act, N.J.S.A. 52:27D-301 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, In the Matter of the Application of the Township of Bernards, County of Somerset, Docket No. SOM-L-157-25, the Honorable William G. Mennen, J.S.C. on December 19, 2025, issued a Consent Order Conditional Compliance Certification (N.J.S.A. 52:27D-304(a)) that requires, in pertinent part, at paragraphs 5 to 7:

- “5. The Township’s Compliance Certification is deemed conditional until the following conditions are met:
- The Township shall prepare and adopt a Spending Plan that complies with the forthcoming regulations at N.J.A.C. 5:99 [issued December 15, 2025] before March 15, 2026.
 - The Township shall update its Affordable Housing Ordinance, Development Fee Ordinance, Affirmative Marketing Plan, and other administrative documents in accordance with the forthcoming regulations at N.J.A.C. 5:80-26.1, et seq, and N.J.A.C. 5:99 after they are adopted [issued in the New Jersey Register on December 15, 2025] and before March 15, 2026.

- The Township shall provide drafts of all documents [to Fair Share Housing Center] by February 13, 2026, any resolutions shall be adopted by February 24, 2026 and any ordinances shall be introduced by February 24, 2026, and adoption shall be by March 10, 2026.
- No later than 48 hours after adoption or March 16, 2026, whichever is sooner, the Township shall file the information required by Paragraph 5 and any other adopted ordinances and resolutions on eCourts.
- No later than April 15, 2026, the Township and FSHC shall provide via filing on eCourts a form of consent order granting final compliance certification for the Court’s review, or identify any remaining issues of compliance that may be disputed at which point the court shall schedule a conference to review any such areas.”

WHEREAS, the Township presently at Sections 21-76, 21-85 and 21-86, Land Development, provides for regulations guiding affordable housing in the Township, and will now be required to comply with paragraphs 5 to 7 of the Consent Order Conditional Compliance Certification.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows, that new Section 21-87, entitled “Fourth Round Mt. Laurel Affordable Housing Compliance 2025 to 2035” be added as follows.

Section 21-87.1. To the extent Sections 21-76, 21-85 and 21-86 are either inconsistent or superseded by N.J.A.C. 5:99.1.1 to 5:99-9.4 and N.J.A.C.5:80-26.1 to 5:80-26.23 with Appendices D-1, D-2, D-3, D-4, F-1, F-2, P-1 and P-2 (the ‘Fourth Round Regulations’), the Fourth Round Regulations shall apply and govern in all respects.

Section 21-87.2. The primary responsibility for ensuring compliance with the Fourth Round Regulations shall be the Township’s Administrative Agent and Municipal Housing Liaison with legal advise and input from the Township Attorney.

Section 21-87.3. The Township Committee will on an annual basis at its reorganization meeting adopt a resolution appointing a Municipal Housing Liaison in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:99-6.1 to 6.4.

Section 21-87.4. The Township shall adopt by Resolution an Affirmative Marketing Plan for all affordable units in the Township in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 5:80-26.16 issued December 15, 2025.

Section 21-87.5. The Township may use affordable housing trust funds for any activity as itemized in its spending plan, including, but not limited to, activities set forth in N.J.A.C. Section 5:99-2.3.

The Township Clerk is directed to give notice at least ten days prior to hearing on the adoption of this ordinance to the Somerset County Planning Board and to all other persons entitled thereto pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:55D-15 and N.J.S. 40:55D-63 (if required). Upon the adoption of this ordinance after public hearing thereon, the Township Clerk is further directed to publish notice of the passage thereof and to file a copy of the ordinance as finally adopted with the Somerset County Planning Board as required by N.J.S.A. 40:55D-16. The Clerk shall also forthwith transmit a copy of this ordinance after final passage to the Township Tax Assessor as required by N.J.S. 40:49-2.1.