#### **ORDINANCE NO. 6 - 2025**

#### TOWNSHIP OF FAIRFIELD

#### **COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND**

# AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL AND REPLACE CHAPTER 252, ARTICLE I OF THE CODE FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF FAIRFIELD, CUMBERLAND COUNTY, ENTITLED "FIRE PREVENTION"

WHEREAS, the Township of Fairfield (the "Township") desires to enter into a shared service agreement with the City of Bridgeton for local enforcement of the New Jersey Uniform Fire Code; and

WHEREAS, in order the enter into this shared service agreement, it is necessary to modify the current Township Code provisions which address enforcement of the New Jersey Uniform Fire Code; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the by the Township Committee of the Township of Fairfield, County of Cumberland, State of New Jersey that Chapter 252, Article I of the Code of the Township of Fairfield, entitled "Fire Prevention" be repealed and replaced as follows:

#### § 252, Article I. Fire Prevention.

# § 252-1 Local Enforcement of the New Jersey Uniform Fire Code.

Pursuant to Section 11 of the Uniform Fire Safety Act (P.L. 1983, c. 383), the New Jersey Uniform Fire Code shall be locally enforced in the Township of Fairfield through a shared service with the City of Bridgeton, with which the Township has entered into a Shared Services Agreement pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq., to be the local enforcing agency.

#### § 252-2 Agency Designation.

The Fire Prevention Bureau of the City of Bridgeton shall be the local enforcement agency with the Township of Fairfield by virtue of a Shared Services Agreement pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq.

#### § 252-3 Duties.

The local enforcement agency shall enforce the Uniform Fire Safety Act and the codes and regulations adopted under it in all buildings, structures and premises within the established boundaries of the Township of Fairfield, other than owner-occupied one-family and two-family dwellings used exclusively for dwelling purposes or buildings, structures and premises owned by

the Federal Government, interstate agencies, or the State of New Jersey. The local enforcement agency shall comply with the requirements of the Uniform Fire Safety Act and Uniform Fire Code as updated from time to time.

# § 252-4 Organization.

The local enforcing agency shall be under the direct supervision of the Fire Official who reports to the Chief of the Bridgeton Fire Department. If the Fire Official is also the Chief of the Bridgeton Fire Department, then the Fire Official shall report to the Deputy Chief of the Bridgeton Fire Department.

#### § 252-5 Board of Appeals.

Pursuant to Sections 15 and 17 of the Uniform Fire Safety Act, any person aggrieved by an Order of the local enforcement agency shall have the right to appeal to the Cumberland County Board of Construction Appeals.

## § 252-6 Life Hazard Uses.

All inspection and permit provisions in the Uniform Fire Code (N.J.A.C. 5:70) are adopted by reference and incorporated herein. The Bureau of Fire Prevention established by the City of Bridgeton shall carry out periodic inspections of life hazard uses required under the Uniform Fire Code on behalf of the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

- Each use classified as a life hazard under N.J.A.C. 5:70-2.4 shall be registered with the NJ Division of Fire Safety.
- A late registration penalty shall accrue on February 1 of each year.

# § 252-7 Non-Life Hazard Uses.

In addition to the registrations required by the Uniform Fire Code, non-life hazard uses shall register with the Bureau of Fire Prevention as specified by the Bridgeton City Code as updated from time to time.

- Owners/operators must submit registration forms and pay the fee prior to commencing operations.
- Annual re-registration is required in January.
- Inspections occur annually, with fees set forth in the City of Bridgeton Ordinance, Chapter 149, Fees, Article II, as amended.
- Residential uses shall be inspected and charged a fee only upon change of tenant.
- Uses registered with the State as life hazards are not required to register under this section.

- Vacant buildings may be charged and inspected based on the building's prior use.
- Residential uses, except R-A uses, shall be inspected in the common areas only.

# § 252-8 Permits and Certificates of Fire Code Status.

- Permit application fees shall be as per the City of Bridgeton Code, Section 149-15, as amended.
- The cost for issuance of a Certificate of Fire Code Status shall be as per the City of Bridgeton Code, Chapter 149, Fees, Article II, as amended.
- Smoke detector and carbon monoxide alarm inspections, and issuance of Certificates of Approval, shall be performed by the Bridgeton Fire Prevention Bureau under the Shared Services Agreement. Fees shall be as per the City of Bridgeton Code, as amended.

### § 252-9 Variances from Regulation.

Applications for variance from the requirements of State law shall be filed pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-200, as updated, and administered by the Bridgeton Fire Prevention Bureau.

# § 252-10 Enforcement; Violations; Penalties.

Enforcement, violations, and penalties shall be in accordance with the City of Bridgeton Ordinance, as amended.

# § 252-11 Violations and Penalties.

Unless another penalty is provided by law, any person, firm, or corporation violating this Section shall be subject to a monetary penalty as issued by the Fire Official of the Bridgeton Bureau of Fire Prevention, and upon conviction, subject to the penalty in Chapter 1, Section 1-5, General Penalty, of the Township of Fairfield Code.

Each section of this Ordinance is an independent section, and the holding of any section or part thereof to be unconstitutional, void or ineffective for any cause shall not be deemed to affect the validity of constitutionality of any other sections or parts thereof.

Any ordinances or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed as to their inconsistencies only.

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

### STATE OF NEW JERSEY

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# COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND

Please take notice that the above Ordinance was adopted by the Township Committee of Fairfield Township after a public hearing on the day of Lephen 2025.

Linda M. Gonzales, Municipal Clerk

Marvin Pierce, Jr., Mayor

Adoption First Reading:

September 3, 2025

Publication on First Reading:

September 14, 2025

Second Reading/Public Hearing:

October 1, 2025

Publication on Second Reading:

October 7, 2025

Final Adoption:

October 1, 2025

Motion by:

Seconded by: \( \sqrt{1):2} \tag{Purive}

Aye: Bateman, Burrus, Peterson & Pierce

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Byrd