

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Verona Township Council on Monday, October 17, 2022, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 600 Bloomfield Avenue, Verona, New Jersey and via Zoom video conferencing platform.

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 of the Township Council which is being held via Zoom video conferencing. Specifically, the time and date were included in the public meeting notice. This information, along with the public internet link and telephone call-in information was posted in the Municipal Building, and sent the official newspapers of the Township, the Verona-Cedar Grove Times and the Star Ledger at least 48 hours preceding the start time of this meeting. The agenda and public handouts for this meeting can be viewed online at www.veronanj.org/councilmeetings. A public comment period will be held in the order it is listed on the meeting agenda and instructions on how to comment will be provided at the appropriate time.

Roll Call:

Mayor Alex Roman, Deputy Mayor Christine McGrath, Councilman Jack McEvoy, Councilwoman Cynthia Holland and Councilman Christopher Tamburro are present. Township Manager Joseph D'Arco, Township Attorney Brian Aloia and Municipal Clerk Jennifer Kiernan are also present.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Roman invites Essex County Liaison Jay Coltre to the lectern. Mr. Coltre announces that Gardens Aglow has begun at 474 Upper Mountain Avenue on the 22nd. The Strut Your Mutt Parade will be in Branch Brook Park on 10/22 at 9:30am and 10/29 at 9:30am in Brookdale Park. Vaccinations are still being offered until the end of the month. Shredding will be held on November 5th at 99 Bradford Avenue in Cedar Grove from 8am – noon.

Mayor Roman states that Amanda Mioli, Monica Roman and Naomi Grucharz from the Junior Women's Club are present this evening to speak about Verona Fights Hunger Week. Verona UNICO President Dr. Tom Malanga, Vice President Joe Lachina along with other members present the Council with a check in the amount of \$10,000 to fund a flashing beacon light at the crosswalk of Grove Avenue in front of FN Brown Elementary School.

Mayor Roman reads a proclamation for Breast Cancer Awareness Month and make the following appointments:

Shade Tree Commission

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| i. | Diane Conboy | Member | Unexpired Term Ending 12/31/2023 |
| ii. | April Hussar | Alternate #1 | Term Ending 12/31/2025 |

Mayor Roman asks the Municipal Clerk Jennifer Kiernan to provide the public with an update on the upcoming General Election on November 8, 2022.

Manager's Report:

Mr. D'Arco states that because of the many projects the Township is involved in, he has invited the professionals involved to update the Council. Giselle Diaz of Boswell Engineering discusses the water psi at Claridge II and provides three (3) alternatives to the Township for their consideration.

Jordan Volk from Colliers Engineering & Design discusses the Water Asset Management Plan and the 5 year capital plan, that Colliers fully recommends the Township update every year in order. In their report, Colliers submitted a 5 year capital plan which includes water main replacements for Pompton Avenue and Verona Park, replacement of lead service lines and . When asked if Colliers had any concerns around maintenance, maintenance practice or anything the Township is not doing that they should be doing. Mr. Volk responds that record keeping as a lot of information and documentation was not available.

Josh Hudson, Senior Project Engineer Manager for Jacobs Engineering is present along with

Russell Ford, Global Director and Senior Project Engineer with Jacobs Engineering to talk about the PFAS treatment project at the Linn Drive and Fairview Avenue wells.

Jamie Placek of the DeCotiis law firm is present to discuss the Township's obligation and the Fair Share Housing Plan. Also present on Zoom is Dan Hauben from DMR Architecture.

Steve Neale gives a presentation on stormwater and flooding. He states that OEM is drafting a management guide to mitigate flooding and identifying areas in town with poor drainage. A double inlet will be installed at the intersection of Wayland Drive and Sunset Avenue to catch overflow water from the Montclair Golf Club golf course. Using graded manhole covers and installing stormwater drains on Marion Road is also being investigated. Mr. Neale then discusses the survey responses from residents regarding the community pool.

Councilmember's Reports:

Deputy Mayor McGrath reports she supported bi-partisan legislation as the request of Congresswoman Mikie Sherrill, who proposed legislation for auto theft prevention. This legislation will open up grant opportunities for small police departments such as Verona, to be able to purchase technology and get reimbursed for staffing so we can help reduce auto theft. She thanks the MIAAC for their work on the first Hispanic Heritage event. The Diwali ceremony will be Wednesday at 6pm.

