

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Verona Township Council on Monday, April 19, 2021, beginning at 7:02 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 due to restrictions on indoor public gatherings resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. 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 and MyVeronaNJ.com, TAPinto and the Verona/Cedar Grove PATCH, the official online news source(s) of the Township, 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. This meeting is being recorded, both audibly and visually for retention purposes and for rebroadcast on the Township's YouTube.

Roll Call:

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

Mayor's Report:

Essex County Liaison Julius Coltre reports the County still has the 5 vaccination sites in Essex County: Essex County College, The Donald Payne School, West Caldwell Vo-Tech, the old Sears at Livingston Mall and the old Kmart location in West Orange. Vaccines are now being administered to school staff and County government employees. The County is not administering vaccines to children 16 and 17 years old, as the Governor had announced today. The County will vaccinate individuals 18 and older. The County Executive announced today that the bridge in Verona Park will be open before Monday. Signage for no bike riding in the Park are on backorder.

Mayor McEvoy reads a proclamation for Earth Day. He reports that the Verona Park Conservancy hold their annual clean-up and had a great turnout. He wishes everyone a Happy Ramadan.

Manager's Report:

Mr. Cavallo states the Township is still awaiting official guidance on how to spend American Rescue Plan (ARP) monies. In general, under the ARP, the United States Department of Treasury is required to issue such payments and promulgate rules on how to spend the monies within 60 days from being signed into law on March 12th. The US Department of Treasury has announced the creation of the Office of Recovery Programs to lead the Department's implementation of economic relief and recovery programs, including nearly \$420 billion in programs from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. This new office, which will be led by the Chief Recovery Officer, will report to Treasury's Deputy Secretary and will be principally focused on efficiently establishing and administering Treasury's programs to support an equitable and swift recovery from the economic challenges precipitated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Township's old platform, NIXLE was discontinued by the Township and replaced by Alert Verona last Friday. ALERT VERONA has been pre-registered with all landline numbers, but we encourage our residents and businesses to register their cell phones and email addresses at AlertVeronaNJ.org as soon as possible to avoid missing any important information. A postcard will be mailed in the next few weeks to all houses in Verona asking them to go online and register.

Beginning last week, the Township of Verona in conjunction with the County of Essex began to provide transportation for seniors who are 60 years and older and have difficulty securing transportation to obtain their vaccines. The Township of Verona Senior Transportation Bus picks

up residents at their homes, bring them to the Steven Aduato Sports Complex in Branch Brook Park in Newark for vaccination, and then transports them back home. Transportation is being offered on Monday and Wednesday mornings. The county was administering the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, which requires only one dose however until vaccinations with the J&J vaccine resume, the County is providing the Moderna vaccine for this site so a follow up appointment will be needed and automatically scheduled when you book your first trip. To register, call the Verona Department of Community Services at 973-857-4832, Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 12 noon. Residents are asked to have their insurance information ready when calling.

Registration for the Pool began on April 1 at 10 a.m. via Community Pass. As of today, we have received pool registrations totaling \$149,390 which surpasses the registrations-to-date in 2019 (pre-COVID 19) of \$105,500. We are looking forward to a very successful pool season.

We are bringing many of our regularly scheduled Town-wide events back this year including our Summer Concert Series, National Night Out, which will be held on Tuesday, August 3, Verona Restaurant Week, Chalk Fest and Art Walk and Fair in the Square on December 4th. There are also some new event being planned by the Verona Chamber of Commerce this year with more details coming soon.

The Police Department has begun to again enforce overnight parking, municipal lot parking and metered parking enforcement throughout the Township. This enforcement has been suspended since the beginning of the COVID pandemic. Overnight parking permits are available by contacting the Police Records Bureau.

We officially welcomed the Verona Community Garden to town with a ribbon cutting this afternoon! We would like to thank our main supporters Sustainable Jersey, the PSE&G Foundation, the NJEA and the Landsberger Foundation. We couldn't have done it without other community supporters including the Junior Woman's Club of Verona, the Verona Education Association, the Verona Board of Education, Township Council, the Sustainable Verona Green Team and Verona Environmental Commission, our amazing volunteers who make up the garden committee and of course Verona DPW, under the leadership and direction of our Director Chuck Molinaro who has been absolutely amazing throughout this whole process, helping us prep the site, run water access, place our shed and build the beautiful cedar beds. Thank you to everyone!

We received approximately 130 application for 28 beds in the garden. The lottery was held on April 15 and contracts were sent out this morning. The official opening day is Saturday, May 1. With the overwhelming response, we might as well start looking for location for a second garden.

