

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Verona Township Council on Monday, April 20, 2026, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 600 Bloomfield Avenue, Verona, New Jersey, and via Zoom video conferencing.

Call to Order:

The Assistant to the Municipal Clerk reads the notice of Open Public Meetings Act.

Roll Call:

Mayor Tamburro, Deputy Mayor McEvoy, Councilwoman McGrath, Councilwoman Holland, Township Manager Kevin O'Sullivan, Township Attorney Brian Aloia, and Municipal Clerk Jennifer Kiernan are present. Councilman Roman is attending via Zoom.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Tamburro attended the opening of our new Liberty Bank of New Jersey and the Verona Foundation for Educational Excellence. The Verona Baseball and Softball League had its opening day ceremonies this past Saturday at Liberty Field and the Mayor also had the opportunity to meet with Stranz Engineering. The Verona Municipal Alliance Committee met and this Thursday the Planning Board will meet.

Proclamation - Celebrating the Church of the Holy Spirit Food Pantry's 10th Anniversary

Environmental Commission 2026 Poster Contest Presentation

Julius Coltre, Essex County Liaison reports on Earth Day at the Environmental Center in Roseland, Hazardous Waste Recycling, Computer and Electronic Day and upcoming Verona traffic light installation.

Manager's Report:

Township Manager Kevin O'Sullivan reports that the budget was approved by the Township Council.

2026 MUNICIPAL BUDGET ADOPTION

RESOLUTION No. 2026-088

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor McEvoy; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath that the following resolution be adopted:

PERMITTING 2026 MUNICIPAL BUDGET TO BE READ BY TITLE

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of Verona in the County of Essex did in accordance with the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5* introduced and approved the annual budget for the Township at a Regular Meeting of the Township Council on March 23, 2026; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-6*, the annual budget as introduced and approved was published by summary in the Star Ledger, a newspaper circulated within the Township of Verona and posted on the Township's Legal Notices webpage at least 10 days prior to April 20, 2026, the date set forth in the advertisement for public hearing to be held at the Regular Meeting of the Township Council at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building located at 600 Bloomfield Avenue, Verona, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of Sections 1(a) and 1(b) of *N.J.S.A.40A:4-8* have been met by making for available for public inspection a complete copy of the approved budget at least one week prior to the date of the hearing and by making copies of said approved budget available to each person requesting the same during said week and during the public hearing.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that pursuant with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-8, the Township Council hereby determines that the Municipal Budget for the year 2026 shall be read by its title and it is further declared that the conditions as set forth in Sections 1(a) and 1(b) of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-8 have been met.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

Public Hearing on 2026 Municipal Budget

RESOLUTION No. 2026-089

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor McEvoy; seconded by Councilwoman Holland that the following resolution be adopted:

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE APPROVED BUDGET

WHEREAS, the local municipal budget for the year 2026 was approved on the 23rd of March 2026; and

WHEREAS, the public hearing on said budget has been held as advertised, and,

WHEREAS, it is desired to amend said approved budget,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, that the following amendments to the approved budget of 2026 be made:

Summary of Revenues	FROM	TO
6a. Local Tax for Municipal Purposes Including Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	\$18,807,673.00	\$18,505,44300
6. Total Amount to be Raised by Taxes for Support of Municipal Budget	\$20,045,570.00	\$19,743,340.00
7. Total General Revenues	\$31,285,500.00	\$30,983,270.00
8e. GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS		
Employee Group Health	\$ 2,974,400.00	\$ 2,844,770.00
Garbage and Trash Removal	\$ 1,719,625.00	\$ 1,572,625.00
8e(2) Statutory Expenditures		
Public Employees Retirement System	\$ 510,000.00	\$ 518,509.00
Police and Firemen’s Retirement System of NJ	\$ 1,525,261.00	\$ 1,627,900.00
Total Operations {Item 8(A)} within “Caps	\$20,165,319.00	\$19,888,689.00
Total Operations Including Contingent - within “CAPS”	\$20,190,319.00	\$19,913,689.00
H-1 Total General Appropriations for Municipal Purposes within "CAPS"	\$22,720,580.00	\$22,555,098.00
8a. GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS - Operations Excluded from “CAPS”		
PERS over 3.5%	\$ 8,509.00	\$ 0.00

