

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Verona Township Council on Monday, June 27, 2022, 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. 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 at least 48 hours preceding the start time of this meeting. The agenda and public handouts for this meeting can be viewed online at www.veronanj.org/councilmeetings. A public comment period will be held in the order it is listed on the meeting agenda and instructions on how to comment will be provided at the appropriate time.

Roll Call:

Mayor Alex Roman, Deputy Mayor Christine McGrath, Councilman Jack McEvoy Councilwoman Cynthia Holland and Councilman Chris Tamburro are present. Township Manager Joe D’Arco, Township Attorney Brian Aloia and Municipal Clerk Jennifer Kiernan are also present.

Mayor’s Report:

Mayor Roman states Essex County liaison Julius Coltre is attending the meeting via Zoom. Mr. Coltre that there will be fireworks in Branch Brook Park on June 22; Weequahic Park on June 28 and Brookdale Park on July 1. Residents may visit EssexCountyParks.org to see a list of upcoming events. He reminds the public that mosquito season is upon us. Residents can call the hotline at 973-239-3366 x2480 to report issues. Vaccinations and testing will be held at the Sears in Livingston, 112 Eisenhower Parkway on Thursdays and Fridays from 2-7pm and Saturdays from 8am – 2pm and infants can now be vaccinated.

Mayor Roman makes the following appointments to the Environmental Commission:

		Term Expires
i. Jessica Pearson	Chairperson (1 year term)	6/30/2023
ii. Sean DiBartolo Member	(3 year term)	6/30/2025
iii. Michael Auteri Member	(3 year term)	6/30/2025
iv. Anthony Castillo	Alternate #1 (2 year term)	6/30/2024
v. Erdal Turnacioglu	Alternate #2 (unexpired term)	6/30/2023

Mayor Roman reports that given the state of the economy, it’s highly possible for an interest hike by the Federal government and asks the Township be cognizant and is looking to see what the 2023 budget looks like as he would like to build surplus. The first draft of the Master Plan was received and the Planning Board will hold a Special Meeting on July 21 to present the draft to the public.

Manager’s Report:

Township Manager Joe D’Arco reports that Michael DeCarlo is absent and the tree ordinance presentation will be on a future agenda. Mr. D’Arco announces that Peter Lupo of Hoplite is present tonight to give a presentation on 5-G. He will be present at the July 11 meeting to give a more thorough presentation.

Mr. D’Arco invites Steven Neale to give a presentation to the Council on the ADA compliant playground and exercise area at the Community Center and the zero entry for the baby pool.

The Township Manager reports that a sump pump draft ordinance is under review and will be brought to the Council at the next meeting. The ordinance mandates removal of sumps from channeling discharged water into the storm sewers, which is essential to implement as it is a contributing factor to slowing the INI into the wastewater.

Councilmember’s Reports:

Deputy Mayor McGrath congratulates the Verona High School Class of 2002. The MIAAC met

and will present a calendar of events to the Council. She met the new ADA manager. The Deputy Mayor submitted the following statement in writing upon addressing the public: *“The Supreme Court ruling last week on NY’s conceal carry law directly impacts the conceal carry permitting process in NJ. While information is still forthcoming from the Acting Attorney General, it is expected that 200K NJ residents will soon apply for and receive conceal carry permits. It is my personal opinion that more individuals carrying guns in our state will not make us safer. This puts incredible strain on our police force and endangers their lives. It is my opinion that this will result in more gun incidents and violence over time. I have asked the police chief if he would come to a future council meeting to review the conceal carry permitting process with us. Additionally, due to the ruling, the Legislature will soon consider a bill to ban guns from certain places, such as bars and government buildings. We will have to see if we can also ban guns from additional spaces in Verona, such as our recreation facilities and parks. Finally, this will impact our business community as well. It may be written into future legislation that private businesses can also decide whether or not they will allow guns in their stores and restaurants. We may need to help businesses navigate this. Guns just became a very local issue in NJ. I look forward to working with my colleagues here as we navigate these changes and focus on keeping Verona residents and our police officers safe.*

