

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Verona Township Council on Monday, May 17, 2021, beginning at 7:04 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](http://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 congratulates the mayor on his re-election and states that Councilmen Ryan and Giblin will be missed. Mr. Coltre reports that the Pfizer vaccine is now available to young adults ages 12 and up at the old Kmart in West Orange. They must be accompanied by a guardian. Walk-in locations are still open to adults wanting to receive the vaccine. There will be no food distribution this week, but next week food distribution will be held at Irvington High School. The Essex County Summer Concert Series is on, with a modified schedule. The County will hold the annual shredding program on June 19 at 99 West Bradford Avenue in Cedar Grove. Mr. Coltre reminds the public to visit [www.EssexCovid.org](http://www.EssexCovid.org) for testing locations.

Mayor McEvoy reads a proclamation for Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

He thanks all candidates who ran in the Municipal Election and for putting up strong campaigns. He welcomes Chris Tamburro and Cynthia Holland to the council and looks forward to working with them. He thanks all who voted and putting trust in him and re-electing him.

Manager's Report:

Mr. Cavallo reports that 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](http://AlertVeronaNJ.org) as soon as possible to avoid missing any important information. A postcard will be mailed hopefully next week to all houses in Verona asking them to go online and register. As of today 1,328 people have signed up for the service. All municipal buildings will be re-opening to the public beginning on Tuesday, June 1. At this time, face coverings will still be required. If you do not have one, don't worry, one will be provided for you during your visit.

The Governor and the State Legislative Leaders have hinted that they may no longer extend the Public Health Emergency which has existed since the middle of March 2020 after this last extension last week. Further restrictions may be lifted within the month. Anyone who is interested in receiving the Moderna vaccine, you may do so this Wednesday at the VCC. Call the Health Office at 973-857-4732 to reserve your spot. Anyone who is interested in receiving a vaccination but cannot drive to the site at Kmart is encouraged to call the Verona Department of Community Services at 973-857-4832 so we can assist them in getting to Kmart.

Mr. Cavallo reports that the New Jersey Housing Mortgage Finance Agency has approved our application for 9% Low Income Housing Tax Credits for the PIRHL Development on the former Cameco

and Poekel lots. We are now working with the developer to formulate an agenda on what steps we still need to complete, which includes Final Site Plan Approval by the Planning Board.

The last day to take advantage of early bird discount pricing for membership during the 2021 Pool Season was this past Saturday, May 15. Registrations received from now on include a \$25 administrative fee. A Free Rabies Clinic is scheduled for Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at the Verona Town Garage located at 5 Ozone Avenue. Dogs will be vaccinated between 6:00pm and 6:45pm and cats will be vaccinated from 6:45pm to 7:30pm. The rabies vaccine is recommended every two years (mandated every three years) and is necessary for animal licensure. A licensed Veterinarian will administer vaccinations. Animals should not be fed prior to the clinic. No appointment necessary and questions can be directed to the Verona Health Department at 973-857-4832. The next scheduled clinic will be in the fall of 2021.

Overnight parking permits are available by contacting the Police Records Bureau. Single night overnight parking permission can be requested online at [www.VeronaPolice.org](http://www.VeronaPolice.org) by clicking the "Overnight Parking" tab.

Our new hardware for VTV has been backordered for almost a year now. Good news is it has finally been delivered. The technicians are coming in hopefully next week or the week after to get it up and running.

As we enter into the Primary Election season, this is a reminder that temporary signs (including political signs and construction signs) should not be placed in the public right of way. This is the area between the curb and the sidewalk or if the property does not have a sidewalk, the area adjacent to the roadway between the curb and any Township shade tree or utility pole. Any signs that are found to be in violation may be removed by DPW or Code Enforcement. In addition, no signs may be placed on public property including those of the Township, the County, the School District or the State.

Please join the Verona Police Department Outreach Unit in Partnership with EZ Ride for a Bicycle Rodeo! Students will learn bicycle safety and participate in drills to learn new skills. The event will be held again this upcoming Sunday, May 23, 2021 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. (time slots are assigned per age). More information can be found on the Police Department website or on the Township's webpage calendar.

The Township will hold the first annual Progress Flag Raising ceremony on Tuesday, June 1 at 6:00 p.m. with a rain date of June 3. County of Essex Memorial Day Ceremony is Tuesday, May 25 at 12 noon at Veteran's Park next to the Hall of Records. The Verona Memorial Day Parade is Monday, May 31 beginning at 10:00 a.m.

