

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Verona Township Council on Monday, July 15, 2019 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 600 Bloomfield Avenue, Verona, New Jersey.

Call to Order:

Municipal Clerk reads notice of Open Public Meetings law. The notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act have been satisfied with respect to this meeting; specifically, the time, date and location were included in the annual notice of meetings adopted by the governing body, posted in the Municipal Building, and sent to the official newspapers of the Township, the Verona Cedar Grove Times and the Star Ledger. Additionally, the agenda for this meeting was posted in the Municipal Building and sent to the two newspapers before 4:30 p.m. on the Friday preceding this meeting.

Roll Call:

Mayor Jack McEvoy, Deputy Mayor Roman, Councilman Kevin Ryan, Councilman Ted Giblin and Councilwoman Christine McGrath. Township Attorney Brian Aloia, Township Manager Matthew Cavallo and Municipal Clerk Jennifer Kiernan are also present.

Mayor’s Report:

Mr. McEvoy invites Jay Coltre, Essex County Liaison to the lectern. Mr. Coltre reports the County Summer Music Series continue throughout the summer. Councilman Giblin requests Mr. Coltre inform the public of the renovations to the Hall of Records building in Newark.

Mayor McEvoy reads a proclamation for National Night Out, taking place on August 6.

Mayor McEvoy makes the following appointments:

Library Board of Trustees	Kate Kelly	Mayor’s Alternate	Term Ending 6/30/2021
Planning Board	Paul Mathewson	Mayor’s Alternate	Term Ending 6/30/2021

Mr. McEvoy reports that the Verona Rescue Squad will hold a blood drive for type “O” blood on Friday, July 19<sup>th</sup> from 4-8pm.

Manager’s Report:

Environmental Commission	Kari Baureis	Regular Member	Term Ending 6/30/2020 <i>(Unexpired term of A. Saltalamacchia)</i>
Environmental Commission – Chairperson	Jessica Pearson		Term Ending 06/30/2020
Historical Preservation Commission	Glenn Houthuysen	Regular Member (C)	Term Ending 6/30/2023
	Sandra Smith	Regular Member (C)	Term Ending 6/30/2023
	Kelly Ruffel	Regular Member (A)	Term Ending 6/30/2021
	Nick Savva	Alternate #1	Term Ending 6/30/2021
Shade Tree Commission	Valerie Ryan		Term Ending 12/31/2021 <i>(Unexpired term of B. Dickison)</i>
Green Team	Steven Neale	Township Employee 1	Term Ending 6/30/2020
	Chuck Molinaro	Township Employee 2	Term Ending 6/30/2020
	Thomas Jacobsen	Township Employee 3	Term Ending 6/30/2020

Mr. Cavallo explains that Resolution 2019-99 on tonight’s agenda refers the Spectrum 360 property back to the Planning Board for a second review to determine if the property meets the requirements of a non- condemnation area in need of redevelopment. The Planning Board voted to hire Mr. Fred Suljuc, PP to conduct a new Area in Need of Redevelopment Survey of the property. A draft of report has been published and a new review by the Planning Board is scheduled for July 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the Community Center Ballroom.

He explains that Police Overtime – January – June saw a 64% reduction in OT hours / 58% reduction in OT pay (minus \$64,260) and Police Comp Time (TC) – January – June 2019 saw a 50% reduction in TC hours earned (minus \$32,127 cash value).

The Municipal Building Roof Replacement Construction of the entrance awning by the Police Department has resumed following an error in steel installation.

The Township's annual resurfacing project was completed and the line striping was finalized this past week. 6,820 tons of asphalt was used in this project. The cost was \$625,000.

The Reconstruction of Park Avenue, South Prospect Street and Harrison Street has been awarded and is scheduled to begin in the upcoming weeks.

Fairway Tank Rehabilitation project is underway and is scheduled to be completed in the fall.

Library Generator project is underway. The generator pad has been poured and the Township is waiting for the delivery of the generator.

DPW Garage Fire Sprinkler System, funded by the 2015 governing body, is substantially complete and the Township is waiting for the closeout documents.

