



# BOROUGH OF OAKLAND BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY



## ORDINANCE NO. 23-CODE-936

### AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2 OF THE OAKLAND BOROUGH CODE TO CREATE A SUSTAINABLE OAKLAND GREEN TEAM COMMITTEE

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**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Oakland recognize the need to take actions to ensure environmental quality, conserve natural resources, foster energy efficiency, promote health and wellness, support and develop the local economy, and reduce costs, all as a way of improving the quality of life for Oakland's residents and ensuring the long term economic, environmental, and social sustainability of the community; and

**WHEREAS**, Sustainable Jersey is an initiative of the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, Rutgers University, the College of New Jersey, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities, and a coalition of New Jersey non-profits, state agencies, and experts in the field; and

**WHEREAS**, Sustainable Jersey identifies programs that municipalities can implement and provide guidance to help accomplish these programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Oakland created the Sustainable Oakland Green Team in 2009 and achieved bronze level certification as a 'Sustainable Community' in 2011, 2014, 2017, 2018, and 2019, and silver level certification in 2020, 2021, and 2022, and 2023.

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Oakland adopted Resolution #23-35 on January 4, 2023 to re-establish the Sustainable Oakland Green Team.

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Borough Council desires to designate the Sustainable Oakland Green Team as a full committee of the Borough of Oakland.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Mayor and Borough Council of Oakland as follows:

**Section I.** Chapter 2, Section 7.10 of the Borough of Oakland Code entitled "Sustainable Green Team Commission" is hereby established as follows:

#### 2-7.10 Sustainable Green Team Committee

a. Legislative Intent and Duties:

1. To generally advise the Mayor and Council on 'greening' and sustainability matters.
2. To solicit grants, with Council approval.
3. To research and evaluate, or coordinate the research and evaluation of 'sustainable' actions that would be beneficial to the Oakland community.
4. To develop and coordinate the implementation of actions as outlined by Sustainable Jersey that will maintain the Borough's Silver Level Certification and lead to higher certifications.
5. To that end, the Sustainable Oakland Green Team may establish subcommittees as needed to carry out specific actions or focus on specific areas of interest.

b. Membership:

The Mayor shall appoint the members of the Committee, who shall serve for a period of five years, except the respective terms of office for the originally appointed members shall be as follows:

- i. Two members shall serve a five (5) year term.
- ii. Two members shall serve a four (4) year term.
- iii. One member shall serve a three (3) year
- iv. All three alternate members shall serve (2) year terms.

The Committee shall also contain an ex-officio member of the Council, the Mayor or his/her designee, the Borough Administrator or his/her designee, and any such other non-voting members the Mayor shall appoint including from the Environmental Commission, Board of Health, Board of Education, Business Community, Shade Tree Commission, Oakland Library and Planning Board

c. Vacancies:

In the event of resignation of any member of the Committee or an inability to serve, the Mayor and shall fill said vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term.

d. Meetings:

The Commission shall meet at least 10 times a year as set in its organizational meeting, which meetings shall be open to the public unless closed by the Committee pursuant to an exception authorized under the Open Public Meetings Act. Special meetings may be called by the Chairman upon three days' notice to each member of the Committee. The Committee may make and amend rules and regulations, subject to Council approval, concerning the conduct of its meetings.

e. Organization; Officers.

The Commission shall elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman at its organizational meeting in January, which officers shall serve for a term of one year and remain in office until their successor are appointed.

The Commission shall appoint a Secretary, which may be a paid position, such compensation to be determined by the Mayor and Council. The Secretary shall keep minutes of all the meetings of the Commission, which minutes and copies of official correspondence shall be kept on file in the Office of the Borough Clerk, with copies provided to the Mayor and Borough Council.

f. Compensation

Members of the Sustainable Green Team Committee shall receive no compensation.

**Section II.** All other parts, portions and provisions of Chapter 2 of the Borough of Oakland Code be and the same are hereby ratified and confirmed, except where inconsistent with the terms hereof. In the event of any such inconsistency, the terms of this Ordinance shall be deemed to govern.

**Section III.** The terms of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable; should any part, portion or provision hereof be declared invalid or unconstitutional, said finding shall not affect any other part, portion or provision thereof.

**Section IV.** This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication according to law.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_ day of  
\_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

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Linda H. Schwager, Mayor

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Wendi Seelin, Acting Borough Clerk