

TOWNSHIP OF RARITAN

HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

ORDINANCE NO. 16-25

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RARITAN, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY, AMENDING CHAPTER 2.88 ENTITLED “OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND TRUST FUND” OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RARITAN, TO EXTEND THE OPEN SPACE TAX AUTHORIZATION.

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Raritan, in the County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey as follows:

Section I. Chapter 2.88 entitled “Open Space Advisory Committee and Trust Fund” of Title 2 entitled “Administration and Personnel” of *The Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Raritan* is hereby amended by the amendment of Section 2.88.020 to read as follows:

2.88.020 Funding of open space trust fund.

In 1997, a special tax rate shall be added to the total Township tax rate in the amount of two cents (\$0.02) per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of the 1997 assessed valuation and each succeeding year’s valuation with the funds raised therefrom to be deposited in the reserve for open space funds. The special tax rate shall remain the applicable tax rate to be applied for the reserve for open space funds in succeeding years. Effective in the year 2008 the special tax rate shall be one and one half cents (\$.015) of said assessed valuation. Effective in the year 2017, the special tax rate shall be modified as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Special Tax Rate</u>
<u>2017</u>	<u>1.5 cents per 100 dollars of said assessed valuation</u>
<u>2018</u>	<u>1.0 cents per 100 dollars of said assessed valuation</u>
<u>2019</u>	<u>0.8 cents per 100 dollars of said assessed valuation</u>
<u>2020</u>	<u>0.5 cents per 100 dollars of said assessed valuation</u>
<u>2021</u>	<u>0.5 cents per 100 dollars of said assessed valuation</u>

The special tax rate shall remain the applicable tax rate to be applied for the reserve for open space funds in succeeding years. The Chief Financial Officer of the Township shall report annually to the fund’s status, balances and transactions.

The reserve for open space funds shall also be permitted to accept donations and testamentary bequests. The funds accumulated within the reserve for open space funds shall be utilized for the acquisition of real estate and interests in real estate as more fully delineated in Section 2.88.010. In connection with such acquisition, the funds may also be utilized for appraisals and other items of expense permitted by law in connection with the acquisition or as a down payment for the issuance of bonds or for debt service for the same purpose at the discretion of the Township Committee. Any and all interest accruing on the funds shall remain in the reserve for open space funds and may be utilized for the above described purposes. In no eventuality, shall the Township pay more than fair market value for the land to be acquired. The Township shall obtain a minimum of two appraisals from certified appraisers plus the evaluation of the Township Tax Assessor, as a guide to the fair market value.

Section II. Chapter 2.88 entitled “Open Space Advisory Committee and Trust Fund” of Title 2 entitled “Administration and Personnel” of *The Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Raritan* is hereby amended by the amendment of Section 2.88.080 to read as follows:

2.88.080 Termination of chapter provisions.

This chapter shall be effective for a limited period to and until [December 31, 2006] December 31, 2021, at which time this chapter shall terminate and be repealed, unless prior thereto, the Township Committee conducts a public review of the open space acquisition and funding program, and the Township Committee amends this chapter to extend its lifespan.

Section III. If any article, section, subsection, sentence clause or phrase of this ordinance is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance and they shall remain in full force and effect.

Section IV. In the event of any inconsistencies between the provisions of this Ordinance and any prior Ordinance of the Township of Raritan, the provisions hereof shall be determined to govern. All other parts provisions of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Raritan are hereby ratified and confirmed, except where inconsistent with the terms hereof.

Section V. This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication according to law.

Notice to Codifier: [] denotes a deletion to original text;

underlined language denotes new text.

ATTEST:

**TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF
TOWNSHIP OF RARITAN**

William Bray
Acting Township Clerk

Karen Gilbert
Mayor

NOTICE OF PENDING ORDINANCE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the foregoing Ordinance was introduced at a Township Committee Meeting by the Township Committee of the Township of Raritan on November 14, 2016 the same was then ordered to be published according to law with a public hearing and a vote scheduled for the meeting of Dec. 6, 2016 beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building, One Municipal Drive, Flemington, New Jersey at which time all interested persons will be heard

William Bray
Acting Township Clerk

Roll Call	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Richard Chen, Committee Member		X	X			
Michael Mangin, Deputy Mayor				X		
Craig O'Brien, Committee Member			X			
Lou Reiner, Committee Member	X		X			
Karen Gilbert, Mayor				X		