

ORDINANCE #2023/30

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT TITLE 2 “ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL” OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD CREATING THE POSITION OF POLICE CHAPLAIN

WHEREAS, the Borough of Freehold (the “Borough”) is a public body corporate and politic of the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:14-141 provides that the governing body of any municipality by Ordinance may provide for the appointment of one or more chaplains to the Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Police Chaplains serve an integral role in providing comfort to members of the Police Department as well as the public and aid in community policing; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Borough has determined that it is in the best interest of the Borough and its citizens to create such a position; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Freehold, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1

Title 2 “Administration and Personnel” of the Code of the Borough of Freehold shall be amended as follows; additions to the current ordinance are noted in underline.

2.44.130 Chaplain of the Police Department.

A. Position Created. The position of Police Chaplain for the Freehold Borough Police Department is hereby created in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:14-141. The position will be a volunteer position. The position of Chaplain shall be under the Director of Public Safety and subject to the control of the Chief of Police.

B. Qualifications. Any person appointed as Chaplain shall be an ordained clergyman in good standing in the religious body from which he/she is selected. All Chaplains shall be subject to the residency requirements of the Code of the Freehold Borough. The Chaplain shall have basic training and shall be a certified Police Chaplain credentialed in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Freehold Borough Police Department and shall be qualified in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:14-141.

C. Duties of Chaplain. The responsibilities shall include assisting the Freehold Borough Police Department in duties that may be assigned at discretion of the Chief of Police.

D. Rank and Salary. Any person appointed as Chaplain shall serve in that capacity without Rank or Salary.

E. Term of Office. A person appointed as Police Chaplain shall serve at the pleasure of the Governing Body and for a period of one year from the date of appointment and shall continue in that capacity until he/she resigns, is terminated, is reappointed by the Governing Body at the recommendation of the Chief of Police, or is replaced by another clergyman/ clergywoman dully appointed by the Governing Body at the recommendation of the Chief of Police. Notwithstanding the forgoing, the position of Police Chaplain shall be an "at-will" position, and the appointment of Police Chaplain may be terminated without cause.

F. Appointment. The Chief of Police may recommend to the Governing Body persons that he believes meet the qualifications of N.J.S.A. 40A:14-141 as well as the rules and regulations of the Freehold Borough Police Department with reference to Chaplains, if any. All applicants for the position of Chaplain shall be reviewed by the Chief of Police to determine his/her qualifications in accordance with this Ordinance and shall make recommendations to the Governing Body regarding the appointment as Chaplain. The Mayor shall appoint Chaplains in accordance with this Ordinance with the advice and consent of the Borough Council.

Section 2

If any part of this Ordinance shall be deemed invalid such part shall be deemed severable and the invalidity thereof shall not affect the remaining part of this Ordinance.

Section 3

Any Ordinance or portions thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed and superseded.

Section 4

This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication in accordance with Law.

Introduction: December 4, 2023

Public Hearing/Adoption: December 18, 2023