

Monday, September 12, 2022

RESOLUTION NO. 132-22

Offered by Councilor **MANS** Seconded by Councilor

RENEWAL OF THE BOROUGH OF GLEN RIDGE AS A PARTICIPATING MEMBER OF A COOPERATIVE PURCHASING SYSTEM NAMED THE SUSTAINABLE ESSEX ALLIANCE ENERGY PROCUREMENT COOPERATIVE (SEAEPC), WITH THE TOWNSHIP OF MAPLEWOOD AS LEAD AGENCY, FOR THE PURPOSE 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 ("Glen Ridge") adopted Ordinance No. 1681 establishing a Government Energy Aggregation program in accordance with the provisions of the Government Energy Aggregation Act, <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 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, on April 3, 2018 the Township 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, <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:3-93.1 *et seq.;* and

WHEREAS, on March 28, 2022 Glen Ridge adopted Ordinance No. 1761 reestablishing a Government Energy Aggregation ("GEA") program in accordance with the provisions of the Government Energy Aggregation Act, <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 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 on September 6, 2022, Maplewood adopted Resolution No. 266-22 renewing 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, Glen Ridge has determined that it will be advantageous to the residents of Glen Ridge, 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, Glen Ridge has determined that it is in the best interests of its residents to renew its membership in 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, on April 23, 2018, Glen Ridge adopted Resolution No. 74-18 authorizing Glen Ridge to become a participating member of a Cooperative purchasing system named the Sustainable Essex Alliance Procurement Cooperative; and

WHEREAS, the member municipalities and Glen Ridge has 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, 2025** 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 Glen Ridge 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 renewed as a participating 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 become a participating member of the SEAEPC, and for designation of the Township of Maplewood as Lead Agency of the SEAEPC; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Glen Ridge, is hereby authorized to execute a renewal Agreement for a Cooperative Pricing System, with the Township of Maplewood ("Maplewood"), as Lead Agency of the Cooperative Pricing System, that authorizes Glen Ridge'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 Glen Ridge, on Glen Ridge'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.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Glen Ridge shall not authorize Maplewood, as Lead Agency, to make an award of a contract to an electric power supplier on Glen Ridge's behalf, unless and until a bid is received in response to an RFP that provides pricing for power supply for Glen Ridge's participating residents that provides costs comparable to the cost of utility-supplier power, meets the renewable energy goals of Glen Ridge 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, 2025** (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.