The material for the Mechanical Bar Screen project has been ordered and will be installed once it arrives. This project should be completed in the fall.

This project of Lowering of Tricking Filters has been awarded and the contracts have been signed. A preconstruction meeting is scheduled for the week of July 22.

The solicitation for the bid of Lease Extensions on the Linn Drive Tower is out at this time. The Bids are due back on August 13. The new Lease Contracts are estimated to begin on September 1.

The solicitation for the HVAC Service Contract & New Work bid is out at this time for a two year contract.

The Junior Woman's Club of Verona has created Packs with Purpose to help families within our community who will struggle to purchase the items their children will need to begin school this fall. Anyone interested can purchase items and drop them in collections bins at the Verona Community Center, Platinum Fitness, Walgreens and the Library. The Juniors are also having a Pack with Purchase drive at Walgreens and Staples on Friday August 2nd or Sunday August 4th. More information and information on sponsoring a student is located on the Juniors' website.

The Township has recently added events to the Township of Verona - Government Facebook Page for the Council Meetings, Planning Board Meetings, and Board of Adjustment Meetings for the remainder of the year. If you would like to add them to your Facebook Events Calendar, just click on the "interested" button for the events you would like to follow.

The Township has added Contact Us Links for every board/committee/commission that Verona has on the individual committee's webpages. The links bring you visitors to a Contact Us form to send an email to the representatives of the committees.

The 2019 Water Quality Report has been published and has been mailed to every home in our service area. Additionally the report has been published to the Township's website. On our website, visitors can also find past Water Quality Reports dating back to 2009.

As has been standard practice in the past, Estimated Tax Bills were mailed out to all Verona Taxpayers at the end of June. Bills are estimated because the State of New Jersey did not pass their budget until June 30 and as such was unable to certify State Aid to municipalities, counties and school boards before July 1. Since State Aid was not certified, the County Board of Taxation was unable to certify the Tax Rate.

Since Verona underwent a Revaluation this past year, it is important to note that the 3<sup>rd</sup> (and 4<sup>th</sup>) Quarter Tax Payments on your Tax Bill do not reflect what your new "standard" tax payment will be. The 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter bills reflect the total change in annual property taxes for 2019 (remembering that taxpayers already paid their 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Payments at last year's tax rate). Therefore, you should not multiply your 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter bill by 4, as you will overestimate your annual property taxes.

Recycling has become confusing recently due to market changes. We do still encourage residents

to recycle but we must stress how important it is to do it correctly. We need to make sure the stream is as clean as possible so all the materials get collected. If you are unsure if something is recyclable, it is best to throw it out instead of throwing it in with all the other recycling.

Materials that don't belong can contaminate entire loads and that is what we are trying to avoid. "When in Doubt, Throw it Out." New infographics have been posted at the Recycling Center and on the Township Website that we hope will be helpful and together we can clean up our recycling stream.

Lastly, please note that leaf bags are for leaves and vegetative waste only. Please do not throw regular garbage in with the vegetative waste. It is costing us money.

The Summer Concert Series continues on Wednesdays, July 17, 24 and 31. Movie Under The Stars - "A Dogs Way Home" is Tuesday, August 20 (rain date Wednesday, August 21) And Verona Restaurant Week 2019 is September 15-19.

#### Councilmember Reports:

Deputy Mayor Roman reports that this year's Summer Concert Series has a great line-up of performers. He stresses a policy priority is that the Township needs to work on a wireless communications ordinance for smaller cell sites.

Councilman Ryan reads an email he received from Father Joe D'Amico of OLL congratulating him on his past service as Mayor. He questions the Township Manager on the construction on Derwent. Mr. Cavallo states that PSE&G is going to replace the gas main from that location to Verona Park in the near future. Councilman Ryan requests an update on the crack sealant program. The Township Manager reports that the Township has budgeted for that program, which will be done in the cooler months. The Councilman also reports to the public that the Township is in negotiations to acquire additional parking spaces at the Community Pool. He also states the rent control ordinance seems out of date and should be revised as soon as possible. He also recommends phasing in an added assessment over a 5 year period, which sparks council discussion.

