

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Verona Township Council on Monday, November 8, 2021, 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 and in person due to 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 Alex Roman, Deputy Mayor Christine McGrath, Councilman Jack McEvoy, Councilwoman Cynthia Holland and Councilman Chris Tamburro. Township Manager Matthew Cavallo, Township Attorney Brian Aloia and Municipal Clerk Jennifer Kiernan are also present.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Roman congratulates Pam Priscoe and Chris Wacha for the Board of Education wins. He thanks Rui for his 7 ½ years of service and wishes him all the best. Congresswoman Mikie Sherrill met with council members and other Township representatives to tour the Peckman River.

Mayor Roman reads a proclamation for National Injury Prevention Day.

Mr. Cavallo gives a presentation on this year's Best Practices Survey and also presents the public with an update on PFAS. A letter was sent to DEP regarding direction as to whether a second notice should be issued before December 1st and is still awaiting a response. The Township's website can now be translated into 10 different languages. VTV equipment has been installed. Staff is currently trying to get the bulletin board program up and running at this time.

Essex County has rolled out the Covid vaccine to children ages 5 and up. Visit EssexCovid.org for more information. The Township has a meeting scheduled with the architect for the pool renovation. Pursuant to Local Public Contracts Law, the Township can begin negotiating with the two (2) lowest bidders however, the zero entry into the baby pool may not be possible as the cost is extremely high. The Township Manager will have more information at the December meeting.

Twenty six trees were removed on Lynwood for the reconstruction project, and 19 were replanted, as the remainder were not, at the request of the homeowner. In response to hurricane Ida, the Township has expended/paid \$185,000 but there has been no close-out yet, but the Township has met with FEMA to go over our reimbursement.

A job posting for a full-time finance clerk has been issued. PIRHL will present their final site plan application to the Planning Board on November 30 and a second meeting has been scheduled, if need, for December 2. The Master Plan subcommittee meets tomorrow with the Planner to discuss goals and finalize the survey questions to go out to residents via social media.

The Interfaith Service is November 22 at 5pm in OLL, the Menorah lighting will take place on December 5, the Fair in the Square is on Saturday, December 4 and Township offices will be closed on November 11 in remembrance of Veteran's Day. The Veteran's Day service will be held on the steps of Town Hall at 11am.

Finally, Mr. Cavallo wished Dr. Rui Dionisio good luck in his future endeavors.

Deputy Mayor McGrath attended the first Italian-American flag raising ceremony and thanks UNICO and Father Jerry for attending. She congratulates the Juniors for Verona Fights Hunger week where over 1,300 bags of food were donated. The Deputy Mayor attended the first Diwali ceremony organized by resident Toral Patel. Many Indian-American residents were in attendance. Ms. McGrath thanks Congresswoman Mikie Sherrill for visiting Verona and taking the tour of the Peckman River. She also thanks the Municipal Clerk for her hard work in this election cycle. She states that $\frac{3}{4}$ of the votes were cast on Election Day at the polls, 10% cast their ballots in Early Voting and 15-16% of votes cast within the Township were via Vote by Mail ballots.

The Deputy Mayor also thanks the County Executive for the changes to the vaccination sites to prepare to child vaccinations. The Shade Tree Commission will submit an estimate to have the Pin Oaks pruned next year and discuss changes to the tree ordinance to allow residents to remove trees that are havens for the lantern fly at no cost.

Councilman McEvoy congratulates the Juniors for their Verona Fights Hunger week drive. The Environmental Commission is holding a clean-up at the Peckman trail this Saturday. He thanks Toral Patel for organizing the Diwali festival which he found very educational. He thanks Steve Neale for organizing Fall-o-Ween, which was a well-attended event. He also notes that the Historical Preservation Commission will meet on November 18.

