

**PENNINGTON BOROUGH  
RESOLUTION NO. 2026 - 1.3**

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING WALTER R. BLISS, JR.  
AS BOROUGH ATTORNEY FOR THE YEAR 2026**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Pennington has a need to appoint a Borough Attorney and to contract for related professional legal services in the year 2026;

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Clerk has determined and has certified in writing that the anticipated value of this contract for professional services, having a term of one (1) year, will exceed \$17,500;

**WHEREAS**, this contract is being awarded as a professional services contract in compliance with the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq., without advertising for proposals or competitive bidding, because the services contracted for are of such a qualitative nature as will not reasonably permit the drawing of specifications or the receipt of competitive bids;

**WHEREAS**, Walter R. Bliss, Jr. has served as Borough Attorney and proposes to continue to serve in this capacity in both litigation and non-litigation matters at the billing rate of \$140 per hour, plus reimbursement for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses;

**WHEREAS**, total fees for the legal services of Walter R. Bliss Jr. and the Law Offices of Walter R. Bliss Jr., including expenses, shall not exceed in the aggregate \$70,500.00 without the prior written approval of Borough Council; except pursuant to a separate contract addressed to a specific litigation;

**WHEREAS**, approval of this contract complies with the Local Pay-To-Play Law, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5, effective January 1, 2006, which except in prescribed circumstances prohibits the award of contracts with a value in excess of \$17,500 to any person or business entity which makes reportable contributions to local political or candidate committees representing members of the governing body;

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Bliss has completed and submitted a sworn Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that neither he nor his firm has made nor shall make any political contribution prohibited by the relevant provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5, regarding pay-to-play;

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Bliss shall comply with requirements for Anti-Discrimination and Affirmative Action as set forth in the annexed Schedule A;

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough has certified that funds are available for the purpose of this contract in budget line #: 6-01-20-155-000-261;

**WHEREAS**, the Local Public Contracts Law requires that a resolution authorizing an award of contract for professional services without competitive bid be publicly advertised following adoption;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Pennington that Walter R. Bliss, Jr. be appointed as Borough Attorney of the Borough of Pennington in compliance with applicable law;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Mayor, with the attestation of the Borough Clerk, is hereby authorized to enter into a professional services agreement with Walter R. Bliss, Jr. in the form annexed hereto;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution shall be published in the Hopewell Valley News as required by law within ten (10) days of its adoption.

**Record of Council Vote on Passage**

COUNCILMAN	AYE	NAY	N.V.	A.B.	COUNCILMAN	AYE	NAY	N.V.	A.B
Angarone					Rubenstein				
Chandler					Stern				
Kassler-Taub					Valenza				

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Pennington at a meeting on January 5, 2026.

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Elizabeth Sterling, Borough Clerk