Councilman Giblin acknowledges this is the first official meeting of the new Township Council and congratulates Mayor McEvoy, Deputy Mayor Roman and Councilwoman McGrath. He comments that the fireworks were great. He also reports that a resident contacted him about a tree limb blocking the stop sign at Linden and Wildwood.

Councilwoman McGrath thanks Congresswoman Mikie Sherrill for swearing Ms. McGrath in at the Reorganizational Meeting. She thanks the Township Manager for bringing her up to speed on the basics as well as complicated matters along with Jen Kiernan and Steven Neale. She expresses her gratitude to the changes made to Facebook. Although the changes are small, she feels they are important to make to allow residents to have easy avenues to get involved. She states the Junior Woman's Club's Backpacks with Purpose helps residents in need and encourages residents to be generous, if they can.

Resolution J-7 on the agenda entitled "IN SUPPORT OF THE NEW JERSEY STATE LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES' PETITION FOR RULEMAKING TO AMEND THE UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE "is tabled by unanimous consent until the August 5, 2019 regular meeting.

#### **RESOLUTION No. 2019-123**

A motion was made by Councilman Ryan; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath that the following resolution be adopted:

#### **APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE FRANKLIN STREET PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey does hereby approve the submission of a grant application to the New Jersey

Department of Transportation for the reconstruction the Franklin Street Pedestrian Bridge.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that any officer of the Township as may be deemed appropriate are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as LAIF – 2019 Franklin Street Pedestrian Bridge - 00112 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Township of Verona.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Township Manager and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Township of Verona and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

**ROLL CALL:**

**AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy**

**NAYS:**

**RESOLUTION No. 2019-124**

A motion was made by Councilman Ryan; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath that the following resolution be adopted:

**APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE  
NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE  
RECONSTRUCTION OF ANN STREET, CYPRESS AVENUE AND  
STEVEN AVENUE**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey does hereby approve the submission of a grant application to the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the reconstruction of Ann Street, Cypress Avenue and Steven Avenue.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that any officer of the Township as may be deemed appropriate are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as MA-2020 Ann Street, Cypress Avenue and Steven Avenue - 00551 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Township of Verona.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Township Manager and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Township of Verona and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

**ROLL CALL:**

**AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy**

**NAYS:**

**RESOLUTION No. 2019-125**

A motion was made by Councilman Ryan; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath that the following resolution be adopted:

**AUTHORIZING AN INTERLOCAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH  
THE BOROUGH OF ROSELAND TO PROVIDE STREET SWEEPING  
SERVICES**

**WHEREAS**, the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act, *N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq.* (the “Act”), authorized local units of this State to enter into agreements with any other local unit or units to provide or receive any service that each local unit participating in the agreement is empowered to provide or receive in its own jurisdiction; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Verona and the Borough of Roseland are desirous to enter an Interlocal Services agreement to provide Street Sweeping Services; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Verona and the Borough of Roseland have reached an agreement as to the terms and conditions associated with said agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interest of both municipalities to enter into this Interlocal Services Agreement for the period beginning July 1, 2019 and terminating December 31, 2019.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that Township Manager and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to execute an Interlocal Services Agreement with the Borough of Roseland to provide Street Sweeping Services.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Township Clerk shall transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Clerk of the Borough of Roseland.

**ROLL CALL:**

**AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy**

**NAYS:**

#### **RESOLUTION No. 2019-126**

A motion was made by Councilman Ryan; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath that the following resolution be adopted:

#### **AMENDING RESOLUTION No. 2019-104 ENTITLED “ACCEPTING THE AWARD OF A 2019 GREEN COMMUNITIES GRANT”**

**WHEREAS**, on May 20, 2019 by Resolution 2019-104, the Township Council authorized the acceptance of a \$3,000 grant from the NJDEP New Jersey Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Program for assistance in creating a Community Forestry Management Plan (CFMP); and

**WHEREAS**, the Resolution stated that the Township’s contribution toward the grant will be the sum of zero dollars; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township’s contribution towards the grant will be the sum of three thousand dollar (\$3,000), not the zero dollars referenced in the aforementioned resolution.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that Resolution 2019-104 is hereby amended to reflect the Township’s contribution towards the grant from the NJDEP New Jersey Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Program for assistance in creating a Community Forestry Management Plan (CFMP) shall be three thousand dollar (\$3,000).

