

MUNICIPAL REGULATION
005-2006
PROHIBITING CONTRACTS TO BE AWARDED TO
CERTAIN POLITICAL CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTORS
(REDEVELOPERS)

WHEREAS, various legal authorities throughout the State of New Jersey have given conflicted opinions as to whether or not State and local “pay-to-play” statutes and ordinances apply to “redevelopers”; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Old Bridge has previously enacted Municipal Regulations and an Ordinance regarding “pay-to-play” in order to set the maximum amounts that entities who receive no bid contracts may contribute to candidates, committees, and various PAC; and

WHEREAS, as Mayor of the Township of Old Bridge, it is important to insure that there is no ambiguity or doubt that our current ordinance applies to and restricts “redevelopers”; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-8 and N.J.S.A. 40:48-2, municipalities have the right to establish rules and procedures for contracting with redevelopers; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor has the authority to issue municipal regulations under the Faulkner Act, N.J.S.A. 40:69A-1 et seq. and the authority to negotiate contracts for the municipality under N.J.S.A. 40:69A-40j.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED BY THE MAYOR OF THE TOWNSHIP OF OLD BRIDGE, that the policy of the Township of Old Bridge shall be to set the maximum amounts redevelopers who receive no bid contracts may contribute beyond which they become ineligible to receive no bid contracts from the Township of Old Bridge.

SECTION 1

Prohibition on Awarding Public Contracts to Certain Contributors

- (a) Any other provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, the Township, its purchasing agent or those of its independent authorities, including the Old Bridge Redevelopment Agency, as the case may be, shall not enter into an agreement or otherwise contract to procure, any service which the Township would be permitted to procure on a no bid basis pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et seq. (the “Statute”) from any Redeveloper, if that entity has solicited on behalf of, or made any contribution of money, or pledged a contribution, including in-kind contributions, to a campaign committee of any Old Bridge Township municipal candidate or municipal office holder seeking re-election, who would have, or has, ultimate responsibility for the award of the contract, or to any Old Bridge Township or Middlesex County party committee, or to any Political Action Committee (PAC) that is organized for the primary purpose of promoting or

supporting any Old Bridge Township municipal candidate or municipal office holder seeking re-election, in excess of the thresholds specified in subsection (c), within twelve (12) consecutive months immediately preceding the date of the award of the contract.

- (b) No Redeveloper which enters into negotiations for, or agrees to, any contract or agreement not the subject of public bidding with the Township or its independent authorities for the rendition of services described in subsection (a) shall knowingly solicit on behalf of, or make any contribution of money, or pledge of a contribution, including in-kind contributions, in excess of the thresholds specified in subsection (c) below to any Old Bridge Township municipal candidate or municipal office holder seeking re-election, who would have or has, ultimate responsibility for the award of the contract, or to any Old Bridge Township or Middlesex County party committee, or to any PAC that is organized for the primary purpose of promoting or supporting any Old Bridge Township municipal candidate or municipal office holder seeking re-election, between the time of first communications between the Redeveloper and the Township regarding a specific redevelopment project or agreement and the later of the termination of negotiations or the completion of the project or agreement.
- (c) (i) Subject to the limitation in (ii), of this subsection, any individual meeting the definition of "Redeveloper" under this municipal regulation may make a contribution up to the amount that is reportable by the recipient under P.L. 1973, c.83 (N.J.S.A. 19:44A-1 et seq.), currently in excess of \$300.00, to each candidate for mayor or council, Old Bridge Township or Middlesex County party committees, or to a PAC referenced in this municipal regulation, for each election, without violating subsection (a) or (b) of this section. However, (ii) any entity meeting the definition of "Redeveloper" under this section, including such principals, partners and officers of the entity may not contribute in the aggregate in excess of a total of \$2,500 for each election to all Township municipal candidates and municipal office holders seeking re-election, who have or if elected would have ultimate responsibility for the award of the no bid contract, and to all Old Bridge Township or Middlesex County political parties and PACs referenced in this municipal regulation without violating subsection (a) or (b) of this section.
- (d) As defined in N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-3, a "redeveloper" means any person, firm, corporation or public body that shall enter into or propose to enter into a contract with a municipality or other redevelopment entity for the redevelopment or rehabilitation of an area in need of redevelopment, or an area in need of rehabilitation, or any part thereof, under the provisions of the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, or for any construction or other work forming part of a redevelopment or rehabilitation project. For the purposes of this municipal regulation the definition of a redeveloper includes all principals who own ten percent (10%) or more of the equity in the corporation or business trust, partners, and officers in the aggregate employed by the provider as well as any

affiliates or subsidiaries directly controlled by the redeveloper. Spouses and adult children at home shall also be included.

