Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Verona Township Council on Friday, August 25, 2023, beginning at 3:00 p.m. 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. The Public Notice of this meeting was published in the August 21, 2023 edition of the Star Ledger. Also, the time and date, 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 Christopher Tamburro, Deputy Mayor Jack McEvoy, Councilman Alex Roman, Councilwoman Christine McGrath and Councilwoman Cynthia Holland. Township Manager Joseph D'Arco, Patricia Melia of the Aloia Law Firm and Municipal Clerk Jennifer Kiernan are also present.

New/Unfinished Business:

Mayor Tamburro states that the purpose of this Special meeting is for the Council to hold interviews for Township Planner. The Council has determined two main topics of discussion for these interviews: (1) reviewing the current zoning ordinance of the Township of Verona to ensure it is consistent with the land use plan element and the housing plan element of the adopted 2023 Master Plan of the Township of Verona, and (2) to select a planner for the redevelopment zones and rehabilitation designs of Verona's Downtown district.

Mayor Tamburro states that the three (3) planners present tonight, the Neglia Group., DMR Architects and H2M & Associates, Inc. had submitted RFP's in response to RFP 2022-14 for various Professional Services for the 2023 calendar year. The firms are each scheduled for 45 minute intervals and have agreed not to attend the meeting until their scheduled time.

At 3:15 p.m., Lindsay Knight and Brian Intindola of the Neglia Group are brought into the Zoom meeting and make their presentation to the public and governing body and complete the presentation at 3:58 p.m.

Dan Hauben and Francis Reiner of DMR Architects are brought into the Zoom meeting at 4:00 p.m. and present to the public and Council until 4:44 p.m.

Sanyogita Chavan and Paul Cancilla from H2M & Associates present from 4:45 p.m. and conclude at 5:00 p.m.

Mayor Tamburro states that discussion on these presentations will take place at the regular meeting on September 11, 2023. He reminds the public that the Council will hold a Special Meeting on Tuesday, August 29, 2023 to discuss goal setting.

Public Comment:

None.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting is made by Deputy Mayor McEvoy; seconded by Councilman Roman at 5:19 p.m. The next regular scheduled meeting of the Township Council is September 11, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Kiernan, Municipal Clerk

Christopher Tamburro Mayor

APPROVED: September 26, 2023