Councilman Tamburro congratulates Pam Priscoe and Chris Wacha on their Board of Education wins. He congratulates the organizers of the Opioid Walk. He recognizes Officer Anthony Huber for speaking to the group. He states the election reminds us that every vote counts. Those who are 17 years old and will be 18 before the next election can register to vote. Councilman Tamburro received the Moderna booster vaccine over the weekend. He congratulates the Verona Music Parents Association and Marching Maroon and White for their performance at the band festival and the VHS Girls/Boys Cross Country team for qualifying in the last group meet for State sectionals. The Councilman also reports that the Verona Rescue Squad's 50/50 raffle will be drawn at the Fair in the Square so purchase tickets soon.

Councilwoman Holland echoes several of the comments made by many of her colleagues this evening about the Diwali and the Italian-American flag raising events that were held between the last two meetings. She states these are certainly the types of events that she would really like going forward. She applauds the Township on the Halloween event and the Juniors and all who collaborated with that that. It was so much fun and kids had a blast.

The Recreation committee met on the Tuesday and there was a lively discussion about some of our fall community programs. There was a lot of discussion about our basketball program and kind of that returning after Covid. There's a new ski program as well as an anticipated e-sports program so there will be more information about that forthcoming. She emphasizes that accessibility in Recreation programming is very important to her, particularly regarding persons with disabilities which is an area needs more attention.

Also, at the next Recreation committee meeting there will be a discussion about senior programming. The Councilwoman is grateful to Congresswoman Sherrill for coming to view our stretch of the Peckman River. The Congresswoman was provided materials as well. On that note, the Councilwoman acknowledges that the infrastructure bill that we had reached out to Congresswoman Sherrill about has now passed and that does include some significant funding for PFAs and other projects that are likely significant to our local government. These are dollars that the Township should really leverage so she looks forward to hearing more from our administration about how we're going to leverage those federal dollars.

The Councilwoman acknowledges Ms. Kiernan and her election work. This was an incredibly challenging election with early voting and mail-ins and all the crazy changes because we can't keep it simple. She congratulates all the newly elected officials. Later this week is Veterans Day and it's the 100th anniversary of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Councilwoman Holland acknowledges the veterans in her family and all those that have served this country as it's a tremendous thing to do for your country including her Italian grandfather who fought in World War II. The Environmental Commission does have an upcoming meeting later this week. Their agenda was just released and she encourages everyone to attend their cleanup this weekend.

Public Comment on Consent Agenda Items:

Jeremy Katzeff, [REDACTED]

Mayor Roman announces he will entertain a motion to table resolution K-5. Motioned by Councilman Tamburro; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath. Vote: 5 ayes.

Minutes from the October 4, 2021 and October 18, 2021 Regular meetings are unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION No. 2021-140

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

**DESIGNATING THE REGULAR, CONFERENCE AND LEGAL MEETING
DATES OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL FOR 2021-2022**

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231 of the Laws of 1975, requires all public bodies covered by said Act, at least once each year, and within seven (7) days following the annual reorganization meeting of such body, to post and maintain posted throughout the year a schedule of the regular meetings of the public body to be held during the succeeding year.

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

1. The schedule of regular meetings of the Township Council of the Township of Verona will be held in Council Chambers of the Municipal Building located at 600 Bloomfield Avenue, Verona, New Jersey, or any other place or media that may be determined from time to time and properly noticed on the meeting agenda as set forth in the schedule annexed hereto be and the same is hereby adopted; and
2. The Municipal Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to prominently post the schedule on the public bulletin located in the lobby of the Municipal Building, Verona, New Jersey; and
3. Special meetings may be held as and when necessary, with notice to be given as provided for in the Act on any meeting involving urgent matters; and
4. In the event that the approved schedule is hereafter revised, the revised schedule shall be posted and filed by the Municipal Clerk as required by the Act; and
5. The Municipal Clerk shall post a copy of this resolution and publish it in full in the Verona-Cedar Grove Times and Newark Star Ledger.