I also want to address the state of women’s rights. Since the Supreme Court decision to overturn Roe, the conversations I have had with residents in the last few days have uncovered a range of emotions. Phrases that were once unthinkable – such as “forced birth” and “criminal charges for having a miscarriage” are now being said with increasing frequency. Parents are wondering if they should allow their children to leave the state to go to college – as it is not assured that their children would be able to access urgent and lifesaving medical care should they need it. Women’s access to the full range of reproductive medical services in NJ now precariously is protected by the state legislature, which can change in composition at any time. In my personal opinion, if you are a woman, and these issues matter to you, then you should run for office, because women do not have equal representation in our government. Let’s use NJ as an example. There are actually only a small handful of local governments in NJ that ever elected a majority of women. The State Legislature has 34% of its 120 seats being held by women. Only 2 of our 14 Congress people from NJ are women, and a woman has never represented NJ in the Senate. These numbers are simply not acceptable. So, if you are concerned about equal rights, access to appropriate healthcare, reducing maternal death, reducing gun violence the impacts our children, and eliminating childhood hunger – you need to run for office. The best way to make progress in these areas is to have a seat at the table.

Councilman McEvoy congratulates the VHS Class of ‘22. He attended the Juneteenth celebration but stated that the turnout was not good. He mentioned that he thought it would have been a better turnout if the public was alerted that our future Congressional representative was going to be present. The Councilman requests to have the Township Zoning Officer available at the next meeting to provide an update on the tree ordinance. The Councilman thanks the DPW for their hard work during the past few weeks along the Bloomfield avenue corridor with clean up and tree trimming.

Councilman Tamburro thanks interim Superintendent Dr. Furnari for her work with the School District. He thanks the police and DPW for being present at graduation. He comments that the Council was not notified that Congressman Payne would be attending the Juneteenth flag raising ceremony. He reports that Officer Steve Young retired Saturday and wishes him well. He wishes the public a Happy Independence Day.

Councilwoman Holland submitted her report in writing: *“I’d like to offer my sincere congratulations to all of the Verona graduates. It is so positive after COVID to have seen all of the year end celebrations occurring throughout town. We wish you all the best as you embark on the next step in your journey. I was invited to attend a student-led rally in Caldwell (the former home of Justice Alito) for women’s access to healthcare, which is particularly important in these challenging times. I attended with my youngest daughter. I’m grateful that my two daughters and I live in NJ, but I cannot deny the statistics that Deputy Mayor McGrath mentioned.*

I attended the most recent meeting of the Recreational Advisory Committee - where we discussed our various programs and upcoming projects. We were also introduced to our new hire, who has already hit the ground running on disability programming in the community. I’m very excited about that. Included in that discussion with the Rec committee was reference to our fireworks display for Independence Day - which we will hold on July 1, 2022. These are very exciting celebrations of our freedom that are well loved by our residents. Relatedly, I was honored to speak at the Verona Juneteenth celebration. We had representatives from NAACP, Mikie Sherril’s office, and, of course, Congressman Donald Payne Jr, who will become our congressional representative next year. I want to thank Mr. Neale for organizing this event and all the hard work he put into it - and I understand that some of these items come together late, especially when it is raining. I mention this celebration in the same breath that I mention our national independence because I think this distinction is particularly meaningful. Frederick Douglass famously spoke about the meaning of

Independence Day to African Americans in 1852... Subsequently, the nation divided and fought a bloody Civil War. Juneteenth is ultimately a wonderful celebration of freedom for African Americans from slavery - who were not freed in this country when we declared our Independence from Britain - indeed, notwithstanding the Emancipation Proclamation, effective in January 1863, its enforcement only took effect as Northern troops advanced into the Southern Confederacy and even later in more western corners of the Confederacy - like Texas. With this understanding, I think it is particularly meaningful that Verona celebrated Juneteenth for the second year in a row and that we continue to grow this event.

Verona is a Township that welcomes all people; that is absolutely something to celebrate."

Hearing Adoption or Amendment Ordinances:

ORDINANCE No. 2022-18

ESTABLISHING A NEW CHAPTER 395 "PUBLIC UTILITIES CONSTRUCTION AND POLE INSTALLATION AND REPLACEMENT"

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance No. 2022-18 by title into record.