The Township Manager's office is currently coordinating the Rent Control activities of the Township until a replacement Rent Control Administrator and Rent Control Board Secretary have been chosen. A letter to the landlords and a separate letter to the tenants should go out by early next week advising them of the new Ordinance.

The Fairness Hearing needed for the Township to obtain our judgement of repose with regard to affordable housing is scheduled for Friday, April 30, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. before the Honorable Robert H. Gardner, J.S.C. Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division at the Essex County Historic Courthouse. The Courthouse is presently closed to the public as a result of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency and State of Emergency declared by the Governor. If the Courthouse remains closed to the public as of 48 hours prior to the scheduled fairness hearing, the fairness hearing may take place via video-teleconference. Information about courthouse closings is available at www.njcourts.gov. If the courthouse is closed to the public, information about how to participate in the video-teleconference will be posted on the Township's website at www.veronanj.org at least 48 hours prior to the hearing.

Verona's Young Voters: Verona Town Council Candidates Public Forum will be held Wednesday, April 21 at 7:00 p.m. A link to register can be found on the Calendar on the Township website.

The Junior Women's Club of Verona will host a public forum with candidates for Town Council on Monday, April 26th, 2021 at 7 p.m. via Zoom. The forum will provide the five candidates an opportunity to introduce themselves and answer questions from the public. Questions will not be taken live during the event and must be submitted online via a google form by midnight on

April 20th, 2021. More details, including the link to the google form for questions and the invitation to the Zoom, can be found on the Verona Junior Women's Club website: <http://www.veronajuniors.org>. The evening will be moderated by a member of the League of Women Voters, whose purpose is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government. The public is encouraged to join the meeting to learn more about the candidates prior to the election on May 11, 2021. For those unable to attend the forum live, a recording of the event will be available following the forum which will also be found on the Verona Juniors website.

Essex County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day is Saturday, May 1, 2021 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Essex County DPW, 99 West Bradford in Cedar Grove. Essex County Computer and Electronics Recycling Day is Saturday, May 15, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Essex County DPW, 99 West Bradford in Cedar Grove.

We are still looking for additional School Crossing Guards and Part-Time Public Safety Telecommunicators. Please visit the Township Website for more information. We are also seeking applicants for summer employment at the Pool and within Summer Recreation. Please contact the Community Center for more information.

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee is meeting tomorrow. We expect there will be continued discussions about the spring activities, the pool opening and summer recreation. Anyone from the public wishing to participate can access the meeting on Zoom through the link on our website. The Planning Board Meeting for this Thursday has been cancelled.

For those Verona Residents who are in the midst of celebrating Ramadan, may you be showered with peach, joy and prosperity!

Mr. Cavallo states he would be neglect if he didn't recognize a few groups of employees who are essential to Team Verona. The first is our Public Health professionals especially our Health Officer Sue Portuese and her staff of educators, nurses and sanitarians at the Montclair Health Department. Especially for the all the work they have been doing on the front lines and behind the scenes during this unprecedented health crisis. The second group of employees who deserve recognition, not just last week but during the entire year is our Public Safety Telecommunicators (commonly known as our Dispatchers). They also have been here every day during this pandemic and deserve a round of applause for their constant devotion to their professions. Finally this upcoming Wednesday is Administrative Professionals Day. I would like to recognize all the Admins who work for Verona. They are the fuel that and make all of our offices run. I would especially like to thank my Executive Assistant Kristine Gould who is the backbone to the Manager's Office and who without, my office would not operate.

Councilmember's Reports:

Deputy Mayor Roman will reserve comments for New Business.

Councilman Ryan states the Environmental Commission tree giveaway is April 24. Four hundred seedlings will be given out at Grove Park from 9-11:30 a.m. and will coincide with a clean-up of the park.

Councilman Giblin states this Wednesday is Administrative Professionals Day. He thanks the Municipal Clerk for her hard work. He requests the hazardous waste days be pushed out on Facebook and AlertVerona. He states it is great to see things begin to open up but cautions that Covid is still out there. (Councilman Giblin lost a close family member this week to Covid.) He received a note from a resident regarding an April 9 incident at Freedom and Liberty Fields. There is a convergence of turnover of field use, no social distancing being practiced and the traffic was brutal. He suggests that the Township come up with a better scheduling process to create a larger buffer.

Councilwoman McGrath reports the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee will meet tomorrow. VMAC will meet on Wednesday at 7pm. She attended the Community Garden ribbon cutting and Verona Park Clean Up. She is speaking on a panel on April 22 sponsored for NJ 11th District for Change on "Everything You Wanted to Know About Municipal Government But Were Afraid to Ask". Visit NJ11thForChange.org for more information.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-12

AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES, COMPENSATION OF CERTAIN PAID EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance No. 2021-12 by title into record.

