

Township of Frelinghuysen 210 Main Street Johnsonburg, NJ 07825 **Phone:** (908) 852-4121

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March 11, 2021

Re: Return to In-Person Meetings for Some Township Meetings on 4/1/21

Dear Frelinghuysen Resident:

On March 16, 2020 myself and the OEM, Nick Pachnos, signed a Proclamation of Local Disaster and Emergency in Frelinghuysen Township in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic. That Proclamation remains in effect.

We have continued to work closely with the County of Warren, the Warren County Office of Emergency Management, the Warren County Department of Health, other municipalities, our state and Federal representatives, to ensure that appropriate measures are taken to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, as we are the provision of accurate information to the public through the Township's OEM's website, and periodically, as necessary, through the Township's website. The Township's website has been reconfigured to hopefully make access easier and to be more user friendly.

Although Town Hall remains closed to the public for the duration of the State of Emergency, all municipal services remain operational.

We had previously allowed in-person meetings of Township Boards and Committee's to resume pursuant to the directives of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services, and Administrative Order 2020-4 provided they can ensure that adequate social distancing can occur, proper notice is given, and where appropriate, applications are deemed complete.

Earlier this year, due to an increase in cases of COVID-19 both in the State, County and the Township, on January 20, 2021 both the OEM and myself once again restricted all Township Committee and Board meetings to remote only format.

However, based on current circumstances the OEM and myself have decided to re-open certain Township's meetings back open to the public, subject to social distancing, masks, and 35% occupancy up to 25 persons, effective on April 1, 2021. This applies to all Township Committee, Board and Committee meetings with the exception of meetings of

the Land Use Board, which due to its size and number of professionals, cannot meet with appropriate social distancing, which will continue to meet remotely. In-person meetings can also be accessed remotely.

All in-person and virtual meetings will be conducted provided the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act can be complied with as directed by the Department of Community Affairs. Notice will be provided to the public in advance on how to attend in-person meetings and to attend those meetings remotely, and how to attend the Land Use Board meetings remotely.

Myself and the OEM will continue to reevaluate the circumstances as time progresses.

Myself and the Township Committee wish everyone in the Township well.

Christopher Stracco, Mayor