TOWNSHIP OF LONG HILL
ORDINANCE 495-22
SUPPLEMENTING AND AMENDING CHAPTER 23 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED “SHADE TREES”

WHEREAS, the Code Enforcement Officer has learned that some tree contractors are removing trees on private property without filing a registration form with the Township Clerk as required by section 23-7 of the Township Code; and

WHEREAS, only property owners and not their contractors are currently liable for the penalties set forth in section 23-12 of the Township Code; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee wants to give the Code Enforcement Officer the tools necessary to enforce the Township Shade Tree Ordinance;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, that Chapter 23 of the Township Code entitled “Shade Trees” is hereby supplemented and amended as follows:

Section 1. Section 23-12 entitled “Violations and Penalties” is hereby renumbered as subsection 23-13 and that section as renumbered is amended to read as follows:

“Any person violating or causing to be violated any of the provisions of this chapter shall be subject to the penalties set forth in § 1-5 of the Township Code. Any person removing or destroying a Township tree in violation of this chapter shall replace each tree destroyed or removed with another tree of the same species or a species approved by the Shade Tree Commission, at least two inches in diameter measured at a point four feet above the ground. Each tree destroyed or removed in violation of this chapter shall be considered a separate offense. Failure to secure a registration prior to removal or destruction of a tree on private property as required by § 23-7 shall be a violation of this and both the homeowners and their contractor, if any, shall be subject to this penalty.”

Section 2. There is hereby created a new section 23-12 entitled “Contractor Registration” which reads as follows:

“Section 23-12. CONTRACTOR REGISTRATION. All contractors must register with the Township Clerk before removing any trees on public or private property in Long Hill Township. A new registration shall be required every year and the registration fee shall be $25 per calendar year. The registration form shall require the contractor to certify that he or she has read and understands the Township Shade Tree Ordinance. Contractors who fail to register shall be subject to the penalties and fines set forth in section 25-13 below.”

Section 3. Any and all other ordinances or parts thereof in conflict or inconsistent with any of the terms hereof are hereby repealed to such extent as they are so in conflict or inconsistent.

Section 4. In case any article, section or provision of this ordinance shall be held invalid in any court of competent jurisdiction, the same shall not affect any other article, section or provision of this ordinance except insofar as the article, section or provision so declared invalid shall be inseparable from the remainder or any portion thereof.

Section 5. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication as required by law.

NOTICE
The foregoing ordinance having been introduced and passed on first reading by the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill, in the County of Morris on Wednesday, June 8, 2022 will be considered for final passage and adoption at a public hearing held at a meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 8, 2022 at the Municipal Building, 915 Valley Road, Gillette, New Jersey, when and where or at such time and place to which said meeting may be adjourned, all persons interested will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance.

ATTEST

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Megan Phillips, RMC           Matthew Dorsi, Mayor
Township Clerk

First Reading and Introduction: June 8, 2022
1st Publication: Echoes Sentinel June 16, 2022
Second Reading and Adoption: on agenda July 13, 2022
2nd Publication: Echoes Sentinel