SCHEDULE

Meetings will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 600 Bloomfield Avenue, Verona, New Jersey

Monday, July 19, 2021	Monday, January 24, 2022
Monday, August 2, 2021	Monday, February 7, 2022
Monday, August 16, 2021	Monday, February 28, 2022
Monday, September 20, 2021	Monday, March 21, 2022
Monday, October 4, 2021	Monday, April 4, 2022
Monday, October 18, 2021	Monday, April 25, 2022
Monday, November 8, 2021	Monday, May 9, 2022
Monday, November 22, 2021	Monday, May 23, 2022
Monday, December 6, 2021	Monday, June 13, 2022
Monday, December 20, 2021	Monday, June 27, 2022
Monday, January 3, 2022	Monday, July 11, 2022

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2021-141

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

**APPROVING CONTRACT CHANGE NO. 1 - CONTRACT NO. 19-08 -
RECONSTRUCTION OF LYNWOOD ROAD (2019-LYNWOOD ROAD)**

WHEREAS, KM Construction Corp and the Township of Verona have heretofore entered into an Agreement, more particularly known as Contract No. 19-08 - "Reconstruction of Lynwood Road (2019-LYNWOOD ROAD)" for the furnishing of labor, equipment and materials in the amount of \$654,579.67, in accordance with the requirements of the Local Public Contract Law, *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Project Engineer has prepared Contract Change No. 1 for the within contract for the addition of an unforeseen retaining wall at the corner of Lynwood Road and Grove Avenue due to the relocation of the ADA curb ramp at the corner in the amount of plus \$4,392.00; and

WHEREAS, the Township Manager/Qualified Purchasing Agent recommends that Contract Change No. 1 for the within contract be approved; and

WHEREAS, Contract Change No. 1 does not expand the scope of the within contract and is in the best interest of the Township; and

WHEREAS, Temporary Chief Financial Officer has certified the availability of funds for this contract, a copy of said Certification is annexed to this Resolution as Exhibit A.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that Contract Change No. 1 for Contract No. 19-08 in the amount of plus \$4,392.00 for a final contract amount of \$658,971.67 be approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Manager, the Township Clerk and any other officer as may be deemed appropriate are hereby authorized to execute Contract Change No. 1 Contract No. 19-08 on behalf of the Township.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2021-142

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

**AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE NATIONWIDE SETTLEMENT
AGREEMENTS WITH JOHNSON & JOHNSON, MCKESSON, CARDINAL
HEALTH, AND AMERISOURCEBERGEN TO RESOLVE CLAIMS
INVOLVING THEIR ROLES IN THE COUNTRY'S OPIOID CRISIS**

WHEREAS, on August 20, 2021, Acting Attorney General Andrew J. Bruck announced that New Jersey intends to join nationwide settlement agreements with New Jersey based pharmaceutical company Johnson & Johnson and the United States' three largest pharmaceutical distributors - McKesson, Cardinal Health and AmerisourceBergen - to resolve claims involving their roles in fomenting the country's opioid crisis; and

WHEREAS, participation in the nationwide settlements will not only hold the companies financially accountable by requiring payments of as much as \$26 billion, the settlements will provide funding to support programs that address the opioid epidemic in New Jersey and across the country, and will require significant changes in the pharmaceutical industry aimed at preventing similar crises in the future; and

WHEREAS, participation by a significant number of states, county and municipal governments nationwide must agree to the proposed terms in order for the settlements to take effect; and

WHEREAS, provided enough states opt to participate in the settlements, their subdivisions (i.e. county and municipal governments) will have through January 2, 2022 to join;

and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the Township and its residents to participate and join in the settlement agreements in order to hold these companies financially accountable for the ongoing opioid crisis and to implement the necessary changes to prevent such a crisis from happening again in the future.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey that it hereby authorizes the Township Manager and the Township Clerk to sign any documents necessary in order to join the settlement agreements with Johnson & Johnson, McKesson, Cardinal Health and AmerisourceBergen to resolve claims involving their participation in the opioid crisis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Clerk shall forward a copy of this Resolution to the Office of The Attorney General and the New Jersey League of Municipalities.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2021-143

