

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF NORTH BRUNSWICK  
AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH MERIDIAN STRATEGIC SERVICES, INC.  
TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE WITH DISASTER RECOVERY  
FEMA/CLAIMS COORDINATION RELATED TO APPLICATIONS FILED WITH  
THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) AND  
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE GRANT FUNDING AND HAZARD MITIGATION PROGRAM  
AS AN EXTRAORDINARY UNSPECIFIABLE SERVICE**

**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, vehicles and equipment, including the Municipal Complex which had extensive damage to the sections of the Police Department and basement where the mechanical room is located; and

**WHEREAS**, in September of 2021, the Township filed claim(s) under the Garden State Joint Insurance Fund (JIF) to begin remediation efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, in October of 2022, due to the complexity of the insurance claim for the Municipal Complex, it was determined necessary to contract for claims administration services for assistance with the reporting, documentation and submission requirements; and

**WHEREAS**, in December of 2022, pursuant to Resolution 346-12.22, an agreement with BDO USA, LLP was authorized as an Extraordinarily Unspecifiable Service contract for work related to the insurance claim(s), with a one-year contract term and an amount not-to-exceed \$150,000.00 based on the agreed fee schedule; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposal submitted by BDO USA, LLP for said insurance claim work was presented to the excess carrier for a determination of coverage and approved as an eligible expense under the insurance claim(s); and

**WHEREAS**, in addition the Township has made application with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for Federal Hurricane Ida Recovery Funding, seeking reimbursement for expenses associated with restoration; and

**WHEREAS**, in January of 2023, pursuant to Resolution 60-1.23, an agreement with BDO USA, LLP was authorized as an Extraordinarily Unspecifiable Service contract to assist with the application process under FEMA, with an amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 and a one-year contract term; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposal submitted by BDO USA, LLP for said FEMA claim work shall be presented to FEMA for approval as an eligible expense under the Hurricane Ida application; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to insurance and FEMA Hurricane Ida funding, the Township is making application under FEMA Public Assistance grant funding and its Hazard Mitigation Program for costs associated with project(s) identified by professionals as necessary to ensure the building's resiliency during future weather events; and

**WHEREAS**, Municipal Officials solicited a proposal from Meridian Strategic Services, Inc. to assist in coordination of funding efforts and guidance with ongoing disaster recovery activities and working with professionals on mitigation projects; and

**WHEREAS**, the Purchasing Agent and Legal Counsel have reviewed the qualifications and proposal submitted by Meridian Strategic Services, Inc. and determined they possess the expertise and proven reputation to assist with the application process under FEMA; and

**WHEREAS**, some activities outlined with the proposal submitted by Meridian Strategic Services, Inc. may be an eligible expense under FEMA and shall be included in the application for reimbursement; and

**WHEREAS**, compensation for said services shall be based upon the January 27, 2023 proposal submitted by Meridian Strategic Services, Inc. to be paid upon submission of monthly invoices in accordance with the rate schedule, in an amount not-to-exceed \$30,000.00; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 et seq., services which are specialized and qualitative in nature, requiring expertise, extensive training and proven reputation in the field of endeavor, the amount of which exceeds the bid threshold, may be negotiated and awarded by the governing body by resolution without public advertising as an extraordinarily unspecifiable service contract; and

**WHEREAS**, under an alternative process to the Fair and Open process pursuant to Pay-to-Play Law N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq., the Township, as a local contracting unit, may award contracts for services that are specialized and extraordinarily unspecifiable in nature; and

**WHEREAS**, Meridian Strategic Services, Inc. has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Meridian Strategic Services, Inc. has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of North Brunswick in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit Meridian Strategic Services, Inc. from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition, Meridian Strategic Services, Inc. has completed and submitted a C.271 Political Contribution Disclosure Form pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.26 et seq.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, on this 6<sup>th</sup> day of February 2023, that the Township Council of the Township of North Brunswick does hereby authorize the agreement with Meridian Strategic Services, Inc. as an Extraordinarily Unspecifiable Service contract to assist with the application process under FEMA Hazard Mitigation Program, with an amount not-to-exceed \$30,000.00 and a one-year contract term; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value shall be placed on file with this resolution; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** notice of this action shall be published in the Home News & Tribune as required by law within 10 (ten) days after its passage.

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Cavel Gallimore, Chief Financial Officer, hereby certify that \$30,000.00 is available for this purpose in Storm Recovery Reserve Account D-33-56-850-005-001 contingent upon reimbursement under the FEMA application. Contract PRO23036

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cavel Gallimore  
Chief Financial Officer

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Justine Progebin  
Business Administrator

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Ronald Gordon, Esq.  
Township Attorney  
Approved as to legal form

**RECORDED VOTE:**

<b>COUNCIL MEMBER</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
HUTCHINSON				
GUADAGNINO				
ANDREWS				
DAVIS				
SOCIO				
MEHTA				
MAYOR WOMACK				

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 February 6, 2023.

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Lisa Russo  
Township Clerk