Motion to move Ordinance No. 2022-18 is moved by Councilman Tamburro; seconded by Deputy Mayor McGrath.

Public Hearing:

None.

Council discussion.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

Ordinance No. 2022-18 is adopted 5-0 and will be published according to law.

Proposed Ordinances:

ORDINANCE No. 2022-19

**REPEALING CHAPTER 460, ARTICLE II (§460-8 THROUGH 19)
"EXCAVATIONS" IN ITS ENTIRETY AND ESTABLISHING A NEW
CHAPTER 410 "ROAD EXCAVATIONS AND AMEND CHAPTER A175 OF
THE CODE ENTITLED FEES IN ORDER TO INCLUDE THE FEES FOR
ROAD OPENING"**

Motion to introduce Ordinance No. 2022-19 is moved by Councilwoman Holland; seconded by Deputy Mayor McGrath.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman

NAYS: McEvoy

ABSTAIN: Tamburro

Ordinance No. 2022-19 is introduced by a vote of 3-2. It will be published according to law and a public hearing will be held on July 11, 2022.

ORDINANCE No. 2022-20

ESTABLISHING CHAPTER 435 "SMOKING PROHIBITED"

Motion to introduce Ordinance No. 2022-20 is moved by Deputy Mayor McGrath; seconded by Councilman Tamburro.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

Ordinance No. 2022-20 is introduced by a vote of 5-0. It will be published according to law and a public hearing will be held on July 11, 2022.

Minutes from the June 13, 2022 Meeting are approved unanimously.

Public Comment on Consent Agenda Items:

Howard Conklin, 247 Grove Avenue, Verona, New Jersey

RESOLUTION No. 2022-118

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

**ACCEPTING THE BID AND AWARDING THE CONTRACT FOR
CONTRACT #2022-10 PROPOSED ADA IMPROVEMENTS AT THE
MUNICIPAL BUILDING TO GROVE CONTRACTING LLC**

WHEREAS, on June 8, 2022, the Township of Verona received bids for ADA Improvements at the Municipal Building – Contract No. 2022-10; and

WHEREAS, bids were received from ADP, 27 E 33rd Street, Paterson, New Jersey 07514 and Grove Contracting, Inc., 70 Durrell Street, Verona, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Grove Contracting, Inc., 70 Durrell Street, Verona, New Jersey 07044 was the lowest responsive and responsible bidder in the required amount of \$215,050.00; and

WHEREAS, the Township Attorney has reviewed the bid submitted by Grove Contracting, LLC. and has recommended the award of the contract.

WHEREAS, funds are available in Ordinance 2021-13 and have been certified by the Chief Financial Officer. This expenditure may also be charged to any other account which may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or his designee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the bid from Grove Contracting, LLC, 70 Durrell Street, Verona, New Jersey 07044 be accepted and it be awarded Contract No. 2022-10 in the required contract amount of \$195,000; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this expenditure shall be charged against the 2020 CDBG Grant and Ordinance 2018-21 (Account No. C-53-46-036-004) 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: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2022-119

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

**ACCEPTING THE BID AND AWARDING THE CONTRACT FOR
CONTRACT #2022-11 RECONSTRUCTION OF ANN STREET,
CYPRESS AVENUE, STEVEN AVENUE AND WILLOW TERRACE TO
MIDWEST CONSTRUCTION, INC.**

WHEREAS, on June 8, 2022, the Township of Verona received bids for the Reconstruction of Ann Street, Cypress Avenue, Steven Avenue and Willow Terrace – Contract No. 2022-11; and

WHEREAS, bids were received from Midwest Construction, Inc., Warren, New Jersey; Cifelli & Sons, Nutley, New Jersey; KM Construction, Irvington, New Jersey; DLS, Fairfield, New Jersey and D&L, Nutley, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Midwest Construction, Inc., 70 Dead River Road, Warren, New Jersey 07059 was the lowest responsive and responsible bidder in the required amount of \$2,203,810.60; and

WHEREAS, the Township Attorney has reviewed the bid submitted by Grove Contracting, LLC. and has recommended the award of the contract.