PFRS over 3.5%	\$ 102,639.00	\$ 0.00
Health Insurance Exclusion over 4%	\$ 25,600.00	\$ 0.00
Total Other Operations Excluded from "CAPS"	\$ 1,462,409.00	\$ 1,325,661.00
Total Operations - Excluded from "CAPS"	\$ 3,659,340.00	\$ 3,522,592.00
Total General Appropriations for Municipal Purposes Excluded (H-2)	\$ 7,064,920.00	\$ 6,928,172.00
(L) Subtotal General Appropriations {Items (H-1) and (O)}	\$29,785,500.00	\$29,483,270.00
9. Total General Appropriations	\$31,285,500.00	\$30,983,270.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that three certified copies of this resolution be filed forthwith in the Office of the Director of Local Government Services for certification of the local municipal budget so amended.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2026-090

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

ADOPTING THE 2026 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the following statements of revenues and appropriations shall constitute the Municipal Budget of the Township of Verona for the 2026 calendar year.

General Appropriations:	<u>Year 2026</u>
1. Appropriations within "CAPS" (H-1 Sheet 19)	\$ 22,555,098.00
2. Appropriations excluded from "CAPS" (H-2 Sheet 28)	\$ 6,928,172.00
3. Reserve for Uncollected Taxes (M-Sheet 29)	<u>\$ 1,500,000.00</u>
4. Total General Appropriations (Item 9, Sheet 29)	\$ 30,983,270.00
5. Less: Anticipated Revenues Other than Current Property Tax (Item 5, Sheet 11)	\$ (11,239,930.00)
6. Less: Minimum Library Tax (Item 6(c), Sheet 11)	<u>\$ (1,237,897.00)</u>
7. Difference: Amount to be raised by Taxes for support of the Municipal Budget (as follows): (a) Local Tax for Municipal Purposes including Reserve for Uncollected Taxes (Item 6(a), Sheet 11)	\$ 18,505,443.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said Budget was published in the March 23, 2026 edition of the Star Ledger, an official newspaper of the Township of Verona.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED a hearing on the Budget and Tax Resolution was held at a regular meeting of the governing body held on April 20, 2026 at 7 o'clock p.m. at which time and

place discussions to said Budget and Tax Resolution for 2026 was presented by taxpayers or other interested persons.

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that copies of the budget were available in the office of the Municipal Clerk, Township of Verona, at the Municipal Building, 600 Bloomfield Avenue, Verona, New Jersey 07044 during the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The budget was also posted on the Township's webpage at www.veronanj.org. All persons interested in the proposed budget had an opportunity to address the Township Council during the aforementioned public hearing.

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona does hereby adopt the preceding as the Budget for the 2026 year.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

The Township Manager concludes his report providing the status of multiple projects is also provided including the Fairview Avenue Well, Peckman River Bank Stabilization, Everett Field and various facility needs projects.

Councilmember's Reports:

Deputy Mayor McEvoy attended the VFEE Excellence Dinner and thanks them for all they do. He also attended the VBSL Parade this weekend and lastly wishes Councilman Roman an early birthday.

Councilman Roman comments on the Environmental Commission's clean up coming up on Earth Day and he concludes recognizing all the work that went into orchestrating the Poster Contest on behalf of the Commission.

Councilwoman McGrath attended the Essex County Executives annual press conference on annual drug takeback day. The Shade Tree Commission had a meeting last week and she congratulates them on hitting an important milestone on completing their Community Forestry Plan. She also had a great meeting with Stranz Engineering and enjoyed opening pitch for the VBSL celebration.

Councilwoman Holland congratulates VBSL for their opening day and to VFEE for another successful event. In addition to the Flood Advisory meeting last week there will also be a MIIAC Committee meeting coming up this week. She looks forward to many upcoming events including Pride and encourages any residents interested to participate in any MIAAC Committee meetings.

Public Comment:

None.

Hearing, Adoption or Amendment of Ordinances:

ORDINANCE No. 2026-12

**ESTABLISHING NEW CHAPTER 382 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE
ENTITLED "PEST CONTROL UPON DEMOLITION OR MOVING OF
BUILDINGS**

The Municipal Clerk reads the ordinance by title.