Councilman McEvoy reports that the American Foundation of Suicide Prevention will have their walk in Verona Park on October 30th. A 12 inch water main broke last night which has now been fixed. DPW did an unbelievable job, working through the night.

Councilman Tamburro congratulates the Verona Marching Maroon and White for taking first place at the West Orange Band Festival. He thanks UNICO for taking the lead with the Italian-American celebration, which the Councilman regretfully missed as he had to attend mandatory OEM training.

Councilwoman Holland attended a Teen Energy Conference held by the Board of Public Utilities where Governor Murphy was the keynote speaker. She compliments the Verona Environmental Commission on a recent cleanup as well as a very successful Walk to School day. She advises the residents that commodity pricing such that many may be shocked seeing an increase in gas bills this season and urges her constituents to take advantage of energy efficiency measures. There is a moratorium on shutoffs during winter months but residents should take advantage of weatherization programs available through PSE&G.

As Council moves on to Hearing/Adoption of Ordinances. Township Attorney Brian Aloia explains the procedure of proper recusal of a council member and the correct recording of the process.

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-31

BOND ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTING ORDINANCE 2019-33, AND PROVIDING FOR POOL IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA, IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$800,000 THEREFOR, INCLUDING \$75,000 EXPECTED TO BE RECEIVED AS A NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS GRANT AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$800,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance No. 2022-31 by title into record.

Motion to move Ordinance No. 2022-31 is moved by Deputy Mayor McGrath; seconded by Councilwoman Holland.

Public Hearing:

None.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

Ordinance No. 2022-31 is adopted 5-0 and will be published according to law.

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-32

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION §150, THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA, BY ESTABLISHING THE A NEW SECTION §150-17.14A, CREATING A TOWN CENTER MIXED USE ZONING DISTRICT PERMITTING RESIDENTIAL USES WITH AN AFFORDABLE HOUSING ELEMENT AND ALSO AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance No. 2022-32 by title into record.

Councilman McEvoy announces he will be recusing himself from this ordinance as he owns property in the area.

Motion to move Ordinance No. 2022-32 is moved by Deputy Mayor McGrath; seconded by Mayor Roman.

Jaime Placek, of DeCotiis, FitzPatrick, Cole & Giblin, LLP, the Affordable Housing Attorney for the Township, gives a brief overview of the project

Public Hearing:

Greg Donohue, [REDACTED]

Kevin Ryan, [REDACTED]

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

(RECUSED) NON VOTE: McEvoy

Ordinance No. 2022-32 is adopted by a vote of 4-0 with 1 recusal and will be published according to law.

ORDINANCE 2022-33

AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2022-22 OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA WITH A NEW ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE AMENDMENT OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA WITH THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION TITLED CHAPTER 150 ZONING ARTICLE XXIV WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance No. 2022-33 by title into record.

Motion to move Ordinance No. 2022-33 is moved by Councilman McEvoy; seconded by Councilman Tamburro.

Public Hearing:

None

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

Ordinance No. 2022-33 is adopted by a vote of 5-0. It will be published according to law.

ORDINANCE No. 2022-34

WATER AND SEWER UTILITY CAPITAL ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$70,000 FROM WATER/SEWER UTILITY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR THE BANK STABILIZATION ALONG THE PECKMAN RIVER BY THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA, IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance No. 2022-34 by title into record.

Motion to introduce Ordinance No. 2022-34 is moved by Councilman Tamburro; seconded by Councilwoman Holland.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

Ordinance No. 2022-34 is introduced by a vote of 5-0. It will be published according to law and a public hearing will be held on November 21, 2022.

ORDINANCE No. 2022-35

WATER AND SEWER UTILITY CAPITAL ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$25,000 FROM WATER/SEWER UTILITY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR RISK AND RESILIENCE ASSESSMENT & EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN BY THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA, IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY

Motion to introduce Ordinance No. 2022-35 is moved by Deputy Mayor McGrath; seconded by Councilwoman Holland.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

Ordinance No. 2022-35 is introduced by a vote of 5-0. It will be published according to law and a public hearing will be held on November 21, 2022.

ORDINANCE No. 2022-36

**AMENDING CHAPTER 140 (VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC)
BY AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS**

Motion to introduce Ordinance No. 2022-36 is moved by Councilman Tamburro; seconded by Councilman McEvoy.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

Ordinance No. 2022-36 is introduced by a vote of 5-0. It will be published according to law and a public hearing will be held on November 21, 2022.

