

ORDINANCE 2023- 10

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF HACKETTSTOWN AMENDING CHAPTER 10
OF THE TOWN CODE AUTHORIZING NON-RESIDENTS TO BE ACTIVE
MEMBERS OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

WHEREAS, the Town of Hackettstown ("Town") has a Fire Department consisting of the Vigilant Hook and Ladder Co., No. 1 and the Cataract Hose Company, No. 1; and

WHEREAS, presently, the Town Code provides for the qualification for appointment as a fireman and requires all active members to have been a resident of the Town at the time of appointment and shall remain a Town resident for four (4) years following initial appointment; and

WHEREAS, for the purpose of protecting the safety and welfare of the public, the Town seeks to eliminate the residency requirements for fireman.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Hackettstown, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section One: Chapter 2 of the Town's Ordinance Code, entitled "Administrative Code", Article 3, entitled "Departments", Section 2-30 (F), entitled "Fire Department", is hereby amended to read as follows:

2-30. Fire Department

...

(F) Qualifications for Membership.

The following qualifications shall be necessary for appointment as a fireman, but no active fireman now in good standing shall be debarred from further active membership. Each applicant shall be:

1. A citizen of the United States;
2. A resident of the Town or residing within 1.5 miles of the Town border;
3. Not less than eighteen (18) years of age;
4. Of good health and physical fitness to perform as a fireman; and
5. Of good moral character.

Section Two: If any section, subdivision, paragraph, clause, or provision of this ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to such section, subdivision, paragraph, clause, or provision and the remainder of this ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section Three: This ordinance shall become effective upon final passage and publication according to law.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the aforesaid ordinance was introduced at a regular meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Hackettstown, New Jersey, held on July 13, 2023, and that at a regular meeting of the same to be held on August 10, 2023 at the Municipal Building, 215 Stiger Street, Hackettstown, New Jersey, at the hour of 7:00 p.m., the said Common Council will conduct a public hearing and will consider the final passage of said ordinance.

P.J. Reilly
Town Clerk/Administrator