The Friends of the Library are now accepting donations of gently used books for their December Book Sale in 2021. In addition to the annual Book Sale in December 2021, they have an ongoing sale in the lobby of the Verona Library near the Circulation Desk. Be sure to stop by and check out the monthly topics. The book sales are their primary source of fundraising in addition to membership dues. Proceeds go to support the fantastic children's, adult and teen programming the Library hosts throughout the year.

The Independence Day Fireworks are Wednesday, June 30<sup>th</sup> (rain date is Thursday, July 1<sup>st</sup>) at dark. National Night Out is Tuesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Those volunteer members of our very important Advisory Boards, Commission and Committees whose terms end on June 30 will be notified by the Township Clerk by the end of next week of the upcoming expirations and asking them if they would like to be considered for reappointment after July 1. Anyone who is interested in serving on any of our Advisory Boards, Commission and Committees, please visit the Township Website for a complete description of what bodies we do have here in Verona.

On Tuesday, May 11, the Township received 11 proposals for the Re-Examination of the Master Plan. The responses now goes to the Planning Board Master Plan Committee for review and scoring. The Council will have an Ordinance on the next meeting's agenda to fund the Master Plan process.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-072**

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

#### **PERMITTING 2021 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 April 5, 2021 via Zoom video conference; 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 at least 10 days prior to May 17, 2021 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. via Zoom; 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 the 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 2021 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:** McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

**NAYS:**

**RESOLUTION No. 2021-073**

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

**CANCELLING A PORTION OF THE 2020 SPECIAL EMERGENCY FOR THE  
EXPECETED DEFICIT IN OPERATIONS RELATED TO THE COVID-19  
PANDEMIC**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Verona, County of Essex, State of New Jersey previously adopted ordinance 2020-24 declaring a budget emergency for an expected deficit in operations due to the Covid-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, Ordinance 2020-24 declared an estimated deficit in the Current Fund of \$450,000; and

**WHEREAS**, the final operating deficit per the Township Annual Financial Statement was \$356,946.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, County of Essex, State of New Jersey that the remaining balance of the special emergency adopted by Ordinance 2020-24 be cancelled in the amount of \$93,054.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**NAYS:**

Public Hearing on 2021 Municipal Budget:

None.

**RESOLUTION No. 2021-074**

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

**RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE APPROVED 2021 BUDGET**

**WHEREAS**, the Local Municipal Budget for the year 2021 was approved on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021; and

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

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to amend said approved budget.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, County of Essex, State of New Jersey that the following amendments to the approved 2021 budget be made:

Miscellaneous Revenue – Section A: Local Revenues (Sheet 4a)

<b>Amended</b>	<b>Authorized</b>	<b>As</b>
Community Center Rentals:	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
Tower Lease:	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 153,000.00

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that two (2) certified copies of the resolution are to be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services and that a certified copy of this resolution shall be provided by the Municipal Clerk to each of the following:

1. Chief Financial Officer
2. Municipal Auditor

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**NAYS:**

**RESOLUTION No. 2021-075**

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

**ADOPTION OF THE 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 2021 calendar year.

<b>General Appropriations:</b>	<b><u>Year 2021</u></b>
1. Appropriations within "CAPS" (H-1 Sheet 19)	<b>\$ 18,901,574.00</b>
2. Appropriations excluded from "CAPS" (H-2 Sheet 28)	<b>\$ 5,153,938.89</b>
3. Reserve for Uncollected Taxes (M-Sheet 29)	<b><u>\$ 1,775,000.00</u></b>
4. Total General Appropriations (Item 9, Sheet 29)	<b>\$ 25,830,512.89</b>
5. Less: Anticipated Revenues Other than Current Property Tax (Item 5, Sheet 11)	<b>\$ (8,152,614.41)</b>
6. Less: Minimum Library Tax (Item 6(c), Sheet 11)	<b><u>\$ (864,735.42)</u></b>
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)	<b>\$ 16,813,163.06</b>

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that said Budget was published in the April 21, 2021 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 via Zoom video conference on May 17, 2021 at 7 o'clock p.m. at which time and place discussions to said Budget and Tax Resolution for 2021 was presented by taxpayers or other interested persons.

**BE IT FURTHER 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](http://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 FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Township Council of the Township of Verona does hereby adopt the preceding as the Budget for the 2021 year.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**NAYS:**

Councilmember's Reports:

Deputy Mayor Roman congratulates the winners of the municipal election and looks forward to working with members of the council. He thanks Michael Nochimson and Jason Hyndman on their campaigns stating that it was a challenging campaign and everyone brought a lot of issues to the forefront. He thanks the Municipal Clerk with her efforts in running the election and all her hard work.

