

**ORDINANCE
TOWNSHIP OF FRANKLIN
O-5-14**

**AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF FRANKLIN
TO LEASE LAND THAT IS NOT IMMEDIATELY NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE**

WHEREAS, the Township of Franklin is the owner of lands identified as Block 1401 Lot 95 (George Property) and Block 6805 Lots 12, 18 & 19 (Meredith Farms) on the Tax Assessment Map of Franklin Township: and

WHEREAS, said property is not needed for public use by the Township of Franklin: and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee is desirous of leasing the two separate properties to an individual or individuals interested in utilizing the property as tillable farmland. Block 1401 Lot 95 (the George Property) is subject to the highest bid and subject to a minimum bid of \$1,387.50. Block 6805 Lot 12, 18 & 19 (The Meredith Farms property site) is subject to the highest bid and subject to a minimum bid of \$2,000.00, calculated as seventy five dollars per acre and the satisfaction of all conditions as hereinafter set forth. The lease is also subject to the Meredith Farms Redevelopment Project moving forward; and if so, the farmer will be notified 30 days prior to the redevelopment commencing and his crops must be harvested at that time.

WHEREAS, any farmer who leases the land shall, for the period constituting the 2014 growing season, cultivate the farm in a timely, thorough and farmer-like manner using modern agricultural methods. The farmer will keep farm neat and in an orderly condition and to pay any and all taxes (there are no property taxes on this property) which may be due and owing on the portion of the land so leased and farmed.

WHEREAS, the farmer who accepts the bid shall also carry a minimum of \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence, general commercial liability insurance which will name the Township of Franklin as an additional insured and will enter into a written farm lease with the township in a form satisfactory to the Township Solicitor and will comply with all State and Federal laws and regulations respecting farming operations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Franklin, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, that Block 1401 Lot 95 and Block 6805 Lot 12, 18, & 19 owned by the Township are not needed for public use at this time and all bids to lease said lands for the 2014 growing season must be received by the Township Clerk prior to 10:00 AM on March 14, 2014.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the successful bidder, that being the highest, will be required to pay a deposit at the time of the bid of 10% of their bid, by cash or check; money order, or cashier's check; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the balance of the lease price be paid for the above premises shall be paid to the Township of Franklin by cash or certified check; money order, or cashier's check on or before 10:00 AM March 26, 2014. In the event the successful bidder fails to pay the balance of the lease price within the time specified, the Township Committee reserves the right to cancel the sale and to retain the deposit as liquidated damages.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Committee reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that notice of public lease to be held as provided for in this ordinance shall be advertised in the official newspapers of the township.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its final passage, adoption and publication as provided by law.

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP OF FRANKLIN

BARBARA FREIJOMIL, CLERK

EDWARD LEOPARDI, MAYOR

CERTIFICATION

I, BARBARA FREIJOMIL, Clerk of the Township of Franklin, County of Gloucester, do hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was introduced at a regular meeting of the Township of Franklin held on Tuesday, February 11, 2014, and thereafter duly advertised in the legal newspaper of the Township at least 10 days prior to it being considered for final passage and adoption at a subsequent meeting to be held on Tuesday, February 25, 2014, at which time any person interested therein will be given an opportunity to be heard.

BARBARA FREIJOMIL, CLERK

Notice is hereby given that the foregoing Ordinance O-5-14 was finally adopted at a meeting of the Franklin Township Committee held on the February 25, 2014 at 7:00 in the Township of Franklin Municipal Building, 1571 Delsea Drive, Franklinville, NJ.

BARBARA FREIJOMIL, CLERK

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Genna				
Mr. Deegan				
Mrs. Neely				
Mr. Gonzalez				
Mayor Leopardi				