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this expenditure shall be charged against Budget Account No. 9-01-20-105-022 (A &E DEVELOPMENT – Sustainable Verona) or any other account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or his designee, and the availability of funds has been certified by the Chief Financial Officer.

**ROLL CALL:**

**AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy**

**NAYS:**

#### **RESOLUTION No. 2019-127**

A motion was made by Councilman Ryan; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath that the following resolution be adopted:

#### **AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE HILLTOP AT CEDAR GROVE MASTER ASSOCIATION, INC. WITH REGARD TO BULK BILLING OF SEWAGE CHARGES FOR THE HILLTOP AT CEDAR GROVE DEVELOPMENT**

**WHEREAS**, The Hilltop at Cedar Grove Master Association, Inc. (“The Association”) is responsible for the administration and management of the residential community known as

Hilltop at Cedar Grove (the “Complex”), consisting of condominium units and fee simple townhouse units, which is located within the Township of Cedar Grove; and

**WHEREAS**, the members of the Association consist exclusively of unit owners within the Complex; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Verona provides sewerage connection to service the Complex; and

**WHEREAS**, the Association has requested, and the Township has agreed, to provide bulk billing of the sewerage fees and the Parties wish to memorialize their agreement.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the terms of the bulk billing of the sewerage fees assessed to units of the Association has been reduced to an agreement between the Township and the Association and that that Township Manager and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to execute said Agreement.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the parties hereto have signed this Agreement, with the Township Manager and the Township Clerk having authorization to execute the Agreement on behalf of the Township.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Township Clerk is hereby directed to send a certified Copy of this Resolution and the executed agreement the Township Clerk of the Township of Cedar Grove.

**ROLL CALL:**

**AYES:** McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

**NAYS:**

**RESOLUTION No. 2019-128**

A motion was made by Councilman Ryan; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath that the following resolution be adopted:

**RELEASE OF ESROW DEPOSIT TO D & R VERONA, LLC**

**WHEREAS**, the Developers Agreement dated July 5, 2017 between D & R Verona Urban Renewal, LLC and the Township of Verona has been approved for the residential development, also known as Annin Lofts located at 141-151 Bloomfield Avenue (Block 201, Lot 15.01 on the Tax Maps of the Township of Verona); and

**WHEREAS**, D & R Verona Urban Renewal, LLC has furnished Performance Bond No. IS00007051U issued by Wells Fargo Bank, N.A, licensed to do business in the State of New Jersey, in the amount of \$1,027,389.42 to guarantee the faithful completion of the project in accordance with the requirements of the Developers Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, D & R Verona Urban Renewal, LLC have requested a reduction of the Letter of Credit from \$1,027,389.42 to \$171,231.57 which would remain in place for two years to cover the required maintenance bond in accordance with *N.J.S.A 40:55D-53* and *N.J.S.A 40:55D 53.3*; and

**WHEREAS**, D & R Verona Urban Renewal, LLC has also requested the release of the 10% cash bond in the amount of \$114,154.38; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the Letter of Credit of D & R Verona Urban Renewal, LLC be reduced from \$1,027,389.42 to \$171,231.57 for a two-year period to cover the required maintenance bonds

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized and directed to release the cash bond in the amount of \$114,154.38 to the developer D & R Verona, LLC.

