

**TOWNSHIP OF UPPER DEERFIELD**

**RESOLUTION 24-38**

**APPOINTING ATTORNEY FOR REDEVELOPMENT LEGAL COUNSEL  
JOSEPH RAGNO, ESQ**

**WHEREAS**, there exists the need for the “Professional Services” of a TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR, to be retained by the Township for the performance of legal services and related duties associated therewith as directed by the authorized representatives of the Township of Upper Deerfield, as more specifically set forth in the Professional Services Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, Rocco Tedesco, Esquire of the firm of Rocco J, Tedesco, LLC was appointed Upper Deerfield Township Solicitor for the 2024 year; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to appoint Joseph Ragno, Esq. who is an attorney with the firm of Waters, McPhearson, McNeill, PC of Secaucus, New Jersey as an Attorney to handle Redevelopment Legal Consultations to serve as directed or assigned by the Township Solicitor Rocco Tedesco; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Upper Deerfield, County of Cumberland and State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. That the allegations of the preamble hereto are incorporated herein as if fully set forth.
2. That Joseph Ragno, Esq. of Secaucus, New Jersey, an attorney authorized to practice law by the Supreme Court of the State of New Jersey, be appointed as an Attorney to handle redevelopment legal counsel for the year 2024, to perform professional services ordinarily provided by an attorney as directed and assigned by the Township Solicitor Rocco Tedesco, and shall receive compensation in the amount of \$300 per hour in accordance with terms of the contract on file in the Clerk’s office.
3. That the aforesaid contract is awarded pursuant to competitive bidding as a “Professional Service” under the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law because N.J.S.A.40A:11-5 states that no local unit shall be required to advertise for bids for services rendered or performed by a person authorized by law to practice a recognized profession and whose practice is regulated by law, or to advertise for bids for services which are of such a qualitative nature as will not reasonably permit the drawing of specifications or the receipt of competitive bids, all of which classification the aforesaid contract falls within.
4. The professional fees contained within the aforementioned contract are included within the temporary budget and the continuation of any potential additional fees for the year will be included within the adopted 2024 budget to be certified by the Chief Financial Officer upon adoption of the 2024 budget.
5. The Business Entity Disclosure Certification shall be placed on file with this Resolution.
6. That a copy of the specific items pertaining to the award of this contract shall be published in a Notice of Award in the Daily Journal as required by law within ten (10) days of the Resolution authorizing same; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Clerk be and are hereby authorized to enter into a contract with Joseph Ragno, Esq. in a form satisfactory to the Township Solicitor of the Township of Upper Deerfield.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Upper Deerfield that this professional service agreement is awarded pursuant to and in compliance with the provisions of Pay to Play legislation, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4, et seq.

Moved By: John L. Daddario

Seconded By: Joseph Spoltore

VOTING

James P. Crilley  
John L. Daddario  
Scott Smith  
Thomas Speranza  
Joseph Spoltore

<u>In Favor</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	<u>Absent</u>
X			
X			
X			
X			
X			

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the Resolution adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Upper Deerfield, in the County of Cumberland, at a meeting thereof held January 4, 2024.

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Roy J. Spoltore, Township Clerk