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

**AUTHORIZING A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH
THE BOROUGH OF ESSEX FELLS**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Essex Fells (hereinafter referred to as "Essex Fells") is a bulk water purveyor selling water to the Township of Verona (hereinafter referred to as "Verona") as a bulk customer which Verona resells to certain residential customers in Verona pursuant to an undated Water Transmission System Agreement (hereinafter referred to as the "WTSA Agreement") between Essex Fells and Verona; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the WTSA Agreement, for use in the Hilltop system, Essex Fells also purchases water from Verona, which procures this water from the Passaic Valley Water Commission; and

WHEREAS, between 2010 and 2018 issues surrounding the billing by Verona to Essex Fells for water usage at the Hilltop system resulted in a claim by Verona in the amount of \$687,939.07 as reflected in an invoice forwarded on or about December 21, 2020 for unpaid water usage by Essex Fells during this period and a dispute between the parties; and

WHEREAS, Essex Fells calculates a lesser amount owed for the period and the parties are desirous of amicably resolving the issue of the unpaid water usage balances at the Hilltop system owed by Essex Fells to Verona; and

WHEREAS, the parties have met and amicably resolved the dispute and desire to memorialize the terms and conditions in the form of an agreement (the "Settlement Agreement") resolving the issue of the total reimbursement owed by Verona to the Association from the beginning of time up to October 31, 2021.

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 the Township Clerk are hereby authorized to execute the Settlement Agreement with the Association, in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A, with such changes, omissions or amendments as the Township Manager deems appropriate in consultation with the Township Attorney.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2021-144

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

**AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A RENEWED CONTRACT WITH JOBS 4
BLUE FOR COORDINATION OF OFF-DUTY EMPLOYMENT OF POLICE
OFFICERS**

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 2019-45, the Township entered into an agreement with Jobs4Blue related to the coordination and billing off-duty employment of police officers for police related activities; and

WHEREAS, the Township utilizes Police Officer Scheduling System produced by VCS Human Capital Management for the scheduling of Police Officers; and

WHEREAS, Jobs4Blue, a subsidiary of VCS Human Capital Management as agreed to continue to provide such services to the Township by charging a customer scheduling fee of 8% and at no cost to the Township; and

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(dd)* provides for the support software maintenance, consultation services and training services of propriety computer hardware and software; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the Township Manager, the Township Clerk and any other officials as is necessary and proper be authorized to execute the Proprietary Services Agreement, in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A, and any such documents as necessary to implement this Contract.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2021-145

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

**AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF
2021 QUALIFIED PRIVATE COMMUNITY SERVICES AGREEMENTS**

WHEREAS, in accordance with *N.J.S.A. 40:67-23.1 et seq.*, the Township is required either to perform certain specified services on public roads and streets in the Condominium, which is a qualified private community, or to reimburse said Condominium to the extent specified in that statute for the actual costs to the Association of providing said specified services; and

WHEREAS, the Qualified Private Communities in the Township of Verona for the year 2021 are as follows:

1. The Claridges LLC
2. Claridge House I Condominium Association
3. Claridge House II Condominium Association
4. Green Acres/Ardleigh Mews
5. Verona Bloomfield Association
6. 300 Claremont Avenue
7. 284 Claremont Avenue
8. Verona Invest.
9. Kimberly Gardens
10. Kathleen Gardens
11. Beacon Hill
12. Kips Ridge
13. Wedgewood Gardens
14. Commons at Verona
15. Huntington Park; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to enter into a Qualified Private Community Services Agreement with the Qualified Private Communities for purposes of providing reimbursement

for street ice and snow removal, street lighting, solid waste collection and leaf collection where applicable at a rate not to exceed the cost that would be incurred by the municipality in providing those services directly.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, County of Essex, New Jersey that the Township is hereby authorized to enter into 2021 Qualified Private Community Service Agreements with all the Qualified Private Communities for the purpose providing reimbursement for street ice and snow removal, street lighting, solid waste collection and leaf collection where applicable at a rate not to exceed the cost that would be incurred by the municipality in providing those services directly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Manager and the Township Clerk are hereby authorized to execute said agreements on behalf of the Township of Verona to effectuate same.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2021-146

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

**AUTHORIZING A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH
CLARIDGE HOUSE II CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION**

