## A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NORTH BRUNSWICK CONFIRMING SOLICITATION FOR ADDITIONAL LEASE SPACE FOR OFFICE SPACE/ARCHIVE RECORDS

WHEREAS, Hurricane Ida impacted New Jersey on Wednesday, September 1, 2021, bringing severe weather conditions including strong winds, reports of tornadoes, and heavy and sustained rainfall in some areas; and

WHEREAS, the storm caused severe damage to municipal facilities, infrastructure and equipment, including the Municipal Complex which could have endangered the community's health, safety, and welfare if not responded to in an immediate manner; and

**WHEREAS,** on Thursday, September 2, 2021, the Mayor for the Township declared a State of Emergency for the Township; and

WHEREAS, on September 27, 2021, the Township adopted an emergency resolution authorizing the execution of a Lease Agreement with 1460 Livingston Ave LLC, for the temporary location of various divisions within Police Department to occupy 1460 Livingston Avenue-Building 400, 2nd floor, North Brunswick, New Jersey, with a three-month initial term (and option to extend month-to-month) at \$34,000/month for 10,000 square feet; and

WHEREAS, in October and November of 2021, Police Dispatch, Command staff and other Departments operating out of the Municipal Complex were relocated to various temporary locations, including other municipal facilities and rental trailers provided under the insurance claim; and

WHEREAS, the trailer configuration located in the parking lot of the Municipal Complex was designed to be a short-term solution and some smaller, single-wide trailers did not provide adequate space for file accessibility, public interaction, and safety during extreme weather conditions; and

WHEREAS, by August of 2022, the back first floor of the Police Department was isolated with a separate temporary heating, ventilation and air condition system and available for identified police use; and

WHEREAS, by September of 2022, Rapid Recovery along with their subcontractors notified municipal officials and engaged professionals to expect additional construction delays, more specifically with regards to remediation of the mechanical room, which houses necessary elements of the heating, ventilation and air condition system (HVAC); and

**WHEREAS,** in response, without an anticipated completion date provided, the Township began preparing additional space within the municipal owned facilities, leaving one department to potentially be relocated under a Lease Agreement to an office space;

WHEREAS, in addition, the archive of municipal records for various departments was located within the basement and damaged by water during the storm event; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Clerk as custodian of records worked with the State Department of Treasury, Division of Records Management that determined the damaged documents could not be filed for destruction and must be treated and preserved; and

**WHEREAS,** in September and October of 2021, with approval from the insurance carrier, a crane was brought to the Municipal Complex and a company engaged for the removal and restoration of paper documents which included stabilization, cleaning, sterilization and; and

**WHEREAS,** in November of 2022, the restoration company provided the Township with a status on treatment progress along with the estimated volume of files to be returned with an anticipated January delivery date; and

WHEREAS, municipal officials have reviewed municipal space available and there is no facility with suitable conditions; and

WHEREAS, Municipal Officials are in the process of seeking approval from the excess carrier for expenses associated with leased space to accommodate the timeline, volume, structural load, access, security and climate control necessary to continue with the next phase which includes identifying, sorting and preparing the restored files to be incorporated into the digital document management system (Laserfiche); and

**WHEREAS,** Local Lands and Buildings Law <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 40A:12-5 permits that a municipality may provide for the acquisition of any real property, capital improvement, or personal property by lease agreement; and

WHEREAS, the solicitation being conducted shall include the necessary accommodations required under the lease agreement required by respondents; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Township Council of the Township of North Brunswick, County of Middlesex, and State of New Jersey, hereby acknowledges and confirms actions to be taken by municipal officials to secure a lease agreement to house archives and other department relocations from trailers as determined necessary.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that all of the proposal documents for the aforesaid lease agreement shall be presented to the council for consideration at the January 9, 2023 Workshop/Meeting.

Justine Progebin Business Administrator Ronald Gordon, Esq. Township Attorney Approved as to legal form

## **RECORDED VOTE:**

COUNCIL MEMBER	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	NOTES
HUTCHINSON				
MEHTA				
GUADAGNINO				
ANDREWS				
SOCIO				
DAVIS				

MAYOR WOMACK	
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I hereby certify that the above Resolution was duly adopted by the Township Council of the Township of North Brunswick, County of Middlesex, at its meeting held on December 12, 2022.

Lisa Russo Township Clerk \_\_\_\_\_