A motion to move the ordinance is made by Deputy Mayor McEvoy; seconded by Mayor Tamburro.

Public Hearing: None

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

Ordinance No. 2026-12 is adopted 5-0.

ORDINANCE No. 2026-15

APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR A LONG-TERM TAX EXEMPTION AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A FINANCIAL AGREEMENT WITH A&R SKYLINE PROPERTIES URBAN RENEWAL LLC RELATED TO THE REDEVELOPMENT OF BLOCK 2205, LOT 6, COMMONLY KNOWN BY THE STREET ADDRESS 885 BLOOMFIELD AVENUE

The Municipal Clerk reads the ordinance by title.

A motion to move the ordinance is made by Deputy Mayor McEvoy; seconded by Mayor Tamburro.

Public Hearing: None

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS: Holland, McGrath

Ordinance No. 2026-15 is adopted 3-2.

Ordinances for Introduction:

ORDINANCE No. 2026-16

AMENDING CHAPTER 55 "LAND USE PROCEDURES", ARTICLE I "PLANNING BOARD", SECTION 1 "ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPOSITION", PARAGRAPH D (2) AND ARTICLE II "ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT", SECTION 12 "ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPOSITION", PARAGRAPH D

The Municipal Clerk reads the ordinance by title.

A motion to move the ordinance is made by Councilwoman McGrath; seconded by Mayor Tamburro.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

Ordinance No. 2026-16 is introduced by a vote of 5-0. A public hearing will be held on May 4, 2026.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-17

ADOPTING THE REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR 251½ GROVE AVENUE REDEVELOPMENT AREA (BLOCK 1201, LOT 12)

The Municipal Clerk reads the ordinance by title.

A motion to move the ordinance is made by Councilwoman Holland; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath.

Township Planner San Chavan and Township Affordable Housing Counsel Jaime Placek are present to explain the ordinance.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

Ordinance No. 2026-17 is introduced by a vote of 5-0. It will be sent to the Planning Board for consistency review.

Public Comment:

None.

**DETERMINING THE FORM AND OTHER DETAILS OF ITS NOTE
RELATING TO THE CONSTRUCTION FINANCING LOAN PROGRAM OF
THE NEW JERSEY INFRASTRUCTURE BANK, TO BE ISSUED IN THE
AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF UP TO \$5,346,000, PROVIDING
FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF SUCH NOTE TO THE NEW JERSEY
INFRASTRUCTURE BANK, AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND
DELIVERY OF SUCH NOTE BY THE TOWNSHIP IN FAVOR OF THE NEW
JERSEY INFRASTRUCTURE BANK, ALL PURSUANT TO THE NEW JERSEY
INFRASTRUCTURE BANK CONSTRUCTION FINANCING LOAN
PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey (the “Local Unit”), intends to undertake the improvement or replacement of the existing tertiary filter system and the UV disinfection system at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, and all work and costs ancillary and necessary therefor (collectively, the “Project”), and it is the desire of the Local Unit to obtain financing for such Project through participation in the New Jersey Water Bank of the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank (the “I-Bank”);

WHEREAS, the Local Unit has determined to temporarily finance the undertaking of the Project prior to the closing with respect to the New Jersey Water Bank, and to undertake such temporary financing with the proceeds of a short-term loan (or loans) to be made by the I-Bank (collectively the “Construction Loan”) to the Local Unit, pursuant to the Construction Financing Loan Program of the I-Bank (the “Construction Financing Loan Program”);

WHEREAS, in order to (i) evidence and secure the repayment obligation of the Local Unit to the I-Bank with respect to the Construction Loan and (ii) satisfy the requirements of the Construction Financing Loan Program, it is the desire of the Local Unit to issue and sell a short term note to the I-Bank in an aggregate principal amount of up to \$5,346,000 (the “Note”);

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Local Unit to authorize, execute, attest and deliver the Note to the I-Bank pursuant to the terms of the Local Bond Law of the State of New Jersey, constituting Chapter 2 of Title 40A of the Revised Statutes of the State of New Jersey (the “Local Bond Law”), and other applicable law; and

WHEREAS, on May 20, 2024, the Local Unit adopted a bond ordinance to finance the Project (the “Local Unit Bond Ordinance”) pursuant to the provisions of the Local Bond Law;

