

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-04

**TOWNSHIP OF BLAIRSTOWN
COUNTY OF WARREN
STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**AN ORDINANCE PERMITTING BLAIRSTOWN HOSE COMPANY NO. 1 TO
SUBMIT REQUESTS FOR REIMBURSEMENT FOR THE COSTS OF MATERIALS
USED IN FIGHTING FIRES AND PROVIDING EMERGENCY SERVICES**

WHEREAS, the Blairstown Hose Company No. 1 (“Hose Company”) is an independent municipal volunteer fire and rescue company providing fire suppression, emergency services and rescue services in and around Blairstown Township and neighboring municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the cost of purchasing, repairing and maintaining the equipment and supplies used by the Hose Company in providing fire and rescue services has increased significantly in recent years; and

WHEREAS, the Hose Company has additional responsibilities and expenses because of the Hose Company’s agreements to provide services and mutual aid to surrounding municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee acknowledges the Hose Company’s interest in securing additional funding sources so that it can continue to provide fire and emergency services for the benefit of the residents of the Township and residents of the surrounding municipalities which are aided by the Hose Company; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee wishes to demonstrate its support for the Hose Company by recognizing the Hose Company’s authority to establish a revenue recovery plan through which those who benefit from the services provided by the Hose Company are asked to pay a fair and reasonable share of the cost of loss and wear and tear to apparatus, tools, equipment and materials used in fighting fires and/or providing emergency services so that a safe and appropriate level of service can be maintained and made available to the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Hose Company has informed the Township Committee that the amounts to be charged for materials and the costs associated with vehicle and equipment use will be that which is usual, customary and reasonable in accordance with standard practice and industry standards; and

WHEREAS, the Hose Company has further informed the Township Committee that its request for payment will be sent directly to the insurance company of the person or entity receiving services, or, if the insurance company is not known, to the person or entity receiving services with instructions to forward the request to the insurance provider.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Blairstown, Warren County, New Jersey, that Blairstown Hose Company No. 1 may establish a program, either directly or through a third-party billing agency with which it has contracted for billing and/or collection services, to solicit payments for the actual costs of materials used and the actual costs associated with vehicle and equipment used in fighting fires and/or providing emergency services.

SECTION 1. All ordinances or parts of ordinances of the Township of Blairstown inconsistent herewith are repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 2. If any section, subsection, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid by any court or competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the remaining portion of this Ordinance.

SECTION 3. This law shall take effect immediately upon final passage, approval and publication as required by law.

ATTEST:

Linda Leidner, Clerk

Joanne Van Valkenburg, Deputy Mayor

Introduced: February 13, 2019

Motion: Sikkes

Second: Moorhead

Vote: AYE: Moorhead, Sikkes, Van Valkenburg, Lance

Absent: Waldron

Advertised: February 18, 2019

Adopted: March 13, 2019

Motion: Waldron

Second: Moorhead

Vote: AYE: Moorhead, Sikkes, Van Valkenburg, Waldron

Absent: Lance

Advertised: March 19, 2019