WHEREAS, funds are available in Ordinance 2021-26(A) and have been certified by the Chief Financial Officer. This expenditure may also be charged to any other account which may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or his designee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the bid from Midwest Construction, Inc., 70 Dead River Road, Warren, New Jersey 07059 be accepted and it be awarded Contract No. 2022-11 in the required contract amount of \$2,203,810.60; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this expenditure shall be charged against the 2020 NJDOT Grant and Ordinance 2021-26(A) (Account No. C-53-46-037-001 4) 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: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2022-120

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

**ACCEPTING THE BID AND AWARDING THE CONTRACT FOR
CONTRACT #2022-12 RECONSTRUCTION OF ANN STREET,
CYPRESS AVENUE, STEVEN AVENUE AND WILLOW TERRACE -
WATER & SEWER TO JOHN GARCIA CONSTRUCTION, INC.**

WHEREAS, on June 8, 2022, the Township of Verona received bids for the Reconstruction of Ann Street, Cypress Avenue, Steven Avenue and Willow Terrace – Water& Sewer – Contract No. 2022-12; and

WHEREAS, bids were received from John Garcia Construction, Inc., 183 Friar Lane, Clifton, New Jersey 07013; Schauger Property, 429 Dodd Street, East Orange, New Jersey 07107 and Crossroads Paving, 386 South Street, Newark, New Jersey 07105; and

WHEREAS, John Garcia Construction, Inc., 183 Friar Lane, Clifton, New Jersey 07013 was the lowest responsive and responsible bidder in the required amount of \$703,780.88; and

WHEREAS, the Township Attorney has reviewed the bid submitted by John Garcia Construction, Inc. and has recommended the award of the contract.

WHEREAS, funds are available in Ordinance 2022-11 and have been certified by the Chief Financial Officer. This expenditure may also be charged to any other account which may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or his designee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the bid from John Garcia Construction, Inc., 183 Friar Lane, Clifton, New Jersey 07013 be accepted and it be awarded Contract No. 2022-12 in the required contract amount of \$703,780.88; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this expenditure shall be charged against Ordinance 2022-11 (Account No. C-51-44-995-001) 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: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2022-121

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

AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT FOR 5G CONSULTANT

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Township of Verona (the "Municipality") to retain a Consultant (the "Consultant" or "Designee") to provide municipal services with regard to the Municipality's communication carriers, carrier agreements and wireless communications facilities, in particular, the installation of next generation mobile networks in the public right-of-way as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5; and,

WHEREAS, the Administration has determined and certified in writing that the value of the service may exceed \$17,500; and,

WHEREAS, the Municipality desires to appoint Hoplite Communications, LLC, with offices at 197 Route 18, Suite 3000, East Brunswick, NJ 08816, as a Consultant and Designee to provide municipal services with regard to the Municipality's communications carriers; and

WHEREAS, Consultant has provided a copy of its consulting proposal, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, Hoplite Communications will serve as Consultant through December 31, 2022.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, County of Essex in the State of New Jersey that Hoplite Communications be and is hereby appointed as a Consultant to the Municipality to provide municipal services with regard to the Municipality's communication carriers as set forth in its summary of services attached hereto and made a part hereof.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Consultant will provide its services to the Municipality for the term ending December 31, 2021.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Hoplite has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Hoplite has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Verona in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit the Hoplite from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Manager is authorized to enter into a professional services contract with Hoplite Communications, LLC in accordance with this Resolution.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2022-122

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

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH EDMUNDS & ASSOCIATES, INC.

WHEREAS, there exists a need to renew the software maintenance for the Edmunds System; and

WHEREAS, services such as support and/or maintenance of proprietary hardware and software may be awarded without competitive bidding pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(dd)*; and

WHEREAS, the Qualified Purchasing Agent concurs that Edmunds & Associates, Inc. shall be awarded a contract to provide said 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 Edmunds & Associates 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 Edmunds & Associates, Inc. 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 Edmunds & Associates, Inc., 301A Tilton Road, Northfield, NJ 08225 is hereby awarded a contract for the software maintenance for the Edmunds software system not to exceed \$28,000.00.