WHEREAS, Section 28 of the Local Bond Law allows for the sale of the Note to the I-Bank, without any public offering, and N.J.S.A. 58:11B-9 allows for the sale of the Note to the I-Bank without any public offering, all under the terms and conditions set forth therein.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the Local Unit as follows:

SECTION 1. In accordance with the provisions of the Local Bond Law, the

Infrastructure Trust Act and the Local Unit Bond Ordinance, the Local Unit hereby authorizes the issuance, sale and award of the Note in accordance with the provisions hereof. The obligation represented by the Note have been appropriated and authorized by the Local Unit Bond Ordinance, finally adopted by the Local Unit at a meeting duly called and held on May 20, 2024, at which time a quorum was present and acted throughout, all in accordance with the Local Bond Law and other applicable law.

SECTION 2. The Chief Financial Officer of the Local Unit (the “Chief Financial Officer”) is hereby authorized to determine, pursuant to the terms and conditions hereof, (i) the final principal amount of the Note (subject to the maximum limitation set forth in Section 4(a) hereof), and (ii) the dated date of the Note.

SECTION 3. Any determination made by the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to the terms hereof shall be conclusively evidenced by the execution and attestation of the Note by the parties authorized pursuant to Section 4(h) hereof.

SECTION 4. The Local Unit hereby determines that certain terms of the Note shall be as follows:

- (a) the aggregate principal amount of the Note to be issued shall be an amount not to exceed \$5,346,000;
- (b) the maturity of the Note shall be as determined by the I-Bank;
- (c) the interest rate of the Note shall be as determined by the I-Bank;
- (d) the purchase price for the Note shall be par;
- (e) the Note shall be subject to prepayment prior to its stated maturity in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Note;
- (f) the Note shall be issued in a single denomination and shall be numbered “CFP-2026-1”, or other such denomination as may be requested by the I-Bank;
- (g) the Note shall be issued in fully registered form and shall be payable to the registered owner thereof as to both principal and interest in lawful money of the United States of America; and
- (h) the Note shall be executed by the manual or facsimile signatures of the Mayor and the Chief Financial Officer under official seal or facsimile thereof affixed, printed, engraved or reproduced thereon and attested by the manual signature of the Local Unit Clerk; and
- (i) the Note may be issued in one or more series as may be deemed necessary by the I-Bank.

SECTION 5. The Note shall be substantially in the form required by the I-Bank, together with such additions, deletions and other modifications required by the I-Bank and agreed to by the Local Unit upon consultation with counsel and any advisors to the Local Unit, such determinations being conclusively evidenced by the execution of the Note by the Authorized Officers (as defined herein).

SECTION 6. The law firm of McManimon, Scotland and Baumann, LLC is hereby authorized to arrange for the printing of the Note, which law firm may authorize McCarter & English, LLP, bond counsel to the I-Bank for the Construction Loan Financing Program, to arrange for same.

SECTION 7. The Local Unit Mayor, Chief Financial Officer and Local Unit Clerk (each an “Authorized Officer”) of the Local Unit are each hereby further severally authorized to (i) execute and deliver, and the Local Unit Clerk is hereby further authorized to attest to such execution and to affix the corporate seal of the Local Unit to, any document, instrument or closing certificate deemed necessary, desirable or convenient by the Authorized Officers, in their respective sole discretion, after consultation with counsel and any advisors to the Local Unit and after further consultation with the I-Bank and its representatives, agents, counsel and advisors, to be executed in connection with the issuance and sale of the Note and the participation of the Local Unit in the Construction Financing Loan Program, which determination shall be conclusively evidenced by the execution of each such certificate or other document by the party authorized hereunder to execute such certificate or other document, and (ii) perform such other actions as the Authorized Officers deem necessary, desirable or convenient in relation to the execution and delivery of the Note and the participation of the Local Unit in the Construction Financing Loan Program.

