

TOWNSHIP OF MOUNT LAUREL

ORDINANCE 2026-8

**CREATING ARTICLE III OF CHAPTER 43 ENTITLED "POLICE DEPARTMENT" TO ADD THE OPTIONAL POSITION OF DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

WHEREAS, the Township reviewed Chapter 43 of the Municipal Code entitled "Police Department" and recommends that changes be made to allow for the Manager to appoint an individual to serve as the Director of Public Safety; and

WHEREAS, it is the Township's desire to establish the positions of both the Director of Public Safety and the position of Chief of Police so that the Township has flexibility to organize the police department in a structure that is most suitable for providing public safety to the residents of Mount Laurel; and

WHEREAS, the Township desires to amend and supplement the code to incorporate the recommendations.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED, that the Township Council of the Township of Mount Laurel, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey amends and supplements Chapter 43 of the Township Code to add a new Article III to read as follows:

**ARTICLE III Director of Public Safety**

**§ 4320. Director of Public Safety; Duties.**

- A. When the position is filled, the Director of Public Safety shall be the head of the Police Department and shall be responsible for the organizational and administrative control of the Police Department. If the position is not filled, all of the administrative responsibilities shall remain with the Chief of Police.
- (1) Appointment. The Director of Public Safety shall be appointed by the Township Manager for a term to be fixed by the Township Manager and to be set forth in an employment agreement between the Township and the Director of Public Safety. The Director of Public Safety may be reappointed for additional terms in a similar manner. The Township Manager may terminate the appointment, with or without cause, by giving the Director of Public Safety 90 days' written notice.
  - (2) Qualifications. The Director of Public Safety shall be a citizen of the United States, shall be qualified by education, training and experience, including at least five years supervisory or management law enforcement experience, and shall meet such other qualifications as may be established by the Township Manager.
  - (3) Residency. The Director of Public Safety shall not be required to be a resident of the municipality.
  - (4) Administrative Responsibilities. The Director of Public Safety shall, pursuant to policies established by the Township Manager:
    - a. General.
      - i. Be the executive head of the Police Department, subject to the direction and supervision of the Manager, and shall be responsible to the Township Manager for the efficiency and routine day-to-day operations of the Department and the supervision of its activities, including the performance of all functions assigned to the Director of Public Safety under any

collective bargaining agreements applicable to employees within the Police Department;

- ii. Be the administrative officer of the Police Department;
- iii. Be responsible for the observation and enforcement of all laws of the state and ordinances within the jurisdiction of the Police Department and shall perform such other duties as shall be prescribed by ordinance or by directive of the Township Manager;
- iv. Be responsible for the maintenance of a daily police attendance record in which each member shall record the Officer's name, rank and time of reporting and leaving duty, complaints and matter pertaining to the Police Department and other records as required.
- v. Ensure a receipt of a copy, by each member of the Police Department, of the Police Manual of the Mount Laurel Township Police, as it is currently constituted and as it may be, from time to time, amended and supplemented.
- vi. Acquire for each member of the Police Department a copy of the Police Manual of New Jersey Statutes or similar publication. Said manual shall guide all members of the Police Department in matters pertaining to crimes, criminal procedures, the Disorderly Persons Act, the Drug Law, the Motor Vehicle Act and court rules and practice.
- vii. Administer and enforce rules and regulations and special emergency directives for the disposition and discipline of the Police Department and its officers and personnel;
- viii. Have, exercise and discharge all of the administrative functions, powers and duties of the police force;
- ix. Prescribe the table of organization for the Department, subject to the approval of the Township Manager.
- x. Prescribe the duties and assignments of all subordinates and other personnel;
- xi. Delegate any authority that the Director of Public Safety may deem necessary for the efficient operation of the force, to be exercised under the direction and supervision of the Director of Public Safety;
- xii. See that all persons connected with the Department are properly instructed in their duties and shall give particular attention to the training and instruction of new members thereof,
- xiii. Ensure the supervision of police activity and working conditions;
- xiv. Have control of all records and property of the Police Department and designate any member of the Department to prepare reports and keep the records in the manner that the Director of Public Safety may prescribe, as well as to take charge of any property coming into the custody of the Department;
- xv. Serve as the Coordinator or Deputy Coordinator of the Mount Laurel Township Office of Emergency Management as directed by the Manager.

- xvi. Report at least monthly or as otherwise directed by the Township Manager, to the Office of the Township Manager.
  - xvii. Furnish to the Township Manager, in such form as shall be prescribed by the Township Manager, complete monthly and yearly reports on the operation of the Police Department and make such other reports as may be requested by the Township Manager.
- b. Operations and Activities. Coordinate and administer the activities and approve operating plans and the Director shall:
- i. Set the administrative policies of the Police Department.
  - ii. Allocate funds within the budget which are approved by the Township Council.
  - iii. Recommend adjustments in the salary and working benefits for members of the Police Department in conformance with existing collective bargaining agreements.
- c. Personnel and Financial Policies. Administer personnel and financial policies in conformance with the ordinances of the Township of Mount Laurel and the laws of the State of New Jersey.
- i. Serve as the Appropriate Authority pursuant to Statute.
  - ii. Cause examination to determine the qualifications of persons applying for positions.
  - iii. Recommend promotions, demotions, release or other disciplinary measures, subject to the ordinances of the Township of Mount Laurel and the laws of the State of New Jersey and the provisions of any applicable collective bargaining agreements.
  - iv. Require that all personnel be trained in approved training programs.
  - v. Grant temporary leave of absence to members of the Department.
  - vi. Submit the annual budget and proposed expenditure programs to the Township Manager.
  - vii. Approve payment from allotted funds for operating expenses and capital expenditure.

**Concency, Severability and Repealer**

- (A) If any provision or portion of a provision of this ordinance is held to be unconstitutional, preempted by Federal or State law, or otherwise invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions of the ordinance shall not be invalidated.
- (B) All ordinances or parts of ordinances, which are inconsistent with any provisions of this ordinance, are hereby repealed as to the extent of such inconsistencies.
- (C) No provision of this ordinance shall be construed to impair any common law or statutory cause of action, or legal remedy therefrom, of any person for injury or damage arising from any violation of this ordinance or from other law.

Introduction Date: February 2, 2026

	MOTION	AYE	NAY	ABSTAINED	ABSENT	TRANSMITTED
Catalan-Culnan	2	✓				PAV.
Green		✓				
Janjua		✓				
Moustakas	1	✓				
Steglik		✓				

Publication Date: February 10, 2026

Public Hearing Date: March 2, 2026

	MOTION	AYE	NAY	ABSTAINED	ABSENT	TRANSMITTED
Catalan-Culnan						
Green						
Janjua						
Moustakas						
Steglik						

TOWNSHIP OF MOUNT LAUREL

BY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen Steglik, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Meredith Riculfy, Township Clerk