Councilman Ryan thanks the Municipal Clerk for the smooth running of the elections. He reports that the Township has been focused on parking for our residents, but has had merchants reach out to him concerned about availability of parking for their employees.

Councilman Giblin thanks all candidates and congratulates Cynthia Holland, Chris Tamburro and Jack McEvoy acknowledging that it a big decision to run for council. He wishes the best for the new council. He reports that at the last meeting of the Neighborhood Traffic & Safety Advisory Committee a number of residents on Claremont expressed concern with traffic and speed. Engineering Consultant John Jahr was present at that meeting and stated he would look to see what could be done. Councilman Giblin also brought his daughter to last weekend's bicycle rodeo. He thanks the Police Department and Recreation Department for a great event that was truly enjoyed by all kids. He also thanks Jen Kiernan, Municipal Clerk for a job well done in running the election, especially with a new system in place.

Councilwoman McGrath thanks the Municipal Clerk for her work. She was a challenger at the polls and states it was really an amazing effort to get the new system up and running. She thanks the poll workers and encourages people to utilize the Vote by Mail option, especially with a secure ballot drop box located right outside the Municipal Building. She congratulates Dr. Chris Tamburro, Cynthia Holland and Mayor McEvoy and reminds the public that this is the first time in 20 years that two (2) women are serving on the Township Council. She also thanks Jason Hyndman for running a great campaign and making monumental history in Verona as he was the first man of color to run for Council as well as receiving over 1,200 votes. She states that this election had a lot of concerning actions and statements which were the subject of conversation on social media and throughout town. She states there were a lot of edited videos and use of coded language, harassment and bullying over lawn signs and placement of lawn signs as well as a personal attack on Councilman Giblin's family, which she acknowledges as inappropriate. She states that she wants to apologize to Councilman Giblin and his family for having to endure that. She states this is exactly why she feels the need for a diversity work group and looks forward to the new council discussing that further.

**ORDINANCE No. 2021-16**

**REPEALING CHAPTER 390 "PROPERTY MAINTENANCE" IN ITS ENTIRETY  
AND ESTABLISHING A NEW CHAPTER 390 "PROPERTY MAINTENANCE"**

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance No. 2021-16 by title into record.

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2021-16 is moved by Deputy Mayor Roman; seconded by Councilman Ryan.

Public Hearing:

None.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**NAYS:**

Ordinance No. 2021-16 is adopted 5-0 and will be published according to law.

**ORDINANCE No. 2021-17**

**ESTABLISHING A NEW CHAPTER 156 “BLASTING” OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA**

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance No. 2021-17 by title into record.

Motion to introduce Ordinance No. 2021-17 is moved by Mayor McEvoy; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**NAYS:**

Ordinance No. 2021-17 is introduced 5-0 and will be published according to law and a public hearing will be held on June 7, 2021.

The meeting minutes from May 3, 2021 are unanimously approved.

Public Comment on Consent Agenda:

None.

**RESOLUTION No. 2021-076**

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

**RECOGNIZING PRIDE MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Verona is an inclusive community whose residents believe in safety, prosperity, equality and hope for all; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Verona recognizes the human rights of all citizens and actively supports an end to all forms of prejudice and discrimination; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Verona is committed to promoting LGBTQ+ equality and fostering welcoming and affirming LGBTQ+ spaces; and

**WHEREAS**, more recent advances in LGBTQ+ equality, including marriage, bans against LGBTQ conversion, the advancement of some federal protections with respect to access to federal services and open military service, LGBTQ+ inclusive and protective anti-discrimination public access state laws, positive LGBTQ+ public opinion, widespread LGBTQ+ visibility and representation in media, education, public office, LGBTQ+ anti-bullying laws and welcoming and affirming school climate policies – including actions to create LGBTQ+ inclusive curriculum- and corporate America’s LGBTQ+ inclusion and promotion, are all directly linked back to the victories of earlier LGBTQ+ rights advocates; and

**WHEREAS**, the community recognizes the efforts of the many advocates and allies who have enabled this progress and opened society’s eyes to the idea that love is love and no one should be forced to hide part of their identity; and