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2021-12 is moved by Councilwoman McGrath; seconded by Councilman Giblin.

Public Hearing:

Kathleen Laterza, 810 Bloomfield Avenue, Verona, New Jersey

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

Ordinance No. 2021-12 is adopted 5-0 and will be published according to law.

ORDINANCE No. 2021-13

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR ADA IMPROVEMENTS AT TOWN HALL AND ADA IMPROVEMENTS NEEDED TO FACILITATE VOTING AT FN BROWN SCHOOL IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA, IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$195,000 THEREFOR, INCLUDING \$99,840 EXPECTED TO BE RECEIVED AS A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$195,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE THE COST THEREOF

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance No. 2021-13 by title into record.

Motion to introduce Ordinance No. 2021-13 is moved by Mayor McEvoy; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

Ordinance No. 2021-13 is introduced 5-0 and will be published according to law and a public hearing will be held on May 3, 2021.

The meeting minutes from April 9, 2021 are unanimously approved.

Public Comment on Consent Agenda:

Jason Hyndman, 34 Cambridge Road, Verona, New Jersey
Tim Camuti, 42 Cumberland Avenue, Verona, New Jersey
Cynthia Holland, 109 So. Prospect Street, Verona, New Jersey
Maria Squilanti, 6 Belleclair Place, Verona, New Jersey

RESOLUTION No. 2021-058

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

AUTHORIZING USE OF COMPETITIVE CONTRACTING FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF PROFESSIONAL PLANNING SERVICES - MUNICIPAL MASTER PLAN

WHEREAS, the Planning Board of the Township of Verona wishes to solicit proposals for the examination and revision of the municipal Master Plan; and,

WHEREAS, Local Public Contracts Law allows a procedure called Competitive Contracting to be used to procure certain services that warrant a qualitative evaluation of specialized goods or service providers to determine the provider that is most advantageous, price and other factors considered; and,

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.3(a)* requires that in order to use competitive contracting for the first time for a specified purpose, the governing body shall pass a resolution authorizing the use of competitive contracting for such purpose; and,

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.3(b)* requires that the competitive contracting process shall be administered by a designated Authorized Agent who may be a purchasing agent pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-9*, or by legal counsel of the contracting unit, or by the chief administrative officer of the contracting unit; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Council has determined that the procurement of consulting services for the examination and revision of the municipal Master Plan through the use of Competitive Contracting is in the best interest of the Township; and,

WHEREAS, the use of competitive contracting for consulting services is authorized pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.1(m)*.

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 Manager is authorized to initiate competitive contracting for the solicitation of proposals for the examination and revision of the municipal Master Plan in conformance with *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.1(m)*.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-059

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

**AMENDING PUBLICATION DATE IN RESOLUTION No. 2021-057,
"INTRODUCTION OF THE 2021 MUNICIPAL BUDGET"**

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of Verona unanimously adopted Resolution No. 2021-057, "Introduction of the Municipal Budget" at a regular meeting held on April 5, 2021; and

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:4-6* states that the municipal budget shall be published in the official newspaper of the municipality at least ten (10) days before the date of public hearing, can be can be advertised in full or by publication of a summary and must include the date, time and place of the public hearing; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 2021-057 stated that said Budget would be published in the April 16, 2021 edition of the Star Ledger; and

WHEREAS, due to the newspaper's special deadline for submissions of advertisements of municipal budgets, the Budget was not advertised on the date stated in Resolution No. 2021-057

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the 2021 Municipal Budget will be published in the Wednesday, April 21, 2021 edition of the Star Ledger and the public hearing on the 2021 Municipal Budget and Tax Resolution will be held on via a Zoom video conference on May 17, 2021 at 7 o'clock p.m. at which time a place discussions to said Budget and Tax Resolution for 2021 may be presented by taxpayers or other interested persons, as initially scheduled.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that publication of the 2021 Municipal Budget and Tax Resolution in the April 21, 2021 edition of the Star Ledger is in full compliance of *N.J.S.A. 40A:4-6* and no further action is necessary.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2021-060

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

**AWARDING CONTRACT No. 19-13
PROPOSED ADA CURB RAMP IMPROVEMENTS**

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona received bids for Proposed ADA Curb Ramp Improvements – Contract No. 19-13 on April 14, 2021; and

WHEREAS, six (6) bids were received for Contract 19-13; and

WHEREAS, Stanziale Construction, 2 Springdale Avenue, East Orange, New Jersey 07017 was the lowest responsive and responsible bidder in the Base Bid Amount of \$74,643.25; and

