

TOWNSHIP OF HAINESPORT

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-9

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HAINESPORT CREATING A LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Hainesport (hereinafter "Township") deems it appropriate and necessary to act to ensure retention of existing members and to provide incentives for recruiting new emergency service volunteers; and

WHEREAS, the Township has determined that the creation of a Length of Service Award Program (hereinafter "LOSAP") will enhance the ability of the Hainesport volunteer emergency service organizations to recruit and retain new volunteers and members;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hainesport, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, that an Ordinance creating and governing LOSAP is hereby created as follows:

- A. Establishment.** A Length of Service Award Program ("LOSAP") is herewith established in accordance with Chapter 388 of the Laws of 1997, to reward volunteers within the Hainesport volunteer emergency service organizations (firefighting and emergency squad), for their loyal, diligent, and devoted services to the residents of Hainesport Township.
- B. Enabling Legislation.** The LOSAP shall provide the fixed annual contributions to a deferred income account for each volunteer member that meets the criteria set forth below; that such contributions shall be made in accordance with a plan that shall be established by the Township pursuant to P.L. 1997, c. 388; and that such plan shall be administered in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey, the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, and this Ordinance.
- C. Annual Contributions; Point System.** The LOSAP shall provide for annual contributions, as earned during the calendar year, to each eligible member that meets the criteria as follows:

<u>Points earned Fire</u>	<u>Points earned EMS:</u>	<u>Amount Credited:</u>
100-199	40-140	\$200.00
200-299	141-240	\$400.00
300-399	241-340	\$600.00
400-499	341-440	\$800.00
500 or more	441 or more	\$1,150.00

- (1) In accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-14.9, the maximum contribution of \$1,150.00 will be adjusted in accordance with the Consumer Price Index as determined by the

Director of the Division of Local Government Services with the State of New Jersey
Department of Community Affairs.

(2) Points will be awarded in the following manner:

(a) Emergency Service Organization Volunteers:

Response to fire/emergency call*:	2 points per call
Meeting attendance:	2 points per meeting
Drill participation:	2 points per drill
Other activities:	5 points per activity

*From organization apparatus

(b) Officers shall be awarded an additional 50 points for each full year of service in their office. No member may be awarded more than 50 points for holding more than one office in a given year: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, and Trustee.

(c) In order to be eligible to receive a contribution, a volunteer must obtain at least 100 points in a year. The organization from which the volunteer initially becomes a member is the point system that is applied. The volunteer must also be an "active member", which shall mean a firefighter/fire police member that responds to a combination of 33% of all calls, meeting and drills, with a minimum of 15% of all fire calls and a minimum of 33% of all meetings and drills.

(d) In order to be eligible to receive a contribution, a volunteer EMS must obtain at least 40 points in a year. The organization from which the volunteer initially becomes a member is the point system that is applied. The volunteer must also be an "active member", which shall mean an emergency squad member that responds to a combination of 33% of all calls, meeting and drills, with a minimum of all EMS calls and a minimum of 33% of all meetings and drills.

(3) Volunteers will become vested as follows, following creation of the plan:

First year of service:	20% vesting
Second year of service:	40% vesting
Third year of service:	60% vesting
Fourth year of service:	80% vesting
Fifth year of service:	100% vesting

D. Estimated Cost. The estimated cost of the program has been calculated as approximately \$25,000.00 per year, which assumes that all potentially active volunteers will obtain maximum contributions annually.

E. Repealer. Any and all Ordinances inconsistent with the terms of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of any such inconsistencies.

F. Severability. In the event that any clause, section, paragraph or sentence of this Ordinance is deemed to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, then the Township Committee hereby declares it intent that the balance of the Ordinance not affected by said invalidity shall remain in full force and effect to the extent that it allows the Township to meet the goals of the Ordinance.

G. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall not take effect unless it is approved by voters as a public question at the next general election.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the following referendum question shall be submitted to the voters of the Township of Hainesport at the November 7, 2023 general election:

“Shall the Township of Hainesport be authorized to establish a Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) for the volunteer emergency responders who serve the Township pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:14-183, et seq.?”

INTERPRETIVE STATEMENT

The Township of Hainesport has decided to create a Length of Service Award Program (“LOSAP”) for volunteer emergency services responders (firefighting and emergency squad) who serve the citizens of the Township. The general requirements of a LOSAP are set forth in State law (N.J.S.A. 40A:14-183, et seq.).

Each volunteer who performs the amount of service required by the Ordinance will have a minimum of \$200.00 to a maximum of \$1,150.00 per year deposited into an account for the volunteer.

The cost will be budgeted annually in the budget of the Township of Hainesport, and is anticipated to be \$25,000.00 per year.

Additional details on the program may be found in the Ordinance adopted by the Township of Hainesport which is available for public inspection, along with a copy of the State enabling law, in the Township Clerk’s office, located at One Hainesport Centre, Hainesport, New Jersey 08036 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., during normal business days, holidays and weekends excluded.

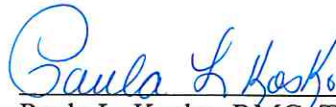
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**HAINESPORT TOWNSHIP
ORDINANCE NO. 2023-9**

**ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HAINESPORT CREATING A
LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM**

The Ordinance published herewith was introduced and passed upon first reading at the regular meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Hainesport held on August 8, 2023. It will be further considered for passage after a public hearing at the regular meeting to be held on September 5, 2023 at the Municipal Building, One Hainesport Centre, Hainesport, New Jersey at 6:30 PM at which time and place any persons desiring to be heard upon the same will be given an opportunity to be heard. During the week prior to and up to and including the date of such meeting or further consideration, copies of said Ordinance in its entirety may be obtained from the Township Clerk.

Dated:



Paula L. Kosko, RMC, Township Clerk
Township Administrator

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Levinson			X			
Gilmore	X		X			
Montgomery			X			
Evans		X	X			
Clauss			X			

NOTICE OF FINAL PASSAGE

HAINESPORT TOWNSHIP

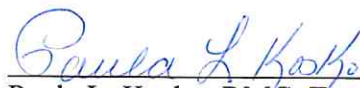
ORDINANCE NO. 2023-9

**ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HAINESPORT CREATING A
LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM**

Notice is hereby given that Ordinance No. 2023-9 as entitled above has been finally adopted on final reading by the governing body of Hainesport Township after a public hearing at a meeting held on September 5, 2023. Said Ordinance shall take effect in accordance with the law.

ATTEST:


Dated: September 5, 2023


Paula L. Kosko, RMC, Township Clerk
Township Administrator

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF

APPROVAL BY:

Dated: September 5, 2023


GERARD CLAUSS
Mayor of Hainesport Township

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Levinson		X	X			
Gilmore	X		X			
Montgomery			X			
Evans			X			
Clauss			X			

Introduced: August 8, 2023

First Publication: August 13, 2023

Adoption: September 5, 2023

Final Publication: September 10, 2023