Explanation: This Ordinance amends Chapter II entitled “Administration” of The Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Warren by revising the duties of the Environmental Commission when it comes to the Open Space, Recreation and Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund and transferring same to the Township Committee.

TOWNSHIP OF WARREN

ORDINANCE 19-21


WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Warren, revised certain sections of the Township’s code by adopting Ordinance 19-02; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Warren now wishes to make further revisions to same.

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

SECTION 1. Section 2-35 entitled “Open Space, Recreation and Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund” of Chapter II entitled “Administration” of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Warren is hereby amended through the inclusion of Subsection 2-35.8 entitled “Duties of the Township Committee” as follows:

The Township Committee shall have the following duties:

1. To develop strategies to utilize the Open Space, Recreation, and Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund (the “Trust Fund”) in accordance with the policy set forth in Subsection 2-35.7 of this Chapter in an efficient and economical manner in order to maximize opportunities to provide all the residents of Warren Township with parklands and green zones, to protect ecologically sensitive areas, to preserve flora and wildlife, to preserve farmland and to protect land of scenic, historical and cultural value while simultaneously creating public outdoor recreational opportunities for Warren Township residents.
2. To establish and publish procedures for the donation of gifts and testamentary bequests of land to Warren Township. A packet of materials shall be made available by the Township Committee to the public detailing the benefits of gifts and/or bequests of land or an interest therein to the Township of Warren.

3. To prepare and keep current the following plans for adoption, in the event that Trust Fund monies will be used in the areas indicated:

   (a) Plan for selection of lands for acquisition for recreation and conservation purposes.

   (b) Plan for selection of farmland for acquisition for farmland preservation pursuant to the provisions of the “Agriculture Retention and Development Act” (N.J.S.A. 4:1C-11) or any other law enacted for the purpose of preserving farmland.

   (c) Plan for selection of historic preservation projects.

   (d) Plan for projects to develop or maintain lands acquired for recreation and conservation purposes.

   (e) Trust Fund monies may be used to pay the cost of preparing and adopting the plans referenced above.

5. The Township Committee shall work in conjunction with the recreation advisory committee with regard to the acquisition of open space for recreational purposes, and the historical sites committee for matters pertaining to historic sites. Before the purchase of open space involving recreation or historic property, same will be presented to the recreation advisory committee and/or the historic sites committee for comment, which comments shall be forwarded to the Township Committee. The Township Committee may also consult with any other committee, commission or other body it deems appropriate.

SECTION 2. Subsection 2-11.2 entitled “Duties of Commission” of Section 2.11 entitled “Environmental Commission” of Chapter II entitled “Administration” of The Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Warren is hereby amended as follows:

2-11.2 Duties of Commission. The environmental commission shall have the following powers:

1. To conduct research into the use and possible use of the open land areas of the township and to coordinate the activities of unofficial bodies organized for similar purposes, and to advertise, prepare, print and distribute books, maps, charts, plans and pamphlets, which in its judgment it deems necessary for that purpose. It shall keep an index of all open areas, publicly or privately owned, including open marsh lands, swamps and other wet lands, in order to obtain information on the proper use of such areas, and may from time to time recommend to the planning...
board plans and programs for inclusion in a municipal master plan and the development and use of such areas.

2. To develop strategies to utilize the Open Space, Recreation, and Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund (the “Trust Fund”) in accordance with the policy set forth in Subsection 2-35.7 of this Chapter in an efficient and economical manner in order to maximize opportunities to provide all the residents of Warren Township with parklands and green zones, to protect ecologically sensitive areas, to preserve flora and wildlife, to preserve farmland and to protect land of scenic, historical and cultural value while simultaneously creating public outdoor recreational opportunities for Warren Township residents.

3. To establish and publish procedures for the donation of gifts and testamentary bequests of land to Warren Township. A packet of materials shall be made available by the environmental commission to the public detailing the benefits of gifts and/or bequests of land or an interest therein to the Township of Warren.

4. To prepare and keep current the following plans for adoption by the township committee in the event that Trust Fund monies will be used in the areas indicated:

   (a) Plan for selection of lands for acquisition for recreation and conservation purposes.

   (b) Plan for selection of farmland for acquisition for farmland preservation pursuant to the provisions of the “Agriculture Retention and Development Act” (N.J.S.A. 4:1C-11) or any other law enacted for the purpose of preserving farmland.

   (c) Plan for selection of historic preservation projects.

   (d) Plan for projects to develop or maintain lands acquired for recreation and conservation purposes.

   (e) Trust Fund monies may be used to pay the cost of preparing and adopting the plans referenced above.

5. To recommend to the Township Committee sites to be utilized for open space purposes.

6. The environmental commission shall work in conjunction with the recreation advisory committee with regard to the acquisition of open space for recreational purposes, and the historical sites committee for matters pertaining to historic sites. Before any recommendation as to the purchase of open space involving recreation or historic property is made to the township committee, they will be presented to the recreation advisory committee and/or the historic sites committee for comment, which comments shall be forwarded to the township committee with the environmental commission recommendation. The environmental commission will also consult with any other committee, commission or other body it deems appropriate.
SECTION 3. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence or any other part of this Ordinance is adjudged to be unconstitutional or invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder of the Ordinance.

SECTION 4. All ordinances or parts of ordinances which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 5. This Ordinance shall take effect after final adoption and publication according to law.

Note to Codifier: Deleted provisions indicated by a strike through. New provision indicated in underline _________.

ATTEST: TOWNSHIP OF WARREN

______________________________  _______________________________
Cathy Reese, RMC            Gary P. DiNardo, Mayor
Township Clerk

INTRODUCED: March 14, 2019
ADOPTED: April 11, 2019
EFFECTIVE: April 18, 2019