WHEREAS, between 2019 and 2021 issues surrounding the performance of the specified services and the reimbursement by the Township of Verona (hereinafter referred to as "Verona") to the Claridge House II Condominium Association (hereinafter referred to as the "Association") pursuant to New Jersey's Municipal Services Act (hereinafter referred to as the "Act") has caused a dispute between the parties; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Act, *N.J.S.A. 40:67-23.1 et seq.*, the Township is required either to perform certain specified services on roads and streets within the Development, or reimburse the Association to the extent specified in the Act ; and

WHEREAS, the parties have met and amicably resolved the dispute and desire to memorialize the terms and conditions in the form of an agreement (the "Settlement Agreement") resolving the issue of the total reimbursement owed by Verona to the Association from the beginning of time up to October 31, 2021.

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 the Township Clerk are hereby authorized to execute the Settlement Agreement with the Association, in the form attached hereto as *Exhibit A*, with such changes, omissions or amendments as the Township Manager deems appropriate in consultation with the Township Attorney.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2021-147

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

**AUTHORIZING A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH
THE CLARIDGES, LLC**

WHEREAS, between 2019 and 2021 issues surrounding the performance of the specified services and the reimbursement by the Township of Verona (hereinafter referred to as "Verona") to The Claridges, LLC (hereinafter referred to as the "Association") pursuant to New Jersey's

Municipal Services Act (hereinafter referred to as the "Act") has caused a dispute between the parties; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Act, *N.J.S.A. 40:67-23.1 et seq.*, the Township is required either to perform certain specified services on roads and streets within the Development, or reimburse the Association to the extent specified in the Act ; and

WHEREAS, the parties have met and amicably resolved the dispute and desire to memorialize the terms and conditions in the form of an agreement (the "Settlement Agreement") resolving the issue of the total reimbursement owed by Verona to the Association from the beginning of time up to October 31, 2021.

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 the Township Clerk are hereby authorized to execute the Settlement Agreement with the Association, in the form attached hereto as *Exhibit A*, with such changes, omissions or amendments as the Township Manager deems appropriate in consultation with the Township Attorney.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2021-148

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

**AUTHORIZING AN INCREASED CONTRACT WITH MOTT
MACDONALD, LLC FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES RELATED TO THE
PRELIMINARY DESIGN/FINAL DESIGN PHASE & BIDDING PHASE OF
THE PRIMARY CLARIFIER PUMP STATION REHABILITATION**

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 2021-107, the Township Council authorized a contract with Mott MacDonald, LLC for the Preliminary Design/Final Design Phase & Bidding Phase of the Primary Clarifier Pump Station Rehabilitation within the Water/Sewer Utility not to exceed (NTE) \$106,800; and

WHEREAS, the Township has requested design modifications as well as assistance with the preparation and submission of the required documentation to obtain funding from the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank (I-Bank) which are outside the scope of the approved contract; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (*N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(a)(1)(i)*) permits contracts for professional services to be negotiated and awarded by the governing body without public advertising for bids and requires that the resolution authorizing the award of a contract for professional services without competitive bids and the contract itself be available for public inspection; and

WHEREAS, a proposal has been received from Mott MacDonald, LLC for the engineering services related to the increased work NTE an additional \$35,750; and

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer has reviewed the proposal and has recommended that that it would be beneficial to authorized this additional work to Mott MacDonald, LLC; and

WHEREAS, Temporary Chief Financial Officer has certified the availability of funds for this contract, a copy of said Certification is annexed to this Resolution as Exhibit B; and

WHEREAS, the award of the contract to Mott MacDonald, LLC 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 Mott MacDonald have been filed with the Township and are annexed to Resolution No. 2021-107.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey hereby authorizes an increase in the contract for the

Preliminary Design/Final Design Phase & Bidding Phase of the Primary Clarifier Pump Station Rehabilitation within the Water/Sewer Utility in an amount not to exceed (NTE) \$35,750 without further authorization of the Township Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township reserves the right to cancel this contract upon thirty (30) days' notice and Mott MacDonald, LLC shall only be paid for the work completed; furthermore, no minimum amount of work or payment is implied or guaranteed.