**ROLL CALL:**

**AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy**  
**NAYS:**

**RESOLUTION No. 2019-129**

A motion was made by Councilman Ryan; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath that the following resolution be adopted:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY TO  
FORECLOSE CERTAIN PROPERTY FOR DELINQUENT TAXES IN THE  
TOWNSHIP OF VERONA (BLOCK 104, LOT 13)**

**WHEREAS**, *N.J.S.A. 54:5-104.35* provides that the Governing Body may by Resolution, foreclose any of the tax sale certificates held by it, by the summary proceedings In Rem as provided by the In Rem Foreclosure Act (P.L.1948, c.96); and

**WHEREAS**, the Tax Collector has prepared and presented to the Township Council of the Township of Verona a Tax Foreclosure List, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Council desires to authorize the Township Attorney to commence an In Rem Foreclosure action in accordance with New Jersey law.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey that the Township Attorney is hereby authorized to foreclose the property as noted below on the Tax Foreclosure List;

<u>Certificate Number</u>	<u>Block/Lot</u>	<u>Property Owner</u>
18-00002	104/13	William Sapoch

**ROLL CALL:**  
**AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy**  
**NAYS:**

**RESOLUTION No. 2019-130**

A motion was made by Councilman Ryan; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath that the following resolution be adopted:

**CANCELLATION OF WATER BILLING**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Verona owns Block 2301 Lot 14 on the Tax Maps of the Township of Verona, commonly known as 100 Pine Street; and

**WHEREAS**, this property should no longer be billed for utilities for account numbers 1002073-0 and 1002073-1

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the Tax Collector be authorized to cancel the billing on account number 1002073-0 and 1002073-1.

**ROLL CALL:**  
**AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy**  
**NAYS:**

**RESOLUTION No. 2019-131**

A motion was made by Councilman Ryan; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath that the following resolution be adopted:

**CANCELLATION OF BILLING AND MOVEMENT OF PAYMENTS**

**WHEREAS**, Block 2702, Lot 7 was subdivided in 2018 into Block 2702, Lots 7.01 and Block 2702, Lot 7.02; and

**WHEREAS**, Saraceno Properties paid 2019 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter tax bills which were billed in error for Block 2702, Lot 7, amounting to 12,624.00; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to cancel the preliminary billing on Block 2702, Lot 7.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Tax Collector is directed to move the payments from Block 2702, Lot 7 to Block 2702, Lot 7.01 and Block 2702, Lot 7.02.

**ROLL CALL:**

**AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy**

**NAYS:**

**RESOLUTION No. 2019-132**

A motion was made by Councilman Ryan; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath that the following resolution be adopted:

**REFUNDING ESCROW PAYMENT**

**WHEREAS**, Escrow fees, for the Planning Board, were received from Hillcrest Farms, Inc., for property located at 383 Bloomfield Avenue and the fees have been held in Trust; and

**WHEREAS**, certification has been received from the Engineer to release these funds, from Trust, as follows:

ESCROW AMOUNT	AMOUNT TO BE REFUNDED
\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the Chief Financial Officer and Tax Collector be authorized to refund, from the Trust Account, \$1,500.00 to Hillcrest Farms, Inc., 377 Bloomfield Avenue, Verona, New Jersey 07044.

**ROLL CALL:**

**AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy**

**NAYS:**

**RESOLUTION No. 2019-133**

A motion was made by Councilman Ryan; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath that the following resolution be adopted:

**REFUNDING ESCROW PAYMENT**

**WHEREAS**, Escrow fees, for the Board of Adjustment, were received from John Caniglia, for property located at 32 E. Lincoln Street and the fees have been held in Trust; and

**WHEREAS**, certification has been received from the Engineer to release these funds, from Trust, as follows:

ESCROW AMOUNT	LAWYER FEES	AMOUNT TO BE REFUNDED
\$500.00	\$104.00	\$396.00

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex New Jersey that the Chief Financial Officer and Tax Collector be authorized to refund, from the Trust Account, \$1,500.00 to John Caniglia, 32 East Lincoln Street, Verona, New Jersey 07044.



