

SHAMONG TOWNSHIP

ORDINANCE 2016-5

**AMENDING TOWNSHIP CODE
AT CHAPTER 78
GOVERNING "FIRE"**

WHEREAS, the Indian Mills Volunteer Fire Company (IMVFC) receives funding through donations and annual contribution out of the general budget of the Township of Shamong; and

WHEREAS, IMVFC and the Township have actively worked to control costs while ensuring that fire response and public safety remain the top priority; and

WHEREAS, other entities throughout the State and the Country have begun imposing fees for certain fire services; and

WHEREAS, the Township desires to implement certain limited fees designed to reimburse for expended materials and impact on resources; and

WHEREAS, the Township finds these measures to be in the best interests of the health, safety and welfare of its residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Shamong, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, that Chapter 78 of the Township Code is amended as follows:

Section One:

The Title of Chapter 78 is hereby amended from "Fire Prevention" to "Fire".

Section I is hereby inserted and titled "Fire Prevention" and shall include the provisions of Chapter 87-1.

Section II is hereby inserted and titled "Fire, Fees" as follows:

II. Fire, Fees.

A. Purpose. The Township of Shamong, in order to support the Indian Mills Volunteer Fire Company (IMVFC) shall allow IMVFC to charge fees for certain response services, provided that those fees shall be tied to expended resources of IMVFC incurred in response to calls. The Township Administration and IMVFC shall establish appropriate mechanisms for billing for fees. All monies received by IMVFC shall be used by IMVFC to offset costs incurred.

B. Fees. The fees to be charged hereunder are set forth below and may be amended from time to time by Resolution of the governing body of the Township of Shamong. The initial fees are established as follows:

1. Light Rescue: Batteries, Fluid, Stabilization. There shall be a fee of \$200.00 for light rescue operations, such as stabilization, use of hand tools, hazard control and other scene-related light rescue operations.

2. Medium Rescue. There shall be a fee of \$400.00 for medium rescue operations including the use of power tools and hydraulic rescue tools to perform activities such as opening or removing doors to provide access to patients as well as stabilizing vehicles and performing hazardous assessments and control.

3. Heavy Rescue. There shall be a fee of \$800.00 for heavy rescue operations including any technical rescue procedures, including but not limited to water and ice rescue, rope rescue, confined space rescue, high angle rescue, trench rescue or structural collapse rescue. Heavy rescue also includes motor vehicle rescue where the rescue includes the use of power tools and hydraulic equipment to perform operations such as partial or full roof removal, front/dash displacement, third door access, separating vehicles from one another and performing hazardous assessments and control.

4. Billing. These fees shall be billed to the insurance company of the party receiving the fire response services. In all cases, and to the maximum extent permitted by law, the fire company will accept the insurance company payment as payment in full and will not seek additional payment from any individual to which this service was rendered. Said procedures may include the use of a third party billing company to invoice and collect the cost incurred. The Township and IMVFC shall ultimately determine whether to pursue collection of fees, and not a third-party billing service. No person requiring services shall be denied services due to lack of insurance or ability to pay.

5. Accounting. The IMVFC shall provide quarterly accounting to the Township with regard to fees imposed and recovered under this Chapter.

Section Two: All Ordinances and provisions thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance shall be and are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section Three: If any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision of this ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to the section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision and the remainder of this ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective.

Section Four: This ordinance shall take effect on August 1, 2016, in order to allow Township Administration and IMVFC to coordinate on implementation mechanisms.

I, Susan D. Onorato, Township Clerk of the Township of Shamong, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that this ordinance was passed on first reading at a meeting of the Township Committee held on June 14, 2016, and will be further considered for adoption following a public hearing to be held on July 5, 2016, at 7:30 p.m. at the Shamong Municipal Building.

Susan D. Onorato, RMC