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.

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2021-149

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

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH COLLIERS ENGINEERING & DESIGN, INC. FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES RELATED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE WATER UTILITY

WHEREAS, the Township has a need for an engineering firm to develop a Water System Asset Management Plan for the Township's Water Utility pursuant to the requirements of the New Jersey Water Quality Accountability Act (WQAA); and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (*N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(a)(1)(i)*) permits contracts for professional services to be negotiated and awarded by the governing body without public advertising for bids and requires that the resolution authorizing the award of a contract for professional services without competitive bids and the contract itself be available for public inspection; and

WHEREAS, proposals were solicited from four engineering firms including Colliers Engineering & Design, Inc. (\$45,000.00), CME Associates (\$56,206), Mott MacDonald (\$70,000), and Alaimo Group (\$109,700); and

WHEREAS, Colliers Engineering & Design, Inc. has the knowledge and expertise to complete the tasks required; and

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer has recommended that that it would be beneficial to award these contracts to Colliers Engineering & Design, Inc. to provide engineering services; and

WHEREAS, Temporary Chief Financial Officer has certified the availability of funds for this contract, a copy of said Certification is annexed to this Resolution as Exhibit B; and

WHEREAS, the award of the contract to Colliers Engineering & Design, Inc. 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 Colliers Engineering & Design, Inc. have been filed with the Township and are annexed to this Resolution as Exhibit C.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey hereby authorizes a contract be awarded to Colliers Engineering & Design, Inc. (DBA Maser Consulting), 331 Newman Springs Road, Suite 203, Red

Bank, New Jersey 07701 for the development of a Water System Asset Management Plan for the Township's Water Utility pursuant to the requirements of the New Jersey Water Quality Accountability Act (WQAA) not to exceed \$45,000 without further authorization of the Township Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township reserves the right to cancel this contract upon thirty (30) days' notice and Colliers Engineering & Design, Inc. shall only be paid for the work completed; furthermore, no minimum amount of work or payment is implied or guaranteed.

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.

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2021-150

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

**AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH
EG TECHNOLOGY NJ, LLC**

WHEREAS, EG Technology NJ, LLC has provided information technology services for the Police Department and backup information technology services for the Township on a time and materials basis since 2015; and

WHEREAS, EG Technology NJ, LLC has the knowledge and expertise to complete the tasks required; and

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police has recommended and the Township Manager concurs that EG Technology NJ, LLC, 107 East Mount Pleasant Avenue, Suite 4, Livingston, New Jersey 07039 shall be awarded a contract to continue to provide said services in an amount not to exceed \$30,000 in the calendar year; and

WHEREAS, Temporary Chief Financial Officer has certified the availability of funds for this contract, a copy of said Certification is annexed to this Resolution as Exhibit B; and

WHEREAS, the award of the contract to EG Technology NJ, LLC 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 EG Technology NJ, LLC 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 hereby authorizes a contract with EG Technology NJ LLC, 107 East Mount Pleasant Avenue, Suite 4, Livingston, New Jersey 07039 for providing information technology services for the Police Department and backup information technology services for the Township not to exceed \$30,000.00 without further authorization of the Township Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township reserves the right to cancel this contract upon thirty (30) days' notice and EG Technology NJ, LLC shall only be paid for the work completed; furthermore, no minimum amount of work or payment is implied or guaranteed.

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.

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2021-151

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

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH HENDRICKS APPRAISAL COMPANY, LLC

WHEREAS, the Township has a need for professional tax appeal appraisal and added assessment services; and

WHEREAS, the Township Manager has determined that the value of said services will exceed \$17,500.00; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (*N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(a)(1)(i)*) permits contracts for professional services to be negotiated and awarded by the governing body without public advertising for bids and requires that the resolution authorizing the award of a contract for professional services without competitive bids and the contract itself be available for public inspection; and

WHEREAS, Hendricks Appraisal Company, LLC, previously conducted tax appeal appraisal and added assessment services for the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Township Manager has recommended that a contract be authorized with Hendricks Appraisal Company, LLC to provide said services for the Township, when necessary not to exceed \$45,000.00.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that Hendricks Appraisal Company, LLC, 7 Hutton Avenue, West Orange, New Jersey 07052 is hereby awarded a contract for real estate appraisals when necessary, not to exceed \$45,000.00 without further authorization of the Township Council.

