

**ORDINANCE NO. 2023-06  
FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP  
HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

**ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FRANKLIN, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON,  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING SECTION 220-24.2  
ENTITLED ‘GROUND ARRAY SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM’ TO PERMIT THE  
INSTALLATION OF GROUND ARRAY SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS IN RR-5.0  
ZONES AND TO LOWER THE MINIMUM ACREAGE REQUIREMENT  
CONCERNING SAME**

**WHEREAS**, the Land Use Board of the Township of Franklin, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey reviewed Chapter 220 entitled “Land Use,” with a specific focus on Section 220-24.2 entitled “Ground Array Solar Energy System;” and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Township Planner’s recommendations, with the approval of the Land Use Board, it is the Township’s intent to amend and supplement Section 220-24.2 entitled “Ground Array Solar Energy System” to permit the installation of such systems in RR-5.0 Zones and to lower the minimum acreage requirement concerning same; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee of the Township of Franklin believes that such amendment is in the best interest of the Township and its residents.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Franklin, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey that Section 220-24.2 entitled “Ground Array Solar Energy System” be amended and supplemented to permit the installation of such systems in RR-5.0 Zones and to lower the minimum acreage requirement concerning same as follows:

**SECTION I:**

Deletions to this Section shall be delineated by strikethrough text ~~thusly~~.  
Additions to this Section shall be delineated by underlined text thusly.

**§ 220-24.2. Ground Array Solar Energy System.**

Ground array solar energy systems are permitted subject to compliance with the following conditions:

- A. The primary purpose of a ground array solar energy system shall be to provide power for the principal and/or accessory use of the property whereon said system is to be located and shall not be for the generation of power for commercial purposes, although this provision shall not be interpreted to prohibit the sale of excess power generated from time to time from a ground array solar energy system designed to meet the energy needs of a principal use.

- B. Ground array solar energy systems shall be permitted in the AR-7.0 and RR-5.0 Zones on lots with at least ~~seven~~ five acres.
- C. Ground array solar energy systems shall comply with the principal structure setbacks in the underlying zones.
- D. Said use shall be located in the rear yard and a maximum of 15 feet tall.
- E. Said use shall be screened from any adjacent home within 250 feet of the system. Screening shall consist~~ent~~ of six-foot-tall evergreen shrubs and/or trees or a solid fence.

**SECTION II:**

The Township Committee' s authorization of the removal of the aforementioned deed restriction in no way affects, alters, or contravenes the terms and conditions outlined in the Franklin Township Land Use Board Resolution memorialized July 26, 2023.

**SECTION III:**

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistencies.

**SECTION IV:**

If any article, section, subsection, paragraphs, phrase or sentence is, for any reason, inconsistent with the Code of the Township of Franklin, or is held to be unconstitutional or invalid, said article, section, subsection, paragraph, phrase or sentence shall be deemed severable.

**SECTION V:**

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication as provided by law.

**NOTICE**

NOTICE is hereby given that the foregoing Ordinance was introduced to pass on first reading at a regular meeting of the Committee of the Township of Franklin held on October 12, 2023 and ordered published in accordance with the law. Said Ordinance will be considered for final reading and adoption at a regular meeting of the Township Committee to be held on November 9, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the Township Committee may hear this Ordinance at the Franklin Township School, 226 Quakertown Road, Pittstown, New Jersey, at which time all persons interested may appear for or against the passage of said Ordinance.

Christine Burke  
Township Clerk

**FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP  
HUNTERDON COUNTY**

**PUBLIC NOTICE** is hereby given that the following titled Ordinance was introduced by the Franklin Township Committee at a regularly scheduled meeting held on Thursday, October 12, 2023.

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**SUMMARY AND EXPLANATION**

In the latter half of 2022, residents interested in utilizing ground-mounted solar energy systems had expressed a hardship in placing such systems on their properties based upon the current Land Use Ordinance. Throughout 2023, the Land Use Board and Township Planner reviewed the Township’s Ordinance to seek ways to reduce or eliminate such hardships.

The Township Planner has made recommendations, with the approval of the Land Use Board, to amend and supplement Section 220-24.2 entitled “Ground Array Solar Energy System” to permit the installation of such systems in RR-5.0 Zones and to lower the minimum acreage requirement concerning same.

Provided by Christine Burke, Township Clerk