

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF NORTH BRUNSWICK
AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 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
PROGRAMS 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 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, in February of 2023, pursuant to Resolution 73-2.23, the Township authorized a contract with Meridian Strategic Services, Inc. (with offices at 109 Popletown Rd, New Paltz, NY 12561) for assistance with the application process under FEMA Hazard Mitigation Program, under a fair and open process, pursuant to the provisions of Pay-to-Play Law N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, as a recognized extraordinary unspecifiable service, pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 et seq., services outlined within the proposed contract included a lump sum amount of \$30,000.00 plus reimbursable expenses, with a term ending January 31, 2024, and included a provision for an additional period, not-to-exceed twelve consecutive months, with governing body approval; and

WHEREAS, due to ongoing review with representatives with FEMA, along with additional documentation required in regards to the application, it has been determined necessary to amend the agreement with Meridian Strategic Services, Inc., increasing the authorization from \$30,000.00 to \$50,000.00, with a revised term ending December 31, 2024; and

WHEREAS, certification of the availability of funds has been provided herein by the Chief Financial Officer in accordance with New Jersey Administrative Code, Title 5-Community Affairs under N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.5; and

WHEREAS, Meridian Strategic Services, Inc previously completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Meridian Strategic Services, Inc. has not made any reportable contributions to a candidate committee in the Township of North Brunswick in the previous one-year period, and that Meridian Strategic Services, Inc. shall be prohibited from making any reportable political contributions during the term of the contract outlined under N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.8 et seq.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 6th day of May 2024, that the Township Council of the Township of North Brunswick does hereby authorize an amendment to the agreement with Meridian Strategic Services, Inc. as an Extraordinarily Unspecifiable Service contract, with an amended amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00, and a one-year contract term, in accordance with the previously agreed fee schedule; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED notice of this action shall be published in the Home News & Tribune as required by law within 20 calendar days after its passage.

CERTIFICATION

I, Cavel Gallimore, Chief Financial Officer, hereby certify that \$50,000.00 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

Justine Progebin
Business Administrator

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

RECORDED VOTE:

| COUNCIL MEMBER | YES | NO | ABSTAIN | NOTES |
|----------------|-----|----|---------|-------|
| MEHTA | | | | |
| GUADAGNINO | | | | |
| ANDREWS | | | | |
| DAVIS | | | | |
| SOCIO | | | | |
| HUTCHINSON | | | | |
| 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 May 6, 2024.

Lisa Russo
Township Clerk