## **RESOLUTION 2020 - 227**

## RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BARNEGAT, COUNTY OF OCEAN STATE OF NEW JERSEY URGING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO MOVE FORWARD WITH A NEW VETERANS CLINIC TO BE LOCATED IN OCEAN COUNTY

**WHEREAS**, Ocean County is home to more than 40,000 veterans, the largest population in the state of New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, our veterans have provided a great service to all of us here in Ocean County and the entire Country; and

**WHEREAS**, many of our veterans are in need of medical care that should easily be accessed at home in ocean County; and

**WHEREAS**, recent delays in the federal government's plan to bring a new Veterans Administration Clinic to Ocean County are unacceptable as the need increases significantly to replace the aging James J. Howard VA Clinic in Brick Township; and

**WHEREAS**, the VA Clinic in Brick Township, has reached its capacity and while it provided invaluable services to our veterans, it can no longer handle the increasing numbers of veterans using the facility; and

**WHEREAS**, Ocean County is working closely with Congressman Chris Smith, who is the senior member of the New Jersey Congressional delegation and Congressman Andy Kim to put the project back on track and expedite the building of a new VA facility in Ocean County; and

**WHEREAS**, having this facility in Ocean County is critical for the care of our veterans, many of whom are elderly and frail.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Barnegat Township calls upon the federal government to end the needless delays in moving forward with a new VA Clinic to be located in Ocean County.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Barnegat Township supports the efforts of the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders as they pledge to work with Congressmen Smith and Kim to expedite the process of building a new VA Clinic in Ocean County.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** a certified copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders, Ocean County Veteran's Service Bureau, Congressman Chris Smith, Congressman Andy Kim, Federal Veterans Administration and Ocean County Municipalities.

## **CERTIFICATION**

I, Michele Rivers, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Barnegat, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey do hereby certify the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the governing body at their meeting of July 9, 2020.

Michele Rivers, RMC Municipal Clerk