- (e) For purposes of the Township of Old Bridge, the office that is considered to have ultimate responsibility for the award of the contract shall be:
 - (1) The Township of Old Bridge Council, if the contract requires approval or authorization from the Council.
 - (2) The Mayor of the Township of Old Bridge, if the contract requires approval of the Mayor, or if a public officer who is responsible for the award of contract is appointed by the Mayor.

SECTION 2

Contributions Made Prior to the Effective Date

No contribution of money or any other thing of value, including in-kind contributions, made by a Redeveloper to any municipal candidate for Mayor or Council, or Township municipal office holder seeking re-election, or county party committee or PAC referenced in this municipal regulation shall be deemed a violation of this section, nor shall an agreement for property, goods, or services, of any kind whatsoever, be disqualified thereby, if that contribution was made by the Redeveloper prior to the effective date of this municipal regulation.

SECTION 3

Contribution Statement by Redeveloper

- (a) Prior to awarding any contract or agreement without public bid, any service which the Township would be permitted to procure on a no bid basis pursuant to the Statute to any Redeveloper, the Township or any of its purchasing agents or agencies, as the case may be, shall receive a sworn statement from the Redeveloper made under penalty of perjury that it has not made a contribution in violation of Section 1 of this municipal regulation.
- (b) The Redeveloper shall have a continuing duty to report any violations of this municipal regulation that may occur during the negotiation or duration of a contract. The certification required under this subsection shall be made prior to entry into the contract or agreement with the Township and shall be in addition to any other certifications that may be required by any other provision of law.

SECTION 4

Return of Excess Contributions

A Redeveloper or Township municipal candidate or municipal office holder seeking re-election, or municipal or county party committee or PAC referenced in this municipal regulation may cure a violation of Section 1 of this order, if, within sixty (60) days after the general election, the Redeveloper notifies the Township Council in writing and seeks and receives reimbursement of a contribution from the entity to whom the contribution was made.

SECTION 5

Penalty

- (a) All Old Bridge Township agreements with a Redeveloper shall provide that it shall be a material breach of the terms of the government contract for a Redeveloper to violate, or to aide or abet a violation, of section 1(b) or (c) or to knowingly conceal or misrepresent contributions given or received, or to make or solicit contributions through intermediaries for the purpose of concealing or misrepresenting the source of the contribution.
- (b) Any Redeveloper who knowingly fails to reveal a contribution made in violation of this municipal regulation, or who knowingly makes or solicits contributions through intermediaries for the purpose of concealing or misrepresenting the source of the contribution, shall be disqualified from eligibility for future Old Bridge Township contracts for a period of forty-eight (48) months from the date on which the violation is finally determined.

SECTION 6

Severability and Repealer

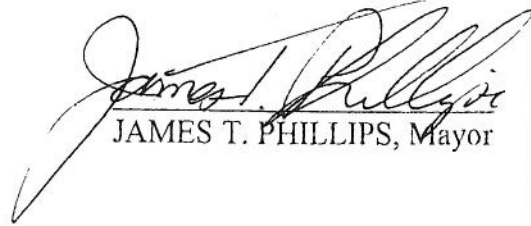
- (a) If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this municipal regulation is for any reason held to be unconstitutional, invalid, or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this municipal regulation.
- (b) All municipal regulations or parts of municipal regulations which are inconsistent with any provisions of this municipal regulation are hereby repealed as to the extent of such inconsistencies.

SECTION 7

Effective Date

This Municipal Regulation shall become effective August 1, 2006.

8/1/2006
DATE


JAMES T. PHILLIPS, Mayor

FILED
MAY 14 2007
NINA MITCHELL WELLS
SECRETARY OF STATE