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. 2022-122

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

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH EDMUNDS & ASSOCIATES, INC.

WHEREAS, there exists a need to renew the software maintenance for the Edmunds System; and

WHEREAS, services such as support and/or maintenance of proprietary hardware and software may be awarded without competitive bidding pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(dd)*; and

WHEREAS, the Qualified Purchasing Agent concurs that Edmunds & Associates, Inc. shall be awarded a contract to provide said 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 Edmunds & Associates 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 Edmunds & Associates, Inc. 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 Edmunds & Associates, Inc., 301A Tilton Road, Northfield, NJ 08225 is hereby awarded a contract for the software maintenance for the Edmunds software system not to exceed \$28,000.00.

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. 2022-123

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

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH SUBURBAN SPORTS GROUP, LLC

WHEREAS, the Recreation Department's athletic programs require gaming officials; and

WHEREAS, the Suburban Sports Group (SSG), in Cedar Grove, New Jersey provides officials for youth basketball and soccer games throughout the calendar year; and

WHEREAS, SSG is the only local service vendor providing officials to multiple New Jersey municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the Qualified Purchasing Agent has determined that the value of said services has exceeded \$17,500.00 which is annexed this Resolution as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, funds are available to award contracts for the services listed shall be charged to the budget accounts or capital ordinances listed on the availability of funds, a copy of said Certification is annexed to this Resolution as Exhibit B; and

WHEREAS, the award of the contract to Suburban Sports Group 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 SSG have been filed with the Township and are annexed to this Resolution as Exhibit C; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that Suburban Sports Group, LLC, 7 Vreeland Avenue, Cedar Grove, New Jersey 07009 is hereby awarded a contract for providing gaming officials for programs offered by the Recreation Department not to exceed \$19,000; 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 Director of Community Services 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 Municipal Clerk.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2022-124

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

AUTHORIZING THE INSERTION INTO THE CY2021 MUNICIPAL BUDGET PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (CHAPTER 159, P.L. 1948) OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE FORM OF THE CLEAN COMMUNITIES GRANT

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87* provides that the Director of the Division of Local

Government Services (the "Director") may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such items shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and,

WHEREAS, said Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for an equal amount; and,

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona has received \$27,445.90 from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection in the form of the Clean Communities Grant and wishes to amend its CY2022 Municipal Budget to include this amount as a revenue.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey hereby requests the Director to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the CY2022 Municipal Budget in the sum of \$27,445.90 which is now available as revenue from:

Miscellaneous Revenues - Section F:
Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated with Prior Written Consent of Director of Local Government Services –
Public and Private Revenues Offset with Appropriations:
Clean Communities Grant.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the CY2022 Municipal Budget in the like sum of \$27,445.90 appropriated under the caption of:

General Appropriations:
(A) Operations - Excluded from "CAPS"
Public and Private Revenues Offset with Appropriations:
Clean Communities Grant

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution will be electronically filed with the Director for approval as required by law.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2022-125

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

ACCEPTING THE AWARD OF THE 2022 CLEAN COMMUNITIES GRANT

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona has been awarded a grant in the sum of \$27,445.90 from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection for the 2022 Clean Communities Program to help Verona conduct litter cleanups that improve the quality of life in New Jersey's communities; and

WHEREAS, the Township's contribution toward the grant will be the zero dollars.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the Township of Verona is hereby authorized to accept for this grant in the amount of \$27,445.90.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Manager, Municipal Clerk and any other officer deemed appropriate are hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to accept this grant.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2022-126

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

**AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN APPLICATION FOR
COOPERATIVE PURCHASING**

WHEREAS, P.L. 2011, c. 139 permits local contracting units to utilize national cooperative contracts as a method of procurement; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona has the opportunity to utilize cooperative purchasing to obtain discount pricing; and

