

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF NATIONAL PARK
ESTABLISHING A FAIR AND OPEN PROCESS FOR THE AWARD
OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AGREEMENTS AND OTHER
AGREEMENTS WITH BUSINESS ENTITIES

WHEREAS, Professional entities and other business entities are exempt from established New Jersey Public bidding laws, specifically said exception being set forth under N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of National Park ("Borough") has recognized that there is a need for a fair and open process for the awarding of professional service contracts and other contracts as contained in N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5, where other contracts and agreements are subject to public bidding, in order to address the concerns of taxpayers regarding political contributions and to engender trust in the process of local government and to insure that quality public services are received;

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has enacted N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 which bars any municipality, agency, board, authority or instrumentality thereof from entering into a contract in excess of \$17,500.00 with a business entity that has made a political contribution reportable pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-1 et. seq. to any municipal committee of a political party in that municipality if a member of that political party is serving in an elective public office of that municipality when the contract is awarded or to any candidate committee of any person serving in an elective public office of that municipality when the contract is awarded unless said contract is awarded pursuant to a fair and open process; and

WHEREAS, this Ordinance shall apply to those services, contracts, etc. described above, beginning January 1, 2006; and

WHEREAS, this Ordinance shall apply to all Municipal appointing authorities, to include the Office of the Mayor, municipal governing body, planning board, and zoning board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of National Park, County of Gloucester and State of New Jersey, that the Borough of National Park enact an Ordinance to be known as an Ordinance Establishing a Fair and Open Process for the Award of Professional Service Agreements and Other Agreements with Business Entities as consistent with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5, *et seq.*, and said Ordinance shall read as follows:

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A FAIR AND OPEN PROCESS
FOR THE AWARD OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AGREEMENTS
AND OTHER AGREEMENTS WITH BUSINESS ENTITIES**

I. Prohibition Awarding Certain Public Contracts

For purposes of this Ordinance the term "business entity" shall mean any natural or legal person, business, corporation, professional services corporation, limited liability company, partnership, limited partnership, business trust, association or any legal commercial entity organized under the laws of the State of New Jersey or of any other state or foreign jurisdiction. The definition includes:

1. All principals who own or control more than ten (10%) percent of the profits or assets of a business entity, or ten (10%) percent of the stock in the case of a business entity that is a corporation for profit;

awarded, or to any candidate committee of any person serving in an elective public office of the Borough when the contract is awarded, during the term of the contract. In the alternative to proceeding with the fair and open process described herein, the Municipal Appointing Authority thereof may award a contract to a business entity for an amount in excess of \$17,500.00, pursuant to procedures prescribed by the New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law and without competitive bidding or competitive proposals. However, such award may be made only if the recipient of the contract provides a written certification that it has not made a political contribution which would bar the award of the contract to it.

Any business entity may annually contribute up to a maximum of \$500.00 each for any purpose to any candidate for Mayor or Council, or to a Borough Party Committee without violation of this Ordinance.

II. Fair and Open Process

A. Any professional service entity or other business entity providing services to the Borough shall be subject to a fair and open process for selection. That fair and open process shall be set forth in subsection B below, which shall establish a criteria for the fair and open process. Included in that criteria and made a part hereof, shall be some or all of the following: accessibility; understanding of the assignment; methodology/plan for accomplishing the assignment; general experience; experience specific to the assignment; sufficiency of resources to perform the task.

B. The fair and open process established by the Borough shall require the following:

- (1) The solicitation of proposals or qualifications for any

professional position, service contract, or other contract not subject to bidding pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5, that shall expire as of December 31st of that calendar year, shall be published and advertised by the Municipal Appointing Authority or its designee, either in the official newspaper of the Borough for publication of notices, or on the Borough's website in sufficient time to give notice in advance of the contract solicitation. The published notice shall set forth the name of the position or contract which is to become open, and set forth the criteria to be considered and materials required to be submitted by the applicant/proposer; and, a date, time and place when the proposals or qualifications shall be publicly opened.

(2) Should the applicant/proposer be a professional requiring licensure in the State of New Jersey, said applicant/proposer shall be licensed for a period not less than five (5) years.

(3) The applicant/proposer shall submit a "Certificate of Good Standing" or other similar document evidencing that the professional's license is not presently suspended or revoked, and that they are authorized to do business in the State of New Jersey.

(4) The applicant/proposer shall submit a resume which shall set forth information including, but not limited to the following (as applicable to a business entity or individual professional):

- (a) Full name and business address;
- (b) A listing of all post high school education of the applicant/proposer;
- (c) Dates of licensure in the State of New Jersey and any other State;

(d) A listing of any professional affiliations or memberships in any professional societies or organizations, with an indication as to any offices held therein;

(e) The number of licensed professionals employed by/affiliated with the business entity or the business entity which employs the applicant/proposer;

(f) A listing of all special accreditations held by the individual licensed professional or business entity;

(g) A listing of all previous public entities served by the business entity or licensed professional, indicating the dates of services and position held; and

C. The Municipal Appointing Authority shall thereafter publicly select the professional or business entity for the position so advertised which shall thereafter be confirmed or approved as required by law or Ordinance.

D. The awarded contract shall be publicized in the official newspaper of the Borough for publication of notices in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5.

E. Consistent with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.7, the Borough's determination of what constitutes a fair and open process shall be final. Fair and open may necessarily be implemented differently for different categories of procurement depending on the subject matter of the procurement, and the nature and nuances of the industry providing the services or product, but in every instance, the principles of fair and open shall be maintained.

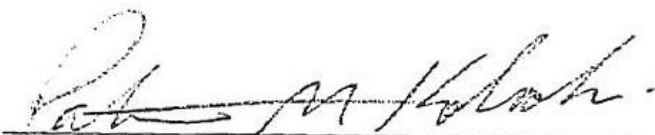
F. If any sentence, paragraph or section of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any persons or circumstances shall be adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, or if by legislative action, any sentence, paragraph or section of this Ordinance shall lose its force and effect, such judgment or action shall not affect, impair, or void the remainder of any of the provisions of this Ordinance.

G. The purpose of this Ordinance is to comply with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5, et seq. The definitions as set forth in that statute are referred to and incorporated into this Ordinance.

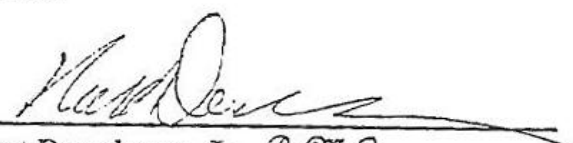
H. Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed as effecting the ability of any business entity to perform a public contract if that entity made a contribution to any committee during a period of one (1) year immediately preceding the effective date of this Ordinance.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this Ordinance will take effect after adoption and publication according to law.

BOROUGH OF NATIONAL PARK


By: Patricia M. Koloski, Mayor

ATTEST:


Robert Dougherty, Jr., R.M.C.