Consent Agenda:

Minutes from the September 12, 2022 Special Meeting are approved unanimously.

Public Comment on Consent Agenda Items:

None.

RESOLUTION No. 2022-176

A motion was made by Councilman Tamburro; seconded by Councilman McEvoy that the following resolution be adopted:

**CANCELLING UNFUNDED APPROPRIATION BALANCES UNDER
CERTAIN BOND ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED BY THE
TOWNSHIP OF VERONA FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT
PROJECTS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$479,997.01**

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona, Essex County, New Jersey previously adopted Bond Ordinances for the purpose of funding various capital projects and improvements of the Township as more fully specified in the Bond Ordinances; and

WHEREAS, as of the date hereof, the projects have been completed; and

WHEREAS, the Township now desires to cancel such appropriations and transfer the funded balances to their respective fund surplus.

ORDINANCE	AMOUNT TO BE CANCELLED
General Capital	
15-2015L	\$2,092.27
18-2016A	\$18,147.36
18-2016D	\$189,900.00
34-2018	\$331.00
21-2019	\$229.90
22-2019	\$69,288.29
11-2020	\$8.19
26-2021B	<u>\$200,000.00</u>
	\$479,997.01

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey that the appropriation amounts associated with the Bond Ordinance No. 2017-11 are hereby cancelled in full as of the date of this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions or proceedings, or parts thereof, in conflict with the provisions of this Resolution are to the extent of such conflict hereby repealed.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2022-177

A motion was made by Councilman Tamburro; seconded by Councilman McEvoy that the following resolution be adopted:

**AUTHORIZING THE INSERTION INTO THE CY2022 MUNICIPAL
BUDGET PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (CHAPTER 159, P.L. 1948) OF A
SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE FORM OF THE DRIVE SOBER OR
GET PULLED OVER GRANT**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services (the "Director") may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such items shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and,

WHEREAS, said Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for an equal amount; and,

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona has received \$7,000 from the United States Department of Transportation/National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in the form of the 2022 Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Statewide Labor Day Crackdown Grant and wishes to amend its CY2022 Municipal Budget to include this amount as a revenue.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey hereby requests the Director to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the CY2022 Municipal Budget in the sum of \$7,000 which is

now available as revenue from:

Miscellaneous Revenues - Section F:
Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated with Prior Written Consent of
Director of Local Government Services -
Public and Private Revenues Offset with Appropriations:
Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Statewide Labor Day Crackdown Grant

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the CY2022 Municipal Budget in the like sum of \$7,000 appropriated under the caption of:

General Appropriations:
(A) Operations - Excluded from "CAPS"
Public and Private Revenues Offset with Appropriations:
Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Statewide Labor Day Crackdown Grant

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution will be electronically filed with the Director for approval as required by law.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2022-178

A motion was made by Councilman Tamburro; seconded by Councilman McEvoy that the following resolution be adopted:

AWARDING CONTRACT NO. 2022-13 RECONSTRUCTION OF DERWENT AVENUE

WHEREAS, on September 7, 2022 the Township of Verona received bids for Contract 2022-13 - Reconstruction of Derwent Avenue; and

WHEREAS, eight (8) bids were received for Contract 2022-13; and

WHEREAS, the apparent lowest responsive and responsible bid was submitted by Stanziale Construction, PO Box 2597, Bloomfield, NJ 07004 in the base bid amount of \$787,642.24; and

WHEREAS, the Township Attorney has reviewed and recommends the Contract award be made to Stanziale Construction, as the lowest responsive and responsible bid.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the contract for Contract No. 2022-13 be awarded to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Stanziale Construction, PO Box 2597, Bloomfield, NJ 07004 for the base bid amount of \$787,642.24.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this expenditure shall be charged against Grant Account No. 2021-480-078-6320-10-AOP-6010 (NJ Department of Transportation Grants), Bond Ordinance No. 2022-10(b) or any other account that may be deemed appropriate by the Temporary Chief Financial Officer or her designee, and the availability of funds has been certified by the Temporary Chief Financial Officer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Manager, the Township Clerk, and any other officer as may be deemed appropriate are hereby authorized to enter into an agreement or any other required documents for the aforementioned services a copy of which shall be available for public inspection in the Office of the Township Clerk.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Manager and the Township Clerk are hereby authorized to certify to a copy of this Resolution and forthwith transmit a copy of said Certified Resolution to the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