SECTION 8. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

SECTION 9. Upon the adoption hereof, the Municipal Clerk shall forward certified copies of this resolution to McManimon, Scotland & Baumann, LLC, bond counsel to the Local Unit, David Zimmer, Executive Director of the I-Bank, and Richard T. Nolan, Esq., McCarter & English, LLP, bond counsel to the I-Bank.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2026-092

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

**CANCELLING FUNDED APPROPRIATION BALANCES UNDER CERTAIN
BOND ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED BY THE TOWNSHIP OF
VERONA FOR VARIOUS GENERAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS
IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$1,062,287.66**

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.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township now desires to cancel such appropriations and transfer the funded balances to their respective fund surplus:

ORDINANCE	ORDINANCE DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT TO BE CANCELLED
General Capital		
2021-05	Reconstruction of Lynwood	\$185,122.79
2021-26A	Roadway Reconstruction Ann/Cypress	\$34,532.83
2022-10B	Reconstruction of Derwent Avenue	\$317,860.29

2023-30	Reconstruction Balston/Whitney/Windemere	\$26,873.96
2023-31	Reconstruction of Douglas Place	\$436,446.82
2024-1	Supplemental Playground	\$18,323.13
2024-15	Rescue Squad SOV Vehicle	\$42,138.02
2024-25	Supplemental Hilltop Park	\$989.82
Total General Capital		\$1,062,287.66

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2026-093

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

CANCELLING FUNDED APPROPRIATION BALANCES UNDER CERTAIN BOND ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED BY THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA FOR VARIOUS WATER/SEWER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$32,596.55

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.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township now desires to cancel such appropriations and transfer the funded balances to their respective fund surplus:

ORDINANCE	ORDINANCE DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT TO BE CANCELLED
Water/Sewer Capital		
2019-15	Mechanical Bar Screen	\$1,862.98
2021-27A	Utility Asset Management	\$8,727.39
2021-27B	Underground Storage Tank	\$1,750.01
2022-11	Imp. Of Sanitary Water/Sewer Distribution System (Ann/Cypress)	\$14,724.75
2024-19A	Digester Gas Piping	\$5,531.42
Total Water/Sewer Capital		\$32,596.55

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2026-094

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

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH GABRIELE CONSTRUCTION

WHEREAS, concrete repairs to the DPW garage and replacement of the steps in front of Town Hall are needed due to water and ice damage; 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 will exceed \$17,500.00; and

WHEREAS, this expenditure shall be charged to Budget Account No. C-53-46-040-045 in the amount of \$33,000 and Budget Account No. C-53-46-040-53 for \$7,300, or any other account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or her designee, and the availability of funds; and

WHEREAS, the Township Manager has recommended that Gabriele Construction, 53 King Street, Belleville, NJ be awarded a contract to repair concrete at the DPW garage and replace the front steps of Town Hall.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that Gabriele Construction is hereby awarded a contract for providing services not to exceed \$40,300 without further authorization of the Governing Body.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Manager and the Municipal 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 Municipal Clerk.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2026-095

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

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH LIFESAVERS, INC.

WHEREAS, the Rescue Squad needs chest compression devices, including battery packs; 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 will exceed \$17,500.00; and

WHEREAS, this expenditure shall be charged to Budget Account No. C-53-46-040-058 or any other account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or her designee, and the availability of funds; and

WHEREAS, the Township Manager has recommended that LifeSavers, Inc, 39 Plymouth Street, Fairfield, NJ be awarded a contract to provide four (4) automated chest compression devices and four (4) battery packs for the Rescue Squad.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that Gabriele Construction is hereby awarded a contract for providing services not to exceed \$49,984 without further authorization of the Governing Body.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Manager and the Municipal 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 Municipal Clerk.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2026-096

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

REFUNDING ESCROW PAYMENT TO 30 PEASE AVENUE

WHEREAS, Escrow fees, for the Board of Adjustment, were received from the property owner of 30 Pease Avenue and the fees have been held in Trust; and

WHEREAS, certification has been received from our Board of Adjustment Secretary to release these funds, from Trust, as follows:

ESCROW AMOUNT	EXPENSES	AMOUNT TO BE REFUNDED
\$2,175.50	\$2,058.37	\$117.13

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, \$117.13 to the property owner of 30 Pease Avenue.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2026-097

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

**REFUNDING ESCROW PAYMENT TO
LIVING LIGHT CONSULTING, LLC (3 CLARIDGE DRIVE)**

WHEREAS, Escrow fees, for the Board of Adjustment, were received from Living Light Consulting, LLC and the fees have been held in Trust; and

WHEREAS, certification has been received from our Board of Adjustment Secretary to release these funds, from Trust, as follows:

ESCROW AMOUNT	EXPENSES	AMOUNT TO BE REFUNDED
\$1,750.00	\$625.00	\$1,125.00

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, \$1,125.00 to Living Light Consulting, LLC.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

'RESOLUTION No. 2026-098

A motion was made by Councilwoman McGrath; seconded by Councilwoman Holland 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 exist.