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. 2021-152

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

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH MIRACLE CHEMICAL COMPANY

WHEREAS, there exists a need for the purchase of various chemicals used in the operation of Water/Sewer Utility and the Swimming Pool Utility specifically chlorine and soda ash; and

WHEREAS, the Township has already purchased chemicals from Miracle Chemical Company this year totaling \$14,654.77; and

WHEREAS, the Supervising Operator and the Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds has recommended and the Township Manager concurs that Miracle Chemical Company shall be awarded a contract to provide said goods; and

WHEREAS, Temporary Chief Financial Officer has certified the availability of funds for this contract, a copy of said Certification is annexed to this Resolution as Exhibit B; and

WHEREAS, the award of the contract to Miracle Chemical 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 Miracle Chemical 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 W.R. Neumann Company, Inc. d/b/a Miracle Chemical Company, 1151 B Highway #33, Farmingdale, New Jersey 07727 is hereby awarded a contract for the purchase of various chemicals used in the operation of Water/Sewer Utility and the Swimming Pool Utility not to exceed \$25,000.00 without further authorization of the Township Council.

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. 2021-153

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

**AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH
PRECISION ELECTRIC MOTOR WORKS, INC.**

WHEREAS, there exists a need for the acquisition of goods and services for the operation of the Sewer Utility from Precision Electric Motor Works, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, the Township has already received services from Precision Electric Motor Works, Inc. this year totaling \$18,666.00; and

WHEREAS, the Supervising Sewage Plant Operator has recommended and the Township Manager concurs that a contract be authorized with Precision Electric Motor Works, Inc. to

provide said goods and services; and

WHEREAS, Temporary Chief Financial Officer has certified the availability of funds for this contract, a copy of said Certification is annexed to this Resolution as Exhibit B; and

WHEREAS, the award of the contract to Miracle Chemical 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 Miracle Chemical Company have been filed with the Township and are annexed to this Resolution as Exhibit C.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that a contract is hereby authorized for Precision Electric Motor Works, Inc., 18 Sebago Street, Clifton, New Jersey 07013-1924 for providing goods and services not to exceed \$43,500.00 without further authorization of the Township Council.

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. 2021-154

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

REFUNDING ESCROW PAYMENT

WHEREAS, Escrow fees, for the Board of Adjustment, were received from David Lyon, for property located at 168 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	\$151.76	\$348.24

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, \$348.24 to David Lyon, [REDACTED]

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2021-155

A motion was made by Councilman Tamburro; seconded Deputy Mayor 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)*
 - i. P.P. adv Township of Verona
 - ii. County of Essex/K. Hovanian Hilltop at Cedar Grove Property Transfer
 - iii. PBA Contract Negotiations
 - iv. OPEIU Contract Negotiations
 - v. PIRHL
 - vi. BNE CanoeBrook/Spectrum 360

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

New/Unfinished Business:

There is Council the creation of a Flood Advisory Board with Cedar Grove to coordinate efforts within the entities regarding the Peckman River, Pompton Avenue, etc. Council discusses stormwater management. At the next meeting, Mr. Cavallo will present the best approach for debris removal in the Peckman, according to DEP, to the governing body. The County discussed 2021-2023 goal setting. Mayor Roman states that the Downtown Business subcommittee is in the process of scheduling their first meeting.

Public Comment:

Kevin Ryan,
Chris Reilly,

Adjournment:

Council enters into Executive Session at 8:46. Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m. is made by Councilman Tamburro; seconded by Councilman McEvoy.

The next regular scheduled meeting of the Township Council is November 22, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Jennifer Kiernan, Municipal Clerk


Alex Roman, Mayor

APPROVED: November 22, 2021