WHEREAS, the Keystone Purchasing Network (KPN) is a program of the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit, No. 16, an educational agency established by a law passed by the Pennsylvania Legislature in 1971 and is available to municipalities, counties, state agencies, councils of government, school districts; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has issued two (2) Local Finance Bulletins (2011-35 and 2012-10) to provide guidance to municipalities and units of local government on the procedures to effectively utilize national cooperative purchasing programs; and

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Agent, utilizing the New Jersey Local Finance Bulletins and documentation received from the KPN, has verified that the KPN is a valid actual cooperative purchasing program as defined for use by P.L. 2011, Chapter 139 and that advertised competitive sealed bidding is utilized by KPN for its procurement which satisfies requirements listed in the Local Finance Bulletins; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey, that an application to utilize the KPN National Cooperative Purchasing Program as defined and regulated by New Jersey is hereby authorized and that the Township Manager and the Township Clerk are authorized to enter into any and all agreements required for such membership.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2022-127

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

**AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF
2022 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 2022 are as follows:

1. The Claridges LLC (*agreement executed through 2024*)
2. Claridge House II Condominium Association (*agreement executed through 2024*)
3. Green Acres/Ardleigh Mews
4. Verona Bloomfield Association
5. 300 Claremont Avenue
6. 284 Claremont Avenue
7. Verona Invest.
8. Kimberly Gardens
9. Kathleen Gardens
10. Beacon Hill
11. Kips Ridge
12. Wedgewood Gardens
13. Commons at Verona

14. 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 2022 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. 2022-128

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

**APPROVAL OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION
LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWALS**

WHEREAS, the submitted renewal application forms are complete in all respects and the applicants are qualified to be licensed according to all standards established by *N.J.S.A. 33* and regulations promulgated thereunder, as well as pertinent local ordinances and conditions consistent with Title 33; and

WHEREAS, the following licensees have obtained a Tax Clearance Certificate from the New Jersey Division of Taxation.

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 following applications for renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption License be granted, effective July 1, 2022; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Municipal Clerk is hereby authorized to sign and issue said license certificates to the following applicants:

0720-33-007-008 470 Bloomfield Avenue Inc., dba AVENUE BISTRO
558 Bloomfield Avenue
Verona, New Jersey

0720-33-006-014 Amadeo, Inc., dba MIELE’S RESTAURANT
125 Bloomfield Avenue
Verona, New Jersey

0720-33-008-005 RJV Corporation, dba RICHFIELD REGENCY
420 Bloomfield Avenue
Verona, New Jersey

0720-33-011-010 Verona Liquor License LLC, dba VERONA INN
624 Bloomfield Avenue
Verona, New Jersey

0720-33-004-010 Watchung Spirits, LLC dba THE PARKSIDE SOCIAL
706 Bloomfield Avenue

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2022-129

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

**APPROVAL OF PLENARY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION
LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWALS**

WHEREAS, the submitted renewal application forms are complete in all respects and the applicants are qualified to be licensed according to all standards established by *N.J.S.A. 33* and regulations promulgated thereunder, as well as pertinent local ordinances and conditions consistent with Title 33; and

WHEREAS, the following licensees have obtained a Tax Clearance Certificate from the New Jersey Division of Taxation.

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 following applications for renewal of Plenary Retail Distribution License be granted, effective July 1, 2022; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Municipal Clerk be and is hereby authorized to sign and issue said license certificates to the following applicants:

0720-44-010-009 Ami & Tithi LLC
t/a KRAUSER'S LIQUOR LOCKER
645 Bloomfield Avenue
Verona, New Jersey

0720-44-001-003 Hinaxi, LLC
t/a VERONA WINE CELLAR
360 Bloomfield Avenue
Verona, New Jersey

0720-44-003-005 Vallabh Krupa Inc.
t/a PILGRIM LIQUORS
283 Pompton Avenue
Verona, New Jersey

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2022-130

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

**DESIGNATING THE REGULAR, CONFERENCE AND LEGAL
MEETING DATES OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL FOR 2022-2023**

