Township of Berkeley Heights  
Union County, New Jersey  
January 25, 2022

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by forwarding a copy to the Courier News, Star Ledger and posting on the Township website, at least forty-eight hours prior to the meeting, all in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. This meeting will not substantially go past 10:30 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Gentiana Brahimaj
Manuel Couto – Vice President
Paul Donnelly
John Foster
Jeanne Kingsley - President
Jeff Varnerin
Angie Devanney- Mayor

AGENDA FOR SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER – 6:30 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

III. FLAG SALUTE

VI. HEARING ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

Comments are welcome during this portion of the meeting via Zoom: http://zoom.us/s/3575747364; if you need to enter a meeting ID it is: 357-574-7364. Before making a comment, all speakers must identify their name and address. Each speaker is limited to 3 minutes. Written comments may also be submitted in lieu of verbal comments via the zoom chat function prior to the end of the hearing. Your cooperation in adherence to these rules of order will ensure an orderly and respectful meeting.

Alternatively, you may submit written comments in advance of the meeting either via electronic mail (to: aminoff@bhtwp.com) or by written letter (to: Township Clerk, 29 Park Avenue, Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922), including commenter’s full name and address, which must be received by the Township Clerk by 4:00 P.M. on the date of the Zoom meeting.

VII. NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS OFFICIAL ACTION WILL BE TAKEN ON THE FOLLOWING:

1. Resolution appointing various member to the Truth, Community Healing and Inclusion Committee.
2. Resolution authorizing the Township of Berkeley Heights to participate in the nationwide settlement agreements with Johnson & Johnson, McKesson, Cardinal Health, and AmerisourceBergen to resolve claims involving their roles in the country's opioid crisis

IX. CITIZENS HEARING:
Comments are welcome during this portion of the meeting via Zoom: http://zoom.us/s/3575747364; if you need to enter a meeting ID it is: 357-574-7364. Before making a comment, all speakers must identify their name and address. Each speaker is limited to 3 minutes. Written comments may also be submitted in lieu of verbal comments via the zoom chat function prior to the end of the hearing. Your cooperation in adherence to these rules of order will ensure an orderly and respectful meeting.

Alternatively, you may submit written comments in advance of the meeting either via electronic mail (to: aminkoff@bhtwp.com) or by written letter (to: Township Clerk, 29 Park Avenue, Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922), including commenter's full name and address, which must be received by the Township Clerk by 4:00 P.M. on the date of the Zoom meeting.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION –

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Ana Minkoff, Township Clerk
TOWNSHIP OF BERKELEY HEIGHTS
UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Berkeley Heights, County of Union and State of New Jersey, in meeting assembled, that the following be appointed to the Truth, Community Healing and Inclusion Committee.

TRUTH, COMMUNITY HEALING AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mayor Angie Devanney</td>
<td>(1) year term expires 12/31/2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councilman John Foster</td>
<td>(1) year term expires 12/31/2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councilman Jeff Varnerin</td>
<td>(1) year term expires 12/31/2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ed Gaffney</td>
<td>(1) year term expires 12/31/2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tiffany Escott</td>
<td>(1) year term expires 12/31/2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyle Brogden</td>
<td>(2) year term expires 12/31/2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vani Chitturi</td>
<td>(3) year term expires 12/31/2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dennis Kim</td>
<td>(3) year term expires 12/31/2024</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

APPROVED this 25th day of January, 2022.

ATTEST:

Ana Minkoff
Township Clerk
WHEREAS, the ongoing opioid crisis in America has had a devastating effect on individuals and communities, including many here in Berkeley Heights; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Berkeley Heights is a party to a class action lawsuit filed by state, local, and tribal governments, hospitals, individuals, and insurers, seeking damages against opioid manufacturers, distributors, and retailers in In re National Prescription Opiate Litigation, Case No. 17-md-02804, MDL No. 2804, in the District Court for the Northern District of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, on August 20, 2021, Acting Attorney General Andrew J. Bruck announced that New Jersey intends to join nationwide settlement agreements with New Jersey based pharmaceutical company Johnson & Johnson and the United States’ three largest pharmaceutical distributors, McKesson, Cardinal Health and AmerisourceBergen, to resolve claims involving their roles in fomenting the country’s opioid crisis; and

WHEREAS, participation in the nationwide settlements will not only hold the companies financially accountable by requiring payments of as much as $26 billion, the settlements will provide funding to support programs that address the opioid epidemic in New Jersey and across the country, and will require significant changes in the pharmaceutical industry aimed at preventing similar crises in the future; and

WHEREAS, the proposed settlements provide:

“the Distributors to pay up to $21 billion over 18 years and Janssen to pay up to $5 billion over no more than 9 years, for a total of $26 billion (the “Settlement Amount”). Of the Settlement Amount, approximately $22.7 billion is earmarked for use by participating states and subdivisions to remediate and abate the impacts of the opioid crisis. The Settlements also contain injunctive relief provisions governing the opioid marketing, sale and distribution practices at the heart of the states’ and subdivisions’ lawsuits and further require the Distributors to implement additional safeguards to prevent diversion of prescription opioids;” and

WHEREAS, participation by a significant number of states, county, and municipal governments nationwide must agree to the proposed terms in order for the settlements to take effect; and

WHEREAS, provided enough states opt to participate in the settlements, their subdivisions will have through January 26, 2022 to join; and
WHEREAS, the Township’s share in the settlement funds will ultimately depend on the number of counties and municipalities that opt-in, population of each participating county and municipality, and effects of the opioid epidemic on each participating community; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the Township and its residents to participate and join in the settlement agreements in order to hold these companies financially accountable for the ongoing opioid crisis and to implement the necessary changes to prevent such a crisis from happening again in the near future.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Berkeley Heights, County of Union, State of New Jersey that the Mayor and the Township Clerk are hereby authorized to sign any documents necessary in order to join the settlement agreements with Johnson & Johnson, McKesson, Cardinal Health and AmerisourceBergen to resolve claims involving their participation in the opioid crisis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon effectuation of the settlement agreement, the Township of Berkeley Heights agrees to dismiss its claims against the settling parties.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Clerk of the Township of Berkeley Heights shall forward a copy of this Resolution to the Office of the Attorney General of New Jersey.

APPROVED this 25th day of January, 2022.

ATTEST:

Ana Minkoff
Township Clerk