

NORTH FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP

Resolution # 7 of 2025

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF NORTH FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP TO REQUEST THE SCHOOL BOARD OF TRINITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT TO CONSIDER THE IMPACT OF TAX INCREASES ON TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS AND TO COMMIT TO NOT RAISE PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE NEXT FIVE (5) YEARS.

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of North Franklin Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania represents around 4,825 residents, a number that has remained consistent for the past fifteen (15) years; and

WHEREAS, North Franklin Township is located within the Trinity Area School District and therefore, North Franklin Township residents are subject to the taxes imposed by the School District; and

WHEREAS, over the past six (6) years, a combination of factors, including but not limited to inflation, housing shortages, etc. have created a situation where many Township residents are facing difficult financial times; and

WHEREAS, this financial difficulty is especially felt by older residents, who are on fixed incomes; and

WHEREAS, during this period, the Board of Supervisors have been able to operate without the need to increase taxes; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of North Franklin Township have successfully **LOWERED** municipal taxes for its residents, all the while acquiring additional property to be used by the public for outdoor recreation, assisting with the purchase of new fire equipment and recently completing a brand new state of art municipal complex; and

WHEREAS, during this same six (6) year time period, the School District has **INCREASED REAL PROPERTY TAXES EVERY YEAR**; and

WHEREAS, the School District's property tax increase in the last two years is more than the Township's total property tax rate; and

WHEREAS, with the newest tax increase for 2025, the School District's property tax rate is more than **THIRTEEN (13) times greater** than that of the Township's, all this while the School District collected over \$5,870,000.00 from Township properties in 2024 (compared to the Township collecting less than \$500,000.00); and

WHEREAS, as a result of these continued tax increases, the Board of Supervisors has received a significant amount of complaints and serious concerns from its residents; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the ongoing concerns raised by its residents, the Board of Supervisors hereby requests the School District seriously consider the strain these constant tax increases are having on Township residents; and

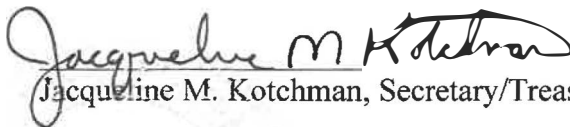
WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of North Franklin Township hereby requests Trinity Area School District officials work to balance its budget and to commit to **NOT RAISE PROPERTY TAXES** for the next five (5) years in order to assist Township residents in adjusting and coping with these new financial realities (and to help balance out the impact of the previous 6 years of increases); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors further requests that fellow municipalities located within the Trinity Area School District adopt similar Resolutions to be presented to the School District.

BE IT RESOLVED that the North Franklin Township Supervisors at a Public Meeting held on June 25, 2025, voted to pass this Resolution and directed its Secretary to provide a true and correct copy to the respective Boards for Trinity Area School District, Canton Township, Amwell Township and South Strabane Township.

WITNESS

NORTH FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP


Jacqueline M. Kotchman, Secretary/Treasurer

By: 
Robert A. Sabot, Chairman