

**RESOLUTION 2019 – 125**

**RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MOUNT ARLINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY VEHEMENTLY OPPOSING THE EXTENSION OF TIME REQUESTED BY THE ROXBURY/MT. ARLINGTON CONSOLIDATION STUDY COMMISSION TO CONTINUE THE EXPLORATION OF THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE BOROUGH OF MOUNT ARLINGTON AND ROXBURY TOWNSHIP**

**WHEREAS**, the Roxbury/Mt. Arlington Consolidation Study Commission (hereinafter “Commission”) was created on April 1, 2015 and

**WHEREAS**, applicable New Jersey statutes limit the time for a consolidation commission to study a consolidation three (3) years; and

**WHEREAS**, the statutory length of time to study the question is sufficient if the consolidation commission is effective and diligent; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission has previously requested and received a one year extension of time to complete its task from the State of New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, since the aforesaid extension expires on December 31, 2019, the Commission, at its meeting on July 24, 2019, adopted a resolution which seeks another extension from the State of New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, at the July 24, 2019 meeting of the Commission, the Commission presented information that in order for the proposed consolidation to be financially beneficial to both municipalities, the applicable governing statutes must be amended or that the Constitution of New Jersey must be invoked in a creative manner; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission desires to circumvent the equalization of the tax bases of each municipality to ensure that Mount Arlington Borough property owners receive a significant reduction in taxes; and

**WHEREAS**, State statutes specifically require equalization of the tax bases to ensure equitable tax burdens for all taxpayers and by not utilizing equalization, property owners of Roxbury Township will unjustly and illegally shoulder more of the burden of the tax base if the consolidation is approved; and

**WHEREAS**, if following the applicable statutes results in an outcome that is not sought or favorable to the Commission, one must question the financial benefit of the proposed consolidation; and

**WHEREAS**, extending the time period will result in continued needless disruption in each municipality; and

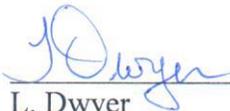
**WHEREAS**, Mount Arlington and Roxbury currently participate in many shared-services agreements and continue to be advocates of such agreements; and

**WHEREAS**, Mount Arlington and Roxbury will continue to explore various mechanisms that will improve efficiencies and reduce the tax burden on taxpayers of each municipality.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey that the Mayor and Council hereby vehemently opposes the extension of time requested by the Commission at their July 24, 2019 meeting.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to forward a certified copy of this Resolution to the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Roxbury Township and the Mount Arlington and Roxbury school districts. Additionally, representatives of the Borough of Mount Arlington, as directed by the Mayor, are authorized to appear at and testify at any proceeding of the Department of Community Affairs where this extension of time is considered.

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington and adopted on August 6, 2019.



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L. Dwyer  
Acting Borough Clerk