**WHEREAS**, without comprehensive federal civil rights protections, and because of legislative and executive attempts at rolling back LGBTQ+ advances or cultural and political climate shifts that empower LGBTQ+ hate crimes, LGBTQ+ individuals and families continue to face significant

uncertainty, oppression and discrimination.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey does hereby acknowledge June as LGBTQ+ Pride Month in the Township of Verona. We urge all people of the Township of Verona to join LGBTQ+ advocacy and actions, promote diversity and inclusion, create welcoming and affirming spaces for LGBTQ+ youth, trans and non-binary folks be visible, outspoken allies and up standers as any injustice against one is an injustice against all. Furthermore, the Township of Verona recognizes LGBTQ+ Month by flying the rainbow flag in the Verona Civic Center during the month of June.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**NAYS:**

**RESOLUTION No. 2021-77**

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

**AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE  
COUGAR AQUATIC SWIM TEAM**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Verona wishes to enter into an agreement with the Cougar Aquatic Swim Team to provide for use of the Verona Community Pool facilities to conduct their summer practices; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cougar Aquatic Swim Team agrees to keep and maintain a daily log of all personnel who appear on the grounds and/or around the Pool areas under the terms of this Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Verona shall be paid directly by the Cougars for the use of the Community Pool facilities and staff in the sum of \$3,600.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the Township Manager and Municipal Clerk are authorized to execute an agreement with the Cougar Aquatic Swim Team for use of the pool facility, a copy of which is attached hereto and which shall be available for public inspection in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**NAYS:**

**RESOLUTION No. 2021-78**

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

**AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH JEV CONSTRUCTION LLC.**

**WHEREAS**, there exists a need for repair services at the Waste Water Treatment Plant including but not limited to installation of several valves; 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 Township Manager has determined that the value of said services will exceed \$17,500.00; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Manager has recommended that JEV Construction LLC, 116 W. Main Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Clinton, New Jersey 08809 be awarded a contract to provide said services.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that JEV Construction LLC is hereby awarded a contract for providing

sewer services not to exceed \$35,000.00 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 Municipal Clerk.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**NAYS:**

**RESOLUTION No. 2021-079**

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

**REFUNDING TAX LIEN REDEMPTION**

**WHEREAS**, property located at Wedgewood Drive Unit #123, Block 1712 Lot 1 Qualifier C0123, owned by Gloria Parisi, has been held in tax lien since December 3, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, payment was received, in the amount of \$10,559.90 from the United States Treasury Department, clearing the lien as follows:

<b>Certificate #20-00004</b>	
Certificate	\$ 3,179.09
2% Redemption Penalty	\$ 63.58
Recording Fee	\$ 53.00
Search Fee	\$ 12.00
2020 Taxes plus Interest	\$ 5,920.52
2021 Taxes plus Interest	\$ 1,331.71
Premium	\$23,600.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$34,159.90</b>

**WHEREAS**, this certificate has been held by the Township of Verona and the certificate has been received and properly signed for cancellation.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Chief Financial Officer and Tax Collector be authorized to refund, from Trust, \$34,159.90 to:

Greymorr, LLC  
BMO 85  
PO Box 1414  
Minneapolis, MN 55480

Trust Check - Greymorr, LLC - \$34,159.90 Certificate #20-00004

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**NAYS:**

**RESOLUTION No. 2021-080**

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

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

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

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

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

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of an action upon the hereinafter specified subject matter.
  - 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))
    - Docket No. ESX-L-3739-19  
(First Ridge Alliance v. Verona)
    - Docket No. ESX-L-8973-20  
(Mikelle Bliss v. Kompan, et. al.)
    - Docket No. ESX-L-2705-21  
(Marie Simpson v. Verona)
    - Docket No. ESX-L-3530-21  
(First Ridge Alliance v. Verona)
    - Essex Fells Water
      - Municipal Agreement Reimbursement
      - Water Utility

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**NAYS:**

New Business:

Councilman Ryan raises the question about in-person meetings. The Township Manager states that the June 21, 2021 meeting of the governing body will be a hybrid meeting in that the Council will convene in Council Chambers. Members of the public can either attend in person or via Zoom.

Public Comment:

Maryanne Maher, 38 Elmwood Road, Verona, New Jersey

Council enters into Executive Session at 9:03 p.m.

Adjournment:

Council returns from Executive Session and a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:16 p.m. is made by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Mayor McEvoy.

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

Respectfully submitted,

*Jennifer Kiernan*

Jennifer Kiernan, Municipal Clerk

*Jack McEvoy*

Jack McEvoy, Mayor

APPROVED: June 7, 2021