## **ORDINANCE 09 - 2023**

## AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MOUNT ARLINGTON, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ESTABLISHING AN ENERGY AND NATURAL GAS AGGREGATION PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Government Energy Aggregation Act, N.J.S.A. 48:3-93.1 et seq. governs the establishment of a Government Energy Aggregation (GEA) program, which is a government-operated purchasing cooperative through which multiple energy consumers, including residential and non-residential utility ratepayers, purchase energy generation services together under the auspices of a government aggregator; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU) has promulgated rules (N.J.A.C. 14:4-6) for the implementation of GEA programs; and

WHEREAS, the deregulation of energy generation in the State of New Jersey has created a competitive marketplace, wherein residential and non-residential GEA participants may realize a direct reduction in the cost of electricity and gas supply on their utility bills; and

WHEREAS, through the aggregation process the government aggregator has the capacity to include energy purchased from renewable sources; and

WHEREAS, the realization of energy cost savings and the provision of options for purchasing energy from renewable sources serve the interests of the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Borough of Mount Arlington; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Mount Arlington hereby finds that it is in the best interests of residential and non-residential electric and gas ratepayers for the Borough of Mount Arlington to create the opportunity for them to enter into an aggregation agreement in order to seek substantial savings on utility generation rates and be provided with options for reducing their carbon footprint; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Mayor and Council, in the Borough of Mount Arlington and the State of New Jersey, duly assembled in public session, as follows:

- 1- The Borough of Mount Arlington publicly declares its intent to become an aggregator of electric power and natural gas on behalf its residential and non-residential consumers of electricity and natural gas, pursuant to the Government Energy Act of 2003, <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:3-91.3 to -98, and implementing regulations.
- 2- The Borough of Mount Arlington will utilize the services of an approved energy agent in implementing the GEA program. Such agent shall, on behalf of Borough of Mount Arlington, conduct a reverse energy auction to seek bids from licensed and qualified third-party energy suppliers. If such winning bid is selected and agreement executed, individual residential consumers would retain the option not to participate and to choose

any alternatives they desire, while non-residential ratepayers would also have the right to participate.

- 3- The Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute any documents necessary to carry out the purpose of the Ordinance.
- 4- All ordinances and parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.
- 5- If any portion of this ordinance shall be deemed invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder shall survive in full force and effect.
- 6- This ordinance shall be effective immediately upon adoption and publication in accordance with law.

I HEREBY CERTIFY this to be a true and correct Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, introduced on November 8, 2023; and which will be further considered after a public hearing held on December 5, 2023 at the Municipal Building at 7:00p.m.

Attest:

**BOROUGH OF MOUNT ARLINGTON** 

Matthew N. Bansch

Borough Clerk

Michael Stanzilis, Mayor Borough of Mount Arlington