

Monday, August 10, 2020

RESOLUTION NO. 114-20

Offered by Councilor MANS
Seconded by Councilor

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF GLEN RIDGE
TO CONTINUE AS A PARTICIPATING MEMBER OF A COOPERATIVE PURCHASING SYSTEM NAMED THE
SUSTAINABLE ESSEX ALLIANCE ENERGY PROCUREMENT COOPERATIVE (SEAEPC), WITH THE
BOROUGH OF MAPLEWOOD AS LEAD AGENCY, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PURCHASING ELECTRIC
GENERATION SERVICES FOR RESIDENTS OF THE BOROUGH OF GLEN RIDGE VIA A GOVERNMENT
ENERGY AGGREGATION PROGRAM

WHEREAS, on April 23, 2018 the Borough of Glen Ridge ("Borough") adopted Ordinance No. 1681 establishing a Government Energy Aggregation program in accordance with the provisions of the Government Energy Aggregation Act, N.J.S.A. 48:3-93.1 *et seq.* for the purpose of obtaining cleaner energy at as low a cost as possible for residential and business participants through a GEA program; and

WHEREAS, Glen Ridge Ordinance 1681 allows the authorization provided to the lead agent shall be valid until December 31, 2021 (the "Effective Period"), at which time the Glen Ridge Community Energy Aggregation Program will be subject to renewal at the discretion of the Borough of Glen Ridge Mayor & Council; and

WHEREAS, The Mayor and Council seek to continue participation in the Glen Ridge Community Energy Aggregation Program; and

WHEREAS, on April 3, 2018 the Borough of Maplewood ("Maplewood") adopted Ordinance No. 2899-18 establishing a Government Energy Aggregation ("GEA") program in accordance with the provisions of the Government Energy Aggregation Act, N.J.S.A. 48:3-93.1 *et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, on April 3, 2018 Maplewood adopted Resolution No. 78-18 establishing a Cooperative Pricing System referred to as the Sustainable Essex Alliance Energy Procurement Cooperative (SEAEPC) and authorizing Maplewood to serve as Lead Agency of the SEAEPC; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Glen Ridge and Maplewood have determined that it will be advantageous to the residents of both the Borough and Maplewood, as well as other participating municipalities, to jointly implement their Government Energy Aggregation programs through a joint purchasing initiative that will achieve economies of scale and attract increased attention of prospective bidding suppliers and, as a result, the Borough has determined that it is in the best interests of its residents to form a cooperative pricing system with Maplewood for the purpose of purchasing electric generation services including a renewable energy component and energy aggregation services for residents and potentially businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Glen Ridge and Maplewood have determined that Maplewood is best suited to serve as Lead Agency of the joint purchasing system; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency will from time to time during the Effective Period (from date of adoption through December 31, 2022 hereinafter referred to as "Effective Period") issue one or more Requests for Proposals ("RFPs") for electric generation services and energy aggregation services for residents of the Borough and member municipalities of the cooperative pricing system, pursuant to Local Public Contract Law Regulations, the Government Energy Aggregation Act and applicable New Jersey Board of Public Utilities regulations pertaining to Government Energy Aggregation programs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough of Glen Ridge is hereby authorized to continue participating as a member of a cooperative pricing system named the Sustainable Essex Alliance Energy Procurement Cooperative (SEAEPC) for the purpose of obtaining cleaner energy at as low a cost as possible for residential and business participants through a GEA program, and to submit an application to the Department of Community Affairs Division of Local Government Services for authorization to continue participating as a member of the SEAEPC, and for designation of the Borough of Maplewood as Lead Agency of the SEAEPC; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Borough Administrator, on behalf of the Borough, are hereby authorized to execute an Agreement for a Cooperative Pricing System, with the Borough of Maplewood ("Maplewood"), as Lead Agency of the Cooperative Pricing System, that authorizes the Borough's participation in the SEAEPC and delegates authority to Maplewood, as Lead Agency, to implement a RFP process for the purpose of purchasing electric generation services including a renewable energy component and energy aggregation services for residents of the Borough, on the Borough's behalf, pursuant to Local Public Contract Law Regulations, the Government Energy Aggregation Act and applicable New Jersey Board of Public Utilities regulations pertaining to Government Energy Aggregation programs; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough of Glen Ridge shall not authorize Maplewood, as Lead Agency, to make an award of a contract to an electric power supplier on the Borough's behalf, unless and until a bid is received in response to an RFP that provides pricing for power supply for the Borough's participating residents that provides cost savings as compared to the cost of utility-supplier power, meets the renewable energy goals of the Borough and/or is otherwise in the best interests of participating residents, and that is otherwise in compliance with applicable law and regulations; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage. The authorization provided to the lead agent shall be valid until December 31, 2022 (the Effective Period) at which time the Cooperative Pricing System will be subject to renewal. Any rescission or expiration of this resolution shall not affect any Agreements entered into prior to such rescission or expiration.