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 and via Zoom conferencing platform as deemed necessary, 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 25, 2022	Monday, February 6, 2023
Monday, August 8, 2022	Monday, February 27, 2023
Monday, August 22, 2022	Monday, March 13, 2023
Monday, September 19, 2022	Monday, April 3, 2023
Monday, October 17, 2022	Monday, April 17, 2023
Monday, November 21, 2022	Monday, May 1, 2023
Monday, December 5, 2022	Monday, May 15, 2023
Monday, December 19, 2022	Monday, June 12, 2023
Monday, January 9, 2023	Monday, June 26, 2023
Monday, January 23, 2023	Friday, July 1, 2023 <i>time and location TBD</i>

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2022-131

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

**APPROVING VERONA COMMUNITY POOL RULES AND REGULATIONS
FOR THE 2022 POOL SEASON**

WHEREAS, the Verona Community Pool 2022 Season runs from Memorial Day Weekend and all weekends thereafter until Friday, June 24, 2022 when the pool will then be open to members full time through Labor Day, September 5, 2022 and;

WHEREAS, pool membership is available to Verona residents only who may purchase guest passes as needed;

WHEREAS, pursuant to *N.J.A.C. 8:26-1 et seq.*, all pool facilities must comply with existing sanitation and safety regulatory requirements for recreational bathing facilities to preserve public health set forth in the New Jersey State Sanitary Code regulations.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex and State of New Jersey approve the following rules for the 2022 Verona Community Pool season:

- A. The following rules and regulations are for the benefit of all members. They have been established to ensure safe and sanitary operation of the pool facilities. All members are to obey all rules and regulations as well as instructions of the Manager and staff employees at all times. Parents must read and explain these rules to their children. Any failure to comply with these rules shall be considered sufficient cause for immediate suspension of pool privileges of the offending person by

management. The Verona Pool management shall establish additional rules as required.

1. All members will be issued identification tags which must be shown at the front gate for admission to the pool.
2. Membership in the Verona Community Pool is limited to Verona residents only. Members are allowed in the pool facility only during regular operating hours.
3. Lost membership tags must be reported to the Front Office or Office of Community Services immediately.
4. Members and guests must comply with the rules. Members are responsible for their guests.
5. Only adult memberships can purchase a guest pass.
6. The babysitter badge, can only be used when the babysitter is with the children listed on the same membership.
7. All children under age 12 must be accompanied by an adult (18 years of age or over) to be admitted to the pool complex.
8. Parents are responsible for their children. An adult must accompany children 5 and under at all times.
9. All coolers will be inspected before entering the pool grounds. No glass, glass containers or alcohol is permitted in the pool and will be confiscated.
10. Illegal transfer of badges, giving of false information or defacing of identification badges will result in revocation or suspension of membership. False or misleading representation on the pool membership application will result in an automatic revocation of the pool membership.
11. All persons shall shower before entering the water.
12. Dressing and undressing is permitted only in the locker room; discretion must be used in the locker rooms when showering/dressing.
13. Diapers must be changed in the rest room area and disposed of in the container provided. Absolutely no changing of diapers on picnic tables.
14. According to N.J.A.C. 8:26-5.4, all children in diapers must wear plastic pants with snug fitting elastic waist and leg bands when entering pool.
15. Please remember that we have a gender neutral/family restroom that is available to use at the pool. Parents & caregivers should not bring children over the age of 6 into the rest room of their opposite gender parent or caregiver and instead use the family restroom.
16. Patrons who occupy tables must be present on the pool premises.
17. Tables designated for the disabled are to be only used by pool members with a person with disability present.
18. The pool staff are not responsible for valuables brought into the pool.
19. Only children up to the age of 6 will be permitted in the baby pool.
20. Thor Guard will sound one long horn to notify lightning is in the area. The Thor Guard will sound three short horns to notify the lightning has passed and all is safe.
21. Pool patrons are not permitted to put up personal tents or umbrellas on pool property.
22. Portable radios, television sets and/or music players of all types must be used with earphones.
23. Consumption of alcoholic beverages is strictly prohibited on pool property.
24. Persons suspected of being under the influence of drugs or alcohol will be removed from the pool facilities.
25. Smoking of any kind is not allowed on the pool grounds or in the pool parking lot.
26. There shall be no animals, littering, glass or breakable containers allowed.

