

ORDINANCE 2015-17

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING DISBURSEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500,000.00 FROM THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSBOROUGH OPEN SPACE TRUST FUND TO ASSIST THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET IN THE PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY IDENTIFIED ON THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSBOROUGH TAX MAP AS BLOCK 169, LOTS 4.02 AND 4.03 FOR OPEN SPACE

WHEREAS, the County of Somerset holds an Option to purchase approximately 78.7 acres of property owned by John Higgins and identified on the Tax Map of the Township of Hillsborough as Block 169, Lots 4.02 and 4.03 ("Property"); and

WHEREAS, the County of Somerset requested the Township of Hillsborough assist and provide a contribution to the County for the purchase of the Property to preserve the Property as open space; and

WHEREAS, the Property following purchase will be owned by the County of Somerset and maintained as open space; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Hillsborough Open Space Committee recommended the Township assist the County with the purchase of the Property and that \$500,000.00 be appropriated from the Township Open Space Trust Fund for this purpose; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee believes it is in the best interests of the residents of the Township that the Property be preserved as open space; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Hillsborough Chief Financial Officer confirmed sufficient funds are available in the Open Space Trust Fund for this appropriation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, and State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. \$500,000.00 is hereby appropriated from the Open Space Trust Fund to assist the County of Somerset with the purchase of the Property.

2. The Property shall be owned by the County of Somerset and maintained as open space.
3. In the event the County of Somerset sells the Property or does not maintain the Property as open space, the County shall reimburse the Township of Hillsborough in the amount of \$500,000.00.
4. The Township of Hillsborough Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to execute a Participation Agreement with the County of Somerset in accordance with this Ordinance and in a form approved by the Township Attorney.
5. This Ordinance shall take effect upon final adoption and publication according to law.

ATTEST:

HILLSBOROUGH TOWNSHIP

Pamela Borek, Township Clerk

Doug Tomson, Mayor

Introduced: 08/11/15
Published: 08/20/15
Public Hearing: 09/08/15
Adopted: 09/08/15
Published: 09/17/15