**ROLL CALL:**

**AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy**

**NAYS:**

**RESOLUTION No. 2019-134**

A motion was made by Councilman Ryan; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath that the following resolution be adopted:

**REFUNDING ESCROW PAYMENT**

**WHEREAS**, Escrow fees, for the Board of Adjustment, were received from Daniel Kaufman, for property located at 43 Franklin Street and the fees have been held in Trust; and

**WHEREAS**, certification has been received from the Engineer to release these funds, from Trust, as follows:

ESCROW AMOUNT	LAWYER FEES	AMOUNT TO BE REFUNDED
\$500.00	\$143.00	\$357.00

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the Chief Financial Officer and Tax Collector be authorized to refund, from the Trust Account, \$357.00 to Daniel Kaufman, 43 Franklin Street, Verona, New Jersey 07044

**ROLL CALL:**

**AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy**

**NAYS:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2018-135**

A motion was made by Councilman Ryan; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath that the following resolution be adopted:

**PROPERTY MAINTENANCE LIEN**

**WHEREAS**, the Construction Code Official determined that the owner of the Block 501, Lot 51 on the Tax Maps of the Township of Verona, commonly known as 25 Gordon Place, to comply with the Township property maintenance code, specifically not mowing the lawn of the property; and

**WHEREAS**, clean up was performed by Green Valley Landscape Design on behalf of the Township on May 18, 2019 totaling the amount of \$250.00; and

**WHEREAS**, these charges shall be imposed on the property in the form of a municipal lien for above services pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 54:5-8* and to any other applicable State of Federal regulation.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, County of Essex, New Jersey, that the Tax Collector be and is hereby authorized and directed to take all appropriate actions to impose on the property commonly known as 25 Gordon Place, Verona, New Jersey (Block 501, Lot 51) a municipal lien in the amount of the tax lien certificate (\$250.00), where upon the Tax Collector shall, within ten (10) days of encumbering of the property, send official notice of said encumbrance via certified mail, return receipt requested and regular mail to any and all other lien holders or creditors with a secured interest in the property.

**ROLL CALL:**

**AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy**

**NAYS:**

## **RESOLUTION No. 2019-136**

A motion was made by Councilman Ryan; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath that the following resolution be adopted:

### **PERMITTING ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**WHEREAS**, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the Public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

**WHEREAS**, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exists.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township of the Township of Verona, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of an action upon the hereinafter specified subject matter.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:
  - a. Pending, Ongoing, or Anticipated Litigation pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (7)*
    - Docket No. ESX-L-7289-15 (Sternas vs. DMH2, LLC)
    - Docket No. ESX-L-5857-16 (The Land Tek Group, Inc, vs. Township of Verona)
    - Docket No. ESX-L-8050-17 (Jordan Descafano vs. Township of Verona, Michael Ruglio)
    - Docket No. ESX-L-781-19 (Jennifer Kiernan vs. Township of Verona)
    - Docket No. ESX-L-2391-19 (Erika Varela vs. Township of Verona, Matthew Cavallo)
    - Docket No. ESX-L-1710-19 (Kensington Senior Development vs. Township of Verona, Zoning Board of Adjustment of the Township of Verona)
    - Docket No. ESX-L-4773-15 (In All Declaratory Judgement Actions Filed by Various Municipalities, County of Essex, Pursuant to the Supreme Court's Decision in In re Adoption of *N.J.A.C. 5:96, 221 N.J. 1 (2015)*)
    - Docket No. ESX-L-003739-19 (First Ridge Alliance v. Twp of Verona, Mayor & Council)
  - b. Contract Negotiations pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (7)*
    - Redevelopment (Block 2205 - Lot 6)
    - PBA Local No. 72
    - Shared Municipal Court Study
    - Board of Education Funding
    - Docket No. ESX-L-4773-15 (In All Declaratory Judgement Actions Filed by Various Municipalities, County of Essex, Pursuant to the Supreme Court's Decision in In re Adoption of *N.J.A.C. 5:96, 221 N.J. 1 (2015)*)
3. It is anticipated at this time that the above stated subject matter will be made public when said subject has been fully discussed by the Council, and the attorney rules this matter may be brought before the public without jeopardizing any pending litigation.
4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

### **ROLL CALL:**

**AYES:** McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

**NAYS:**

## **RESOLUTION No. 2019-137**

A motion was made by Councilman Ryan; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath that the following resolution be adopted:

### **REJECTING CONTRACT No. 19-02 FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF LINN DRIVE**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Verona received bids for Reconstruction of Linn Drive - Contract No. 19-02 on May 9, 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, the base bids proposed substantially exceeds all cost estimates and budgetary appropriations for this project; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the recommendation of the Township Manager/Qualified Purchasing Agent that the bids received for Contract 19-02 be rejected and the contract be re-bid after substantial revisions to the specifications are made and additional funding is appropriate.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township Council of the Township of Verona, County of Essex, State of New Jersey hereby rejects the bid pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-13.2(a), (b) and (d)* as the lowest bid substantially exceeds the cost estimates for the goods and services, the lowest bid substantially exceeds the contracting unit's appropriation for the goods or services and the contracting unit wants to substantially revise the specifications for the goods and services.

**ROLL CALL:**

**AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy**

**NAYS:**

Council Appointments

Board of Adjustment

Christi DiBartolo	Regular Member	Term Ending 6/30/2023
Daniel McGinley	Regular Member	Term Ending 6/30/2023
Albert D'Alessio	Alternate #2	Term Ending 6/30/2021

Green Team

John Britch	Public Member	Term Ending 6/30/2020
Tom Cherry	Public Member 2	Term Ending 6/30/2020
Jonathan Hayter	Public Member 3	Term Ending 6/30/2020
Christine Liaukus	Public Member 4	Term Ending 6/30/2020
Todd Neale	Public Member 5	Term Ending 6/30/2020
Bob Prout	Public Member	Term Ending 6/30/2020
Frank Sapienza	Public Member 7	Term Ending 6/30/2020
Sara Drappi	Public Member 8	Term Ending 6/30/2020
Steven Neale	Chairperson	Term Ending 6/30/2020

Municipal Alliance Committee

Jackie Trujillo	Public Member	Term Ending 6/30/2020 <i>(Unexpired term of Carrie Ford)</i>
Wendi Caplan-Carroll	Public Member	Term Ending 6/30/2022
Suzanne Simpson	Public Member	Term Ending 6/30/2022
Stacy Williamson	Public Member	Term Ending 6/30/2022

Neighborhood Traffic & Safety Advisory Committee

Jennifer DeShazer	Term Ending 6/30/2021
Nicole Quick	Term Ending 6/30/2021
Albert Rawding	Term Ending 6/30/2021

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

Dana DeMars	Term Ending 6/30/2022
Michael Passero	Term Ending 6/30/2022

Planning Board

Larry Lonergan	Class IV Member	Term Ending 6/30/2023
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Rent Control Board

Willola Ashley	Term Ending 6/30/2023
Patrick Hanley	Term Ending 6/30/2023

Council Representatives to Boards/Committees/Commissions

Environmental Commission Councilwoman McGrath		Term Ending 6/30/2020
Green Team Councilman Ryan		Term Ending 6/30/2020
Historical Preservation Commission Mayor McEvoy		Term Ending 6/30/2020
Municipal Alliance Committee Deputy Mayor Roman		Term Ending 6/30/2020
Neighborhood Traffic and Safety Advisory Committee Councilman Giblin		Term Ending 6/30/2020
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Councilwoman McGrath		Term Ending 6/30/2020
Planning Board Deputy Mayor Roman	Class III Member	Term Ending 6/30/2020
Shade Tree Commission Councilman Ryan		Term Ending 6/30/2020

Councilwoman McGrath moves to approve the appointments; seconded by Deputy Mayor Roman. Vote: 5 ayes.

Public Participation:

Kathleen Laterza, 810 Bloomfield Avenue, Verona, NJ  
Richard Aloia, 37 Malvern Place, Verona, NJ  
Jack Martin, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Verona, NJ

Adjournment:

Council goes into Closed Session at 8:10 p.m. is moved by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Councilman Ryan. Vote: 5 ayes.

Council comes out of Closed Session and the public meeting is adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

The next regular scheduled meeting is August 5, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jennifer Kiernan*  
Jennifer Kiernan, Municipal Clerk

*Jack McEvoy*  
Jack McEvoy, Mayor

APPROVED: August 5, 2019