27. Any person having a communicable disease, open blisters, cuts, sore or inflamed eyes, ears, nose or mouth infections, excessive sunburn or any type of skin disease will be excluded from the pool area.
28. Report any sign of a fecal accident to the manager immediately. Following a fecal accident in any pool, the pool will be cleared of swimmers for a minimum of one hour. The chlorine residual will be immediately checked and adjusted appropriately. This is by recommendation of the Board of Health.
29. No one is allowed in any pool unless a lifeguard is on duty.
30. During weekend adult swims, only 1 child, 5 years old or younger may accompany one adult.
31. Only the Verona Pool provided Life Vests are permitted in the pool. No other floatation devices are allowed at any time.
32. No diving into the pool except from the diving boards. Jump feet first only off the 5 ft. wall.
33. Deep water test may be required for use of any diving board or slide. Goggles cannot be worn on the slide or diving boards.
34. No horseplay of any kind in the pool or pool areas. No balls, toys, etc. permitted in the pool or on the deck/grass areas around the pools. Balls may be used only in the recreation area.
35. Any conduct that endangers the safety of others or other patrons' use of the facilities shall be prohibited. No profanity, harassment, intimidation, or bullying of patrons or staff will be tolerated.
36. There shall be no running or throwing of objects.
37. Unnecessary spouting of water, snapping of towels, roughness, or other conduct affecting the safety and comfort of others, shall not be permitted.
38. Following items are strictly enforced in the pool perimeter;
 - Walking of bicycles within the pool gates.
 - Skate Boards will be turned into the office.
 - Water pistols of any kind are prohibited.
39. No loitering in the vicinity of Lifeguard stands, entrance ladders, stairs or ramp.
40. Destruction of or defacing of pool property will result in suspension or revocation of membership and expulsion from the pool grounds.
41. Board of Health Rules and Commission Rules prohibit urination on the pool grounds or in the pool water.
42. Swimmers are required to clear the water 20 minutes prior to closing.
43. The Pool Manager or Assistant Manager may close or limit the swimming pool facilities whenever, in their judgment, such action is deemed necessary or desirable for safe operation of the pool.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township of Council of the Township of Verona hereby approves the 2022 Community Pool Stason rules and authorize the Director of Community Services to establish and enforce these rules as deemed necessary.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2022-132

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor McGrath; seconded by Councilwoman Holland 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 546 Bloomfield Avenue owned by KWC & HZ, Block 1703 lot 68 as follows:

Year	Assessment Reduced	Tax Rate	Refund
2018	88,000	3.159	2,779.92

Total Refund \$2,779.92

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chief Financial Officer and Tax Collector be authorized to refund \$2,779.92 to:

Jennifer Jacobus Trustee for KWC & HZ Corp
201 Littleton Road, Suite 100
Morris Plains, NJ 07950

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2022-133

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

PERMITTING ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

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

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

The public shall be excluded from discussion of an action upon the hereinafter specified subject matter.

2. Pending, Ongoing, or Anticipated Litigation and Contract Negotiations pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (7)*
 - 251 ½ Grove Avenue
 - OPRA – ESX-L-9636-21/ESX-L-8549-21
 - Clairidge Water

3. Purchase, lease, or acquisition of real property with public funds pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (5)*
 - 25 Commerce Court
 - 174 Sunset Avenue
 - Cook Lane
 - Everett Field

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

New Business:

There is continued discussion on 2021-2023 goals. Mayor Roman discusses the possibility of setting up a Finance subcommittee. Township Attorney Brian Aloia states that the committee appointments are not going to be made this evening as the Council will discuss a confidential matter regarding committees in Executive Session.

Public Comment:

None.

Council enters into Executive Session at 10:01 p.m. and Mayor Roman states no official action will

be taken when coming back to Public Session and adjourning the meeting.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting is made by Councilman Tamburro; seconded Mayor Roman by at 10:47 p.m. The next regular scheduled meeting of the Township Council is July 11, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Jennifer Kiernan, Municipal Clerk


Alex Roman, Mayor

APPROVED: July 25, 2022