

CHAPTER 101

AN ACT concerning expenses related to the consolidation of municipalities and amending N.J.S.40A:4-53.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. N.J.S.40A:4-53 is amended to read as follows:

Special emergency appropriations.

40A:4-53. A local unit may adopt an ordinance authorizing special emergency appropriations for the carrying out of any of the following purposes:

- a. Preparation of an approved tax map.
- b. Preparation and execution of a complete program of revaluation of real property for the use of the local assessor, or of any program to update and make current any previous revaluation program when such is ordered by the county board of taxation.
- c. Preparation of a revision and codification of its ordinances.
- d. Engagement of special consultants for the preparation, and the preparation of a master plan or plans, when required to conform to the planning laws of the State.
- e. Preparation of drainage maps for flood control purposes.
- f. Preliminary engineering studies and planning necessary for the installation and construction of a sanitary sewer system.
- g. Authorized expenses of a consolidation commission established pursuant to the "Municipal Consolidation Act," P.L.1977, c.435 (C.40:43-66.35 et seq.) or sections 25 through 29 of the "Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act," P.L.2007, c.63 (C.40A:65-25 through C.40A:65-29).
- h. Contractually required severance liabilities resulting from the layoff or retirement of employees. Such liabilities shall be paid without interest and, at the sole discretion of the local unit, may be paid in equal annual installments over a period not to exceed five years.
- i. Preparation of a sanitary or storm system map.
- j. Liabilities incurred to the Department of Labor and Workforce Development for the reimbursement of unemployment benefits paid to former employees.
- k. Subject to approval by the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, non-recurring expenses incurred by a municipality to implement a consolidation with another municipality, or municipalities, pursuant to the "Municipal Consolidation Act," P.L.1977, c.435 (C.40:43-66.35 et seq.); the sparsely populated municipalities law, P.L.1995, c.376 (C.40:43-66.78 et seq.); sections 25 through 29 of the "Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act," P.L.2007, c.63 (C.40A:65-25 through C.40A:65-29); or N.J.S.40A:7-1 et seq., in the case of a consolidation effectuated through the annexation of land comprising an entire municipality or entire municipalities, to another municipality. The director shall approve the ordinance if he or she determines that the non-recurring expenses are reasonable and permissible by law and that the consolidation will result in long-term savings for the municipality.

A copy of all ordinances or resolutions as adopted relating to special emergency appropriations shall be filed with the director.

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved July 7, 2017.