ROLL CALL:

DL042023

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman
NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2022-179

A motion was made by Councilman Tamburro; seconded by Councilman McEvoy that the following resolution be adopted:

**ACCEPTING RESPONSIBILITY FOR INSTALLATION, MAINTENANCE
AND LIABILITY FOR RECTANGULAR, RAPID FLASHING BEACONS ON
COUNTY ROADS**

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona supports the installation of solar-powered rectangular rapid flashing beacon warning devices (RRFBs) as a means of enhancing pedestrian safety and visibility on all streets within Verona Township; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona intends to install RRFBs at the crosswalk on Grove Avenue in front of F.N. Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, Grove Avenue is a roadway under the jurisdiction of the County of Essex; and

WHEREAS, Essex County requires the Township of Verona to assume responsibility for installation and maintenance of these warning devices and to hold the County harmless from any liability associated with their installation and maintenance; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township of Verona does hereby agree to maintain all RRFBs installed by the Township of Verona on roads under the jurisdiction of the County of Essex and to hold the County harmless from any liability associated with same; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township of Verona shall obtain proper Essex County permits in advance of such installations.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman
NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2022-180

A motion was made by Councilman Tamburro; seconded by Councilman McEvoy that the following resolution be adopted:

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH BRENT MATERIAL COMPANY

WHEREAS, there exists a need to purchase AP Smiths M-94 fire hydrants; and

WHEREAS, the Qualified Purchasing Agent has determine that the value of said services has exceeded \$17,500, which is annexed to this Resolution as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, three (3) quotes were received for the purchase of the necessary hydrants and Brent Material Company was the lowest quote in the amount of \$25,872: and

WHEREAS, funds are available to award contracts for the services listed shall be charged to the budget accounts or capital ordinances listed on the availability of funds, a copy of said Certification is annexed to this Resolution as Exhibit B; and

WHEREAS, the award of the contract to Brent Material Company is being made pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5* and the Business Entity Disclosure Certification and Political Contribution Disclosure Form completed by Brent Material Company have been filed with the Township and are annexed to this Resolution as Exhibit C.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that Brent Material Company, 325 Columbia Turnpike, Suite 308, Florham Park, NJ 07932 is hereby awarded a contract for the purchase of AP

Smiths M-94 hydrants; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this contract is being awarded pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5*.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a notice of this action shall be published once in the Verona-Cedar Grove Times; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Manager and the Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to enter into any agreement necessary for the aforementioned services a copy of which shall be available for public inspection in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2022-181

A motion was made by Councilman Tamburro; seconded by Councilman McEvoy that the following resolution be adopted:

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH WIND RIVER ENVIRONMENTAL, LLC.

WHEREAS, there exists a need for drainage and sewer services within the infrastructure of Township of Verona; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona has a need to acquire such services pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19-44A-20.5*; and

WHEREAS, the Qualified Purchasing Agent has determined that the value of said services has exceeded \$17,500.00 which is annexed this Resolution as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, funds are available to award contracts for the services listed shall be charged to the budget accounts or capital ordinances listed on the availability of funds, a copy of said Certification is annexed to this Resolution as Exhibit B; and

WHEREAS, the Qualified Purchasing Agent has recommended that Wind River Environmental, LLC, 99 Maple Grange Road, Vernon, NJ 07462 be awarded a contract to provide drainage and sewer services on the sewer lines within the Township of Verona.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that Wind River Environmental, LLC is hereby awarded a contract for providing sewer services not to exceed \$19,334.00 without further authorization of the Governing Body.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Entity Disclosure Certification and Determination of Value are to be placed on file with this Resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this contract is being awarded pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5*.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a notice of this action shall be published once in the Verona-Cedar Grove Times; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Manager and the Township Clerk are hereby authorized to enter into an agreement for the aforementioned services a copy of which shall be available for public inspection in the Office of the Township Clerk.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2022-182

A motion was made by Councilman Tamburro; seconded by Councilman McEvoy that the following resolution be adopted:

RECOGNIZING BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Township of Verona value the benefits of good health as a vital component of a long productive, and fulfilling life and proudly support observances that focus public attention on crucial health issues, such as breast cancer awareness; and

WHEREAS, breast cancer is the most prevalent cancer and the second most common cause of cancer related death among women; and