WHEREAS, the Consulting Engineer 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. 19-13 be awarded, pending approval of the County of Essex Community Development Block Grant coordinator, to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Stanziale Construction, 2 Springdale Avenue, East Orange, New Jersey 07017 in the total amount of \$74,643.25.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this expenditure shall be charged against the 2019 CDBG Grant and Capital Bond Ordinance No. 2021-04 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. 2021-061

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

**AWARDING CONTRACT No. 19-13A
PROPOSED ADA COMMUNITY CENTER IMPROVEMENTS**

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona received bids for Proposed ADA Community Center Improvements – Contract No. 19-13A on April 14, 2021; and

WHEREAS, four (4) bids were received for Contract 19-13A; and

WHEREAS, Stanziale Construction, 2 Springdale Avenue, East Orange, New Jersey 07017 was the lowest responsive and responsible bidder in the Base Bid Amount of \$73,868.30; and

WHEREAS, the Consulting Engineer 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. 19-13A be awarded, pending approval of the County of Essex Community Development Block Grant coordinator, to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Stanziale Construction, 2 Springdale Avenue, East Orange, New Jersey 07017 in the total amount of \$73,868.30.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this expenditure shall be charged against the 2019 CDBG Grant and Capital Bond Ordinance No. 2021-04 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. 2021-062

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

AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE VERONA MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE GRANT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-22

WHEREAS, the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council further recognize that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council has applied for funding to the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Essex.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, County of Essex, State of New Jersey does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the Verona Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2021-22 in the amount of:

DEDR	\$16,300.00
Cash Match	\$ 4,075.00
In-Kind	\$12,225.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Council acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2021-063

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

REFUND TAX COURT JUDGMENT

WHEREAS, notification has been received from the Tax Court reducing the assessment on property located at 25 Pompton Avenue owned by T.M.F. Commercial Properties Block 206 lot 1 Qualifiers C0003, C0004, C0005, C0006, C0007, C0008, C0009, C0010 and C0011 as follows:

Qualifier	Year	Assessment Reduced	Tax Rate	Refund
C0003	2020	8,500.00	2.864	243.44
C0004	2020	8,500.00	2.864	243.44
C0005	2020	17,000.00	2.864	486.88
C0006	2020	17,000.00	2.864	486.88
C0007	2020	24,500.00	2.864	701.68
C0008	2020	24,200.00	2.864	693.08
C0009	2020	29,700.00	2.864	850.60
C0010	2020	29,700.00	2.864	850.60
C0011	2020	29,700.00	2.864	850.60

Total Refund \$5,407.20

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chief Financial Officer and Tax Collector be authorized to refund \$5,407.20 to:

Law Office of Eric Salant
998 Holmdel Road
Holmdel, NJ 07733

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2021-064

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

REFUNDING ESCROW PAYMENT

WHEREAS, Escrow fees, for the Board of Adjustment, were received from Jennifer Vinciguerra, for property located at 177 Grove 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	EXPENSES	AMOUNT TO BE REFUNDED
\$500.00	\$108.50	\$391.50

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, \$391.50 to Jennifer Vinciguerra, 177 Grove Avenue, Verona, NJ 07044

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2021-065

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

REFUNDING ESCROW PAYMENT

WHEREAS, Escrow fees, for the Board of Adjustment, were received from Evan Scott, for property located at 21 Howard 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	EXPENSES	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 Evan Scott, 28 Arlington Avenue, Caldwell, NJ 07006.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2021-066

A motion was made by Councilman Ryan; seconded by Mayor 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 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 and Contract Negotiations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (7)
 - 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))
 - Sunset Avenue Redevelopment Plan
 - Essex Fells Water
 - Water Utility
 - Municipal Condominium Reimbursements
 - 5G Consultant

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

The Township Manager leads a robust discussion on the property maintenance law, cannabis legislation and local regulations. He also engages the Council in discussions for proposed ordinances on in-building radio communications. Mr. Cavallo allows the Environmental Commission Chairperson, Jessica Pearson and Sean DiBartolo to lead a discussion to restrict services using gas powered leaf blowers. Councilwoman McGrath suggests the question be put out to residents on PlanetCivic.

Public Comment:

Kathleen Laterza, 810 Bloomfield Avenue, Verona, New Jersey
Cynthia Holland, 109 So. Prospect Avenue, Verona, New Jersey

Sean DiBartolo, 34 Oakridge Road, Verona, New Jersey

Council enters into Executive Session at 9:12 p.m.

Adjournment:

Council returns from Executive Session and a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:21 p.m. is made by Councilman Ryan; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath.

The next regular scheduled meeting is May 3, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Kiernan
Jennifer Kiernan, Municipal Clerk

Jack McEvoy
Jack McEvoy, Mayor

APPROVED: May 3, 2021