

TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE

ORDINANCE 2025-12

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON NEW JERSEY AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 71 (FILM MAKING) TO UPDATE CERTAIN STANDARDS, HOURS AND FEES SET FORTH THEREIN

WHEREAS, on December 6, 2023, the Township Council of the Township of Florence adopted Ordinance 2023-19 to establish a process and standards for the issuing of permits to allow for the filming of television and motion pictures within the geographic boundaries of the Township; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of Ordinance 2023-19 were codified as Chapter 71 of the Township Code; and

WHEREAS, the process for the filming of television and motion pictures has continued to evolve and the expectations of the television and motion picture industry have become more consistent since the adoption of Chapter 71 of the Township Code; and

WHEREAS, the provisions set forth in Chapter 71 of the Township Code have been reviewed by the New Jersey Motion Picture and Television Commission and the Commission has made recommendation for changes to the provisions of Chapter 71 of the Township Code to reflect the evolving standards of the television and motion picture industry; and

WHEREAS, the Township desires to remain competitive as a potential site for the filming of television and motion pictures in New Jersey;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Florence, in the County of Burlington, New Jersey as follows:

SECTION 1: Section 71-1 (Definitions) is hereby amended to add the following definitions:

<u>CAMERA WRAP</u> The end of filming for the day when the actors and artistic staff are dismissed.

CREW WRAP Following a Camera Wrap, the period of time when the production crew dismantles, stores or shuts down the production equipment and gear at the end of a day.

SECTION 2: The definition of "Major Motion Picture" as set forth in Section 71-1 (Definitions) is hereby amended to read as follows (deletions shall be denoted with bold and strikethrough, **thus**; additions shall be denoted with bold and underline, **thus**):

MAJOR MOTION PICTURE Any film which is financed and/or distributed by a major motion picture studio, including but not limited to the following:

- A. Universal Pictures.
- **B.** Warner Brothers, including New Line Cinema, Castle Rock Cinema, Village Road Show and Bel-Aire.
- **C.** Paramount, including MTV Films and Nickelodeon Movie.
- **D.** 20th Century Fox, including Fox Searchlight.
- E. Sony/Columbia.
- **F.** Disney/Miramax.
- **G.** MGM/United Artists.
- H. Dreamworks.
- I. Any film for which the budget is at least \$5,000,000 \$20,000,000.
- **J.** Recurrent weekly television series programming.

SECTION 3: Paragraph C of Section 71-2 (Permit Required) is hereby amended to read as follows (deletions shall be denoted with bold and strikethrough, **thus**; additions shall be denoted with bold and underline, **thus**):

C. Within five four days after the receipt of an application, the Business Administrator shall apprise an applicant, in writing, of the reasons for refusing a permit, and an aggrieved person or organization shall have the right to appeal to the Township Council of the Township of Florence by serving written notice thereof on the Township Clerk within five days of said refusal. A copy of said notice shall also be served on the Business Administrator within the same time, and the Administrator shall immediately forward the application and reasons for its refusal to the Township Council, which shall consider the application under the standards set forth under Subsection $\underline{\mathbf{B}}$ hereof, and the Township Council shall sustain or overrule the Business Administrator's decision within 10 days from the receipt of the appeal by the Township Clerk. The decision of the Township Council shall be final.

SECTION 4: Paragraph A of Section 71-3 (Issuance of Permits) is hereby amended to read as follows (deletions shall be denoted with bold and strikethrough, **thus**; additions shall be denoted with bold and underline, **thus**):

A. No permits will be issued by the Municipal Clerk unless applied for prior to **five <u>four</u>** days before the requested shooting date; provided, however, that the Business Administrator may waive the **five <u>four</u>**-day period if, in his judgment, the applicant has obtained all related approvals and adjacent property owners or tenants do not need to be notified.

SECTION 5: Section 71-5 (Filming in residential zones) is hereby amended to read as follows (deletions shall be denoted with bold and strikethrough, **thus**; additions shall be denoted with bold and underline, **thus**):

Filming in residential zones shall be permitted on weekdays between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. and between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. on weekend days with camera wrap occurring no later than 9:00 p.m. and crew wrap occurring no later than 10:00 p.m, provided that all requests for night scenes shall be approved in the permit to be granted in accordance with § 71-8 hereof. The setup, production and breakdown required by all filming shall be included in the hours as set forth herein.

SECTION 6: Section 71-9 (Copies of permit; inspections) is hereby amended to read as follows (deletions shall be denoted with bold and strikethrough, **thus**; additions shall be denoted with bold and underline, **thus**):

Copies of the approved permit will be sent to the Police and Fire Departments before filming takes place and to the New Jersey Film Commission Motion Picture and Television Commission. The applicant shall permit the Bureau of Fire Prevention in the Florence Township Fire District No. 1 or other Township inspectors to inspect the site and the equipment to be used. The applicant shall comply with all safety instruction issued by the Bureau of Fire Prevention or other Township inspectors.

SECTION 7: Section 71-11 (Fees) is hereby amended to read as follows (deletions shall be denoted with bold and strikethrough, **thus**; additions shall be denoted with bold and underline, **thus**):

The schedule of fees for the issuance of permits authorized by this chapter are as follows:

- A. Basic filming permit: \$100. Where an applicant requests a waiver of the provision of § 71-3A requiring expedited processing of a permit application within 24 hours of the filming date, the basic filming permit fee for processing the application on an expedited basis shall be \$150.
- B. Daily filming fee payable in addition to the basic filming permit for use of public lands: \$200 \$150 per day or any part thereof.
- C. Daily filming fee for use of public lands payable for major motion picture: \$1,000 \$500 per day or any part thereof.
- **D.** Filming permit for nonprofit applicants filming for educational purposes (no daily rate required): \$25.
- **E.** Filming on Private Property: No daily fee required.

SECTION 8: Repealer. Any and all other Ordinances inconsistent with the terms of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of any such inconsistencies.

SECTION 9: Severability. In the event that any clause, section, paragraph or sentence of this Ordinance is deemed to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, then the Township Council hereby declares its intent that the balance of the Ordinance not affected by said invalidity shall remain in full force and effect to the extent that it allows the Township to meet the goals of the Ordinance.

SECTION 10: Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect upon proper passage in accordance with the law.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Ordinance was approved for final adoption by Mayor and Township Council of the Township of Florence, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, at a regular meeting on the the day of May, 2025.

Nancy Erlston, RMC

Township Clerk

Council President

Effective Date.

NOTICE FLORENCE TOWNSHIP

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Take Notice that the Ordinance identified above amending and supplementing Chapter 71 (Film Making) to update certain standards, hours and fees set forth therein, has received final adoption by the Township Council and was approved by the Mayor of the Township of Florence, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, at a meeting held on May 7, 2025 at 7:00 PM in the Municipal Complex, Council Chambers, 711 Broad Street, Florence, New Jersey. The Ordinance will take effect immediately upon adoption and publication as required by law.

Copies of the full Ordinance are on file with the Township Clerk of the Township of Florence in the Municipal Complex. The ordinance is posted on the township's website www.florence-nj.gov

Nancy L. Erlston, RMC Township Clerk

Ordinance No..2025 - 12

Advertised in Burlington County Times on:

MAY 11, 2025

Effective Date: MAY 31, 2025

Initials