

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

R E S O L U T I O N #24-286

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
HOPEWELL AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP TO COMMIT AVAILABLE OPEN
SPACE ACQUISITION FUNDS TOWARDS THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY
LOCATED AT CLEVELAND ROAD (BLOCK 40, LOT 19.03) KNOWN AS THE
GIARDINO PROPERTY**

WHEREAS, the Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space (hereinafter "FOHVOS") is a non-profit corporation dedicated to the conservation and stewardship of open space and farmland; and

WHEREAS, representatives of FOHVOS have met with representatives of the Township to discuss the acquisition of the Giardino property located at Cleveland Road, which is identified as Block 40, Lot 19.03 on the tax map of the Township of Hopewell (hereinafter, the "Property"); and

WHEREAS, the Property, which contains 28.011 acres, is contiguous to other properties acquired for the preservation of open space, including the adjacent Mt. Rose Preserve and the Lawrence-Hopewell Trail; and

WHEREAS, the purchase price of the Property is Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000.00) and FOHVOS has confirmed that it is seeking funding from both the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres Program and the County of Mercer for a portion of the purchase price; and

WHEREAS, FOHVOS has asked for the Township's endorsement of and participation in this land transaction; and

WHEREAS, participation by the Township would advance the conservation of open space consistent with the goals and objectives of the Township's Master Plan and is consistent with the Township's 2022 Open Space and Recreation Plan's Acquisition Criteria and Goals; and

WHEREAS, FOHVOS has requested that the Township contribute the amount of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00), which represents ten percent (10%) of the purchase price of the Property, towards the preservation of the Property as open space, with additional funding being acquired from a Mercer County Open Space Grant (\$149,963.00) and New Jersey Green Acres funding (\$210,037.00); and

WHEREAS, the Hopewell Township Open Space Trust Fund is intended for use in the advancement of open space land acquisition; and

WHEREAS, the Hopewell Township Open Space Trust Fund has a sufficient balance to satisfy the current request for funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, Mercer County, that Hopewell participates with FOHVOS in the acquisition of 28.011 acres of land located at Cleveland Road (Block 40, Lot 19.03) with a contribution of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00), representing ten percent (10%) of the purchase price of the Property, for its preservation as open space, and that the Township's participation be subject to meeting all relevant conditions of the Local Lands and Buildings Law, *N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1 et seq.*, the Local Fiscal Affairs Law, *N.J.S.A. 40A:5-1 et seq.*, and all other legal requirements. The Township's participation in this preservation and payment of the

aforementioned contribution is conditioned upon receipt by FOHVOS of the Mercer County Open Space Grant and Green Acres funding for the acquisition.

Date Adopted: August 19, 2024

CERTIFICATION

I, Katherine Fenton-Newman, Municipal Clerk, of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Township Committee at the regular meeting held on the 19th day of August 2024, in the Municipal Building Auditorium, Hopewell Township, New Jersey and via Zoom Video Communications.



Katherine Fenton-Newman, CMR, RMC
Municipal Clerk