## BOROUGH OF PENNINGTON RESOLUTION 2025-3.12

## RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BOROUGH PARTICIPATION IN RETENTION OF CONSULTANT FOR PREPARATION OF STONY BROOK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

**WHEREAS**, Pennington Borough seeks to retain consultant services to help meet State storm water discharge requirements applicable to communities in the Stony Brook Watershed;

**WHEREAS**, four of these municipalities, Princeton, Hopewell Township, Lawrence Township and Pennington, in consultation with the Watershed Institute, have considered combining resources on a regional basis to retain a consultant to develop the sophisticated technical data needed to address these requirements;

**WHEREAS**, attached to this Resolution is a "Proposal for Stony Brook Watershed Management Plan" dated October 21, 2025 and prepared by One Water Consulting, LLC, describing the components of the proposed collaboration;

**WHEREAS**, One Water Consulting, LLC is a prolific and well regarded watershed management consultant in New Jersey, as further set forth in the Proposal and Watershed One's website at <u>www.OneWaterNJ.com</u>;

WHEREAS, the background for the project is explained in the Proposal as follows:

- a. the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has issued a Municipal Stormwater General Permit that authorizes the discharge of storm water from small municipal separate storm sewer systems ("MS4");
- b. all municipalities in the Stony Brook Watershed are required to comply with MS4 permit requirements;
- c. the MS4 permit in the past has required municipalities to have a Stormwater Management Program that includes such things as identifying stormwater outfall locations, developing a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan, adopting stormwater management ordinances, and engaging with the public;
- d. the MS4 permit currently requires the affected municipalities to develop a Watershed Improvement Plan ("WIP") that describes the activities they will undertake to improve water quality in certain water bodies, improve water quality in water bodies listed as impaired, and reduce or eliminate flooding;
- e. the WIP must consist of a "watershed inventory report" due in 2025, a "watershed assessment report" due in 2026, and a "watershed improvement plan report" due in 2027;
- f. pollutants identified in the Stony Brook require the WIP to determine in particular how stormwater load reductions can be accomplished in this watershed;

**WHEREAS**, the proposed Watershed Management Plan does not constitute a Water Shed Improvement Plan or WIP in itself but, rather, will provide the technical data needed by each of the participating municipalities for preparation of their respective WIP's;

WHEREAS, the attached One Water Proposal identifies seven tasks to be included in the scope of work for preparation of the Watershed Management Plan, including, by way of brief summary only: (1) evaluation of the so-called 2013 Raritan River study as relevant to the Stony Brook Watershed; (2) on-site monitoring of current conditions in the Watershed, preceded by preparation of a Quality Assurance Project Plan that will detail the monitoring plan for approval in advance by NJDEP, followed by monitoring events at different appropriate locations under varying flow conditions, and in-stream monitoring, sampling and testing by an NJDEP certified laboratory; (3) evaluation of best management practices, such as green infrastructure, manufactured treatment devices and operational changes and their ability to reduce storm water volume; evaluation as well of the likely impact of streambank restoration on downstream pollutant concentrations; and development of a matrix that can be used to assess the relative benefit of one best management practice compared to another; (4) within each sub-watershed of the Stony Brook, evaluation to determine storm water infiltration potential based on soil characteristics and development of a geographic information system (GIS) to be used by each municipality to identify locations most beneficial for infiltration best management practices; generate an impervious layer for each municipality using the recent Watershed Institute evaluation; and create a municipal summary of designated pollutant loads, annual storm water volume and infiltration potential for each sub-watershed area; (5) identify improvement projects (at least three in each municipality); (6) prepare a Watershed Management Report to summarize existing conditions and identify watershed improvement projects that will comply with the MS4 permit requirements, which when combined with the GIS will provide the required technical portions of the required WIP; and (7) meetings with the contracting municipalities to review findings and solicit input;

**WHEREAS**, work on the project will begin within two weeks of approval of the Proposal and execution of related contracts by each of the four participating municipalities, with the expectation that the study and final report will be completed in the fall of 2026 in time to comply with the NJDEP due date for the Watershed Assessment Report in December 2026;

**WHEREAS**, the total shared fees and expenses for the services of One Water Consulting are projected at \$249,300., including labor costs based on time billed in accordance with the schedule of hourly rates attached to the Proposal, together with laboratory and field costs, with the proviso that this total budget shall not be exceeded without prior written authorization by each municipality;

**WHEREAS**, total fees and expenses will be shared by the four participating municipalities in proportion to each municipality's share of impervious area draining to the Stony Brook, as determined by the Watershed Institute, which are, respectively:

Princeton – 44.22% (\$110,240.46) Hopewell Township – 40.50% (\$100,966.50) Lawrence Township – 8.65% (\$21,564.45) Pennington Borough – 6.63% (\$16,528.59);

**WHEREAS**, Pennington Borough Council adopts this Resolution and agrees to enter into the attached Professional Services Agreement with One Water Consulting, LLC, with the proviso that the other three municipalities do the same, and failing that, Pennington Borough will have no further obligation;

**WHEREAS**, a proposed Professional Services Agreement providing for the services of One Water Consulting, LLC, based on its Proposal, is also attached to this Resolution;

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer of Pennington Borough certifies that funds are available for this project under the Streets Budget – Line #: 5-01-26-290-000-278;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by Borough Council of the Borough of Pennington, that the Mayor, with the attestation of the Borough Clerk, is hereby authorized to enter into the attached Professional Services Agreement subject to (1) such changes as to form required by the Borough Attorney and (b) the condition that any such agreement shall be a nullity unless Princeton, Hopewell Township and Lawrence Township join in the project in the manner set forth in the consultant's attached Proposal.

COUNCILMAN	AYE	NAY	N.V.	A.B.	COUNCILMAN	AYE	NAY	N.V.	A.B
Angarone					Rubenstein				
Chandler					Stern				
Marciante					Valenza				

**Record of Council Vote on Passage** 

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 March 3, 2025.

Elizabeth Sterling, Borough Clerk