

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SPARTA, SUSSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY AMENDING PORTIONS OF CHAPTER 16 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED, FIRE PROTECTION AND PREVENTION

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 11 of the Uniform Fire Safety Act (PL 1983, C.383), The New Jersey Uniform Fire Code is enforced locally in the Township of Sparta; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Township of Sparta desires to amend the section of the Township Code that relates to Fire Protection and Prevention;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Sparta, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 16, entitled “Fire Protection and Prevention”, and Section 16-1.2, entitled, “Agency Designation”, and Section 16-1.10, entitled, “Failure to Pay Non-Life Hazard Use Inspection Fees” of the Township Code of the Township of Sparta are hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 16-1 UNIFORM FIRE SAFETY CODE ENFORCING AGENCY

§ 16-1.2 Agency Designation.

a. The local enforcing agency shall be the Hardyston Township Bureau of Fire Prevention, which shall hereinafter be known as the local enforcing agency or Bureau of Fire Prevention pursuant to a shared services agreement, effective July 1, 2025, between the Township of Sparta and the Township of Hardyston, which is incorporated by reference herein. A copy of said agreement is on file in the municipal clerk's office.

b. The local enforcing agency established by this article shall be created and supervised by the Township of Hardyston and shall meet all of the requirements of the applicable law and regulations.

c. The chief administrative officer of the local enforcing agency shall be a state-licensed fire official appointed by the governing body of the Township of Hardyston consistent with the procedures set forth in the applicable law and regulations. The governing body of the Township of Hardyston may appoint fire inspectors and other employees of the enforcing agency consistent with applicable laws and regulations. All inspectors shall be licensed by the State.

§ 16-1.10 Failure to Pay Non-Life Hazard Use Inspection Fees.

Failure to pay the required non-life-hazard use inspection fee(s) within the timeframe indicated on an order to do so will cause a penalty to be imposed in an amount equal to the original fee(s). These penalties will be in addition to the original fee due and must be paid within 30 days after issuance of an Order to Abate Violation and Pay Penalty. Failure to pay the required non-life-hazard use inspection fee within 60 days after issuance of an Order to Abate Violation and Pay Penalty will cause a penalty to be imposed in the amount of \$250.00. If the total fee(s) and penalties are not paid within 30 days, the matter may be referred to the Township Attorney for summary collection under the New Jersey Penalty Enforcement Law, N.J.S.A. 2A:58-1 et seq., and enforcement of this section.

SECTION 2. Chapter 16, entitled “Fire Protection and Prevention” shall be amended to add a new Section 16-1.41 which shall read as follows:

§ 16-1.41 Non-Life-Hazard Uses.

In addition to the registrations and permits required by the Uniform Fire Code, all other uses subject to Uniform Fire Code inspections shall register with the local enforcing agency prior to commencing operation of the non-life-hazard use. A penalty shall accrue, in addition to the registration fee, if a non-life-hazard use is not so registered prior to commencing operation. The non-life-hazard use shall thereafter be registered annually during the month of January. A late registration penalty shall be assessed on February 1 for failure to register in accordance with the fee schedule below. Late registrations in excess of 90 days will be referred to the Township Attorney for collection.

SECTION 3. All actions of the Township taken prior to the date of adoption hereof contemplated by this Ordinance are hereby ratified and approved.

SECTION 4. If any section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance as a whole or any remaining part thereof.

SECTION 5. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances of the Township of Sparta heretofore adopted that are inconsistent with any of the terms and provisions of this Ordinance, the Uniform Fire Safety Act, or the New Jersey Uniform Fire Code are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 6. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its final passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the above ordinance was introduced and passed upon first reading at a regular meeting of the Sparta Township Council held at the Municipal Building, 65 Main Street, Sparta, New Jersey on **September 9, 2025** and will be considered for final passage and adoption at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Sparta to be held at the Municipal Building, 65 Main Street, Sparta, New Jersey, on **September 23, 2025** at 7:00 p.m., at which time and place all persons interested therein or affected thereby will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the same.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SPARTA.

**ROXANNE LANDY, RMC
MUNICIPAL CLERK**

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the above entitled ordinance was introduced and passed at a meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Sparta, held at the Municipal Building, 65 Main Street, Sparta, NJ on **September 9, 2025**. The same came up for final passage and adoption at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Sparta, held on **September 23, 2025** at 7:00 p.m., at the Municipal Building, 65 Main Street, Sparta, NJ and after all persons present were given an opportunity to be heard concerning the same, it was finally passed and adopted and will be in full force in the Township according to law.

**ROXANNE LANDY, RMC
MUNICIPAL CLERK**