

TOWNSHIP OF NEPTUNE

RESOLUTION 26-035

AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL COUNSEL-CANNABIS COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the Township of Neptune determined it is necessary to solicit proposals of qualifications for professional services for Special Counsel under a “Fair and Open Process” pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44-20.4 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Neptune determined and certified that the value of the services to be rendered will exceed \$17,500.00; and

WHEREAS, the anticipated term of said contract is for a period of one year and shall run from January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Neptune provided the necessary Public Notice for the solicitation of qualifications for professional services under the Fair and Open Process for a minimum period of ten (10) days; and

WHEREAS, the sealed qualifications, due on December 1, 2025, were submitted to the Township Clerk of the Township of Neptune, 25 Neptune Blvd., Neptune, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Michael Celli, Jr. Esq. 382 Morris Ave., Long Branch, NJ, submitted a proposal for Professional Services as Special Counsel.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that:

- 1)** Michael Celli, Jr. Esq. 382 Morris Ave., Long Branch, NJ, is appointed the Special Counsel – Cannabis Committee for the 2026 calendar year.
- 2)** The Mayor and Township Clerk are authorized to enter into a contract with Michael Celli, Jr. Esq. 382 Morris Ave., Long Branch, NJ, for the position of Special Counsel-Cannabis Committee in the Township of Neptune for the calendar year of 2026 pursuant to the “Fair and Open Process” which has been implemented under the “New Jersey Local Unit Pay-to Play” Law under P.L. 2004, Chapter 19 (as amended by P.L. 2005, c.51) N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer of the Township has certified the availability of funds in the amount not to exceed \$30,000.00 for Special Counsel-Cannabis Committee which is based on a reasonable estimate of the goods and services required over the contract terms, and the local unit is not obligated to spend that amount.

CERTIFICATION OF FUNDS

I, Nicole Schnurr, Acting Chief Financial Officer of the Township of Neptune, do hereby certify to the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that funds are available for the personnel appointments detailed above.

Account Name		Account Number
Legal Services OE		01-201-20-155-020

Nicole Schnurr, Acting Chief Financial Officer

Date

CERTIFICATION

I, William Bray, Township Clerk of the Township of Neptune hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune, Monmouth County, State of New Jersey at a meeting held on January 1, 2026.

William Bray, RMC, CMR
Township Clerk