WHEREAS, breast cancer does not only affect 1 in 8 women, about one in 1,000 men will also be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetimes; and

WHEREAS, over 339,250 new cases are projected to be diagnosed in women; and

WHEREAS, while there are factors known to increase the risk of developing breast cancer, nearly 80 percent of women diagnosed do not exhibit any of the determinant factors; and

WHEREAS, early detection of signs and symptoms of breast cancer can increase the survival rate by nearly 95 percent; and

WHEREAS, a mammogram can help find breast cancer early, when it is easier to treat; and

WHEREAS, this month, as we honor those whose lives were tragically cut short by breast cancer, let us arm ourselves with the best knowledge, tools and resources available to fight this devastating disease.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona do acknowledge October 2022 as Breast Cancer Awareness Month and with “Hope, Strength and Love”, encourage all citizens, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and all other interested groups to increase awareness about the impact of breast cancer and continue to support the medical profession’s commitment to the promise of finding a cure. Furthermore, the Township of Verona recognizes Breast Cancer Awareness Month by flying the Pink Ribbon flag in the Verona Civic Center during the month of October.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2022-183

A motion was made by Councilman Tamburro; seconded by Councilman McEvoy that the following resolution be adopted:

RECOGNIZING ITALIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

WHEREAS, Verona's Italian American community has contributed greatly to the cultural fabric and demographic landscape of this diverse city since its earliest days; and

WHEREAS, Italians began migrating to the United States in 1880, and today there more than 26 million Americans of Italian descent in the country; and

WHEREAS, Italian Americans make up the fifth largest ethnic groups in the country and the United States has been fortified by the talents and culture of its residents of Italian descent; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona is home to a proud and vibrant Italian American community that has undoubtedly impacted culture and industry by influencing the arts and education, business and government, social service, and scientific and technological advancements near and far; and

WHEREAS, October has been designated Italian American Heritage Month to celebrate the cultural heritage, achievements, and contributions Italian-Americans have made in the Township of Verona and across the country.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona do hereby resolve that October 2022 be recognized as Italian American Heritage Month in the Township of Verona and encourage all residents to join in celebrating the many contributions of Italian-Americans. Furthermore, the Township of Verona recognizes Italian American Heritage Month by flying the Italian Flag in the Verona Civic Center during the month of October.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2022-184

A motion was made by Councilman Tamburro; seconded by Councilman McEvoy 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 Council of the Township of Verona, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

The public shall be excluded from discussion of an action upon the hereinafter specified subject matter.

1. Collective bargaining agreement, or the terms and conditions which are proposed for inclusion in any collective bargaining agreement, including the negotiation of the terms and conditions thereof with employees or representatives of employees of the public body pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (4)*
 - PBA
 - OPEIU
2. Matters involving the purchase, lease, or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of banking rates, or investment of public funds, if it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion of the matters were disclosed pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (5)*
 - Police facilities
 - Commerce Court
3. Pending, Ongoing, or Anticipated Litigation and Contract Negotiations pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (7)*
 - Engineering Proposals
 - Claridge Water Pressure
 - Peckman Bank Stabilization

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

New Business:

Council discusses the draft block party ordinance, have a discussion on cannabis and the proposed ordinance to install stop signs on White Rock Road. After discussion there is unanimous agreement to move the stop sign ordinance to introduction. The Health & Wellness Subcommittee of Deputy Mayor McGrath and Councilman Tamburro, were going to give their presentation this evening, but because it is so late in the evening, will present at the November 21st meeting. Councilman Tamburro states his concern with the timing of meeting packets and would like to receive them on Thursday, as was previously done. Packets have been received late on Fridays.

Public Comment:

Jesse Lilley, [REDACTED]
Kevin Ryan, [REDACTED]
Haider Rizri, [REDACTED]
Staci Puleo, [REDACTED]
Tom Monaghan, [REDACTED]
Teena Schwartz, [REDACTED] (Statement provided)
Ann Monaghan, [REDACTED]
Jessica Pearson, [REDACTED]

Council enters into Executive Session at 12:07 am.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting is made by Councilwoman Tamburro; seconded by Councilman McEvoy at 1:04 a.m. The next regular scheduled meeting of the Township Council is November 21, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Jennifer Kiernan, Municipal Clerk


Alex Roman, Mayor

APPROVED: December 19, 2022