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. Purchase, Lease or Acquisition of Real Property pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (5)*
2. Pending, Ongoing, or Anticipated Litigation and Contract Negotiations pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (7)*

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

Councilwoman McGrath makes a motion to incorporate some changes; seconded by Councilwoman Holland. After Council discussion, slight changes are agreed upon by a vote of 5-0

RESOLUTION No. 2026-099

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

OPPOSING S-1836

WHEREAS, municipalities are required to establish a Municipal Master Plan with a combination of mandatory and optional elements including Goals and Objectives, Land Use, Circulation, Housing, Community Facilities, Downtown Economic Development, Historic Preservation, and Sustainability; and

WHEREAS, municipalities are also required to reexamine the Municipal Master Plan every 10 years to ensure that the master plan meets the community needs and is relevant as communities, evolve, grow, and change; and

WHEREAS, municipalities complete this effort at great cost and community input to ensure their community has a roadmap for growth; and

WHEREAS, a municipality is best suited to plan for and understand their community's needs, the existing infrastructure to address the municipality's public safety, health, traffic, and character and the ability to expand such infrastructure for desired growth; and

WHEREAS, there are many mechanisms for exceptions and variances to the local planning process; and

WHEREAS, municipalities have been diligently working to comply with the changes

outlined in the passage of A-4/S-50 in 2024 that made substantial changes to the 4th Round of Affordable Housing obligations; and

WHEREAS, affordable housing construction has generally comprised between 10 - 20 % of a total development, but municipalities will end up constructing far more units during this current round of affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, recent legislative proposals that preempt the planning process by permitting the conversion of underutilized properties into mixed used developments, reducing the number of parking spaces required for new developments near transit, making Accessory Dwelling Units permissible, and most recently, legislation that enhances the ability of religious and nonprofit organizations to convert certain property to inclusionary developments with affordable housing undermine the careful planning process outlined in the Municipal Land Use Law; and

WHEREAS, this proposal, S-1836 is particularly egregious because the required percentage of affordable housing units is only 20% with the remaining 80% at market rate as more than 400 municipalities have adopted plans to fulfill their 4th Round Affordable Housing obligations far in advance of previous rounds; and

WHEREAS, this legislation bypasses local planning for increased density and height, regardless of a municipality's ability to ensure safety; and

WHEREAS, a worthy project could, and should participate in the local planning and zoning process to engage with the public; and

WHEREAS, S-1836, as currently written, permits the bypassing of the local planning process which is an egregious override of municipal autonomy and local decision making.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey urges the legislature to defeat S-1836 and similar legislation that denies local autonomy in land use planning and ignores the well thought out master plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Senator Corrado, Assemblymember Barlas, Assemblymember DePhillips, Speaker of the Assembly Coughlin, Senate President Scutari, Governor Sherrill, and the New Jersey State League of Municipalities.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy Tamburro

NAYS:

Council enters into Executive Session at 8:55 p.m. and returns to the Public Meeting at 8:59 p.m.

New Business:

- | | | |
|--|---------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Appointments | | |
| a. Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee | | Unexpired Term Ending |
| i. Maura Heffner | Public Member | 1/15/2017 |

Public Comment:

None

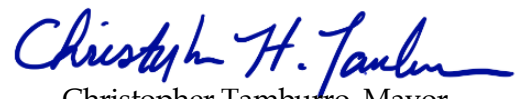
Adjournment:

Deputy Mayor McEvoy makes a motion to adjourn at 9:04 p.m.; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath.

The next meeting is May 4, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,


Jennifer Kiernan, Municipal Clerk


Christopher Tamburro, Mayor

APPROVED: May 4, 2026