

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER, CHAPTER 147-4 “NOTICE OF TORT CLAIM FORM”

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Tort Claims Act, N.J.S.A. 59:1, et seq. authorizes a public entity, such as the Township of Bridgewater, to adopt a tort claim notice form to be completed by claimant seeking to file a claim in accordance with the Tort claims Act; and

WHEREAS, The Township of Bridgewater is a public entity covered by the revisions of the New Jersey Tort claims Act; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Bridgewater Counsel deems it advisable, necessary and in the public interest to amend the ordinance to update its provisions concerning the Tort Claims Notice form.

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Council of the Township of Bridgewater in the County of Somerset and State of New Jersey the following:

Section I

Chapter 147-4 of the Municipal Code of the Township of Bridgewater be amended as follows (additions are written **thusly** and deletions are written ~~thusly~~):

§ 147-4. Notice of tort claim form.

A. The tort claim form on file in the office of the Township Clerk is hereby adopted as the official notice of tort claim for the Township of Bridgewater. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 59:8-4 and N.J.S.A. 59:8-6, any individual asserting a claim under N.J.S.A. 59:2-1 et seq. against the Township of Bridgewater shall complete the attached Notice of Tort Claim Form ("form"), which is incorporated herein by reference, and which may be amended by the Township Council from time to time by resolution.

~~B. The Township Clerk shall immediately provide the form to any individual that requests the form. The Township Clerk shall in the future provide the form to any individual requesting said form via electronic mail (E-mail), and/or by providing a downloadable copy of said form via Internet at the Township's Web site.~~

B. C. The claimant's rights to pursue a Tort Claim with the Township of Bridgewater are ~~shall complete the form within the time frame provided by the New Jersey Tort Claims Act, N.J.S.A. 59:2-1 et seq.~~

C. D. The claimant shall return the completed form to the Township Clerk, Township of Bridgewater, **100 Commons Way** ~~P.O. Box 6300, 700 Garretson Road~~, Bridgewater, NJ 08807 via regular mail or certified mail. Failure to follow this procedure shall constitute an incomplete filing and may jeopardize the claimant's rights.

E. If the claim form is incomplete, then the Township Clerk shall immediately return the incomplete form to the claimant, their servants or agents via regular mail or certified mail.

Section II

All ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section III

If any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to this section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision and the remainder of this Ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective.

Section IV

This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption and publication in the manner required by New Jersey general law.

Adopted: March 7, 2024

Effective: March 27, 2024