

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Verona Township Council on Monday, July 11, 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 and Councilwoman Cynthia Holland are present. Township Manager Joe D'Arco, Township Attorney Victoria Lucido, Esq., of the Aloia Law Firm and Municipal Clerk Jennifer Kiernan are also present. Councilman Chris Tamburro is absent.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Roman states Essex County liaison Julius Coltre to the lectern. Mr. Coltre reports that a second irrigation system has been placed in Verona Lake. The Jersey Tenors will play in Brookdale Park on July 15. Movies Under the Stars will be held again this summer. Information can be found on the County's Park website. Vaccinations and testing continue to 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 thanks Jim Cunningham and Dave Rowbotham, the Police Department, Fire Department, Rescue Squad and DPW for the Fourth of July Fireworks celebration at Liberty Field. This week's Summer Concert will be sponsored by PBA Local #72. He congratulates Jen Critchley and Amy DePaul, both appointed judges to the Superior Court of Essex County.

Manager's Report:

Township Manager Joe D'Arco reports that the Fair Share Housing hearing was originally June 30 but rescheduled for today, July 11. The Court recognized the change in counsel for the Township, which is now Paul Kaufman of DeCotiis, FitzPatrick, Cole and Giblin, LLP, and rescheduled the hearing for July 18. He states that the Township should be in good shape. He has received the final report for the Water Asset Inventory and will forward to the Council for their review. He reports that everything else is moving satisfactory and the Township is now on schedule on most of its major projects. In regards to the PIRHL project, interest rates have climbed and the financing has changed and there will be a discussion at some point in the future, but the demolition of the factory is on track. He reiterates that the interest rates is PIRHL's responsibility on the construction side. The Township was responsible for the funding for the demolitions and additional funding was required for decontamination, but our bonding and budgeting is still on track. Mr. D'Arco will discuss further in Executive Session.

Mr. D'Arco discusses the pool playground and zero entry baby pool project as well as the tennis court re-tiling and incorporation of a pickle ball court. Steven Neale reports that as of now, there is no update on the pool project plans, but the Township has narrowed it down to one (1) contractor and the Township has begun discussing financing with them.

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 thanks the Township staff for the amazing fireworks. She states it was a

great turnout. She congratulates Jen Critchley and Amy DePaul on their judicial appointments. The Green Team met for their reorganizational meeting. The new Chairperson is Danielle Fink. Ms. Fink would like to speak to each council member individually and attend a meeting in September.

Councilman McEvoy echoes previous comments. He reports that the July 4th celebration was fantastic. He thanks the Recreation Department, VPD, VFD and the Rescue Squad. He congratulates Amy DePaul and Jen Critchley and is happy the State Senate confirmed a total of six (6) judges. He states that the Community Market location has been moved to the Civic Center and will be held on Sundays in July from 10am – 2pm and start up again in September.

Councilwoman Holland reports that the fireworks were great. She congratulates the judicial appointees and is also glad the Senate made those appointments as there are so many backlog cases in the courts.

Hearing Adoption or Amendment Ordinances:

ORDINANCE No. 2022-16

**AMENDMENT TO ZONING ORDINANCE, SPECIFICALLY
CHAPTER 150 SECTION 11.7 ENTITLED PLANT SELECTION AND
PLACEMENT**

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance No. 2022-16 by title into record.

Motion to move Ordinance No. 2022-16 is moved by Councilman McEvoy; seconded by Deputy Mayor McGrath.

Public Hearing:
None.

Council discussion.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

ABSENT: Tamburro

Ordinance No. 2022-16 is adopted 4-0 and will be published according to law.

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
A565 OF THE CODE ENTITLED FEES IN ORDER TO INCLUDE THE
FEES FOR ROAD OPENING”**

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance No. 2022-19 by title into record.

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

Public Hearing:
None.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

ABSENT: Tamburro

Ordinance No. 2022-19 is adopted 4-0 and will be published according to law.

**TOWNSHIP OF VERONA
COUNTY OF ESSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

ORDINANCE No. 2022-20

ESTABLISHING CHAPTER 435 "SMOKING PROHIBITED"

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance No. 2022-20 by title into record.

Motion to move Ordinance No. 2022-20 is moved by Deputy Mayor McGrath; seconded by Councilwoman Holland.

Public Hearing:

None.

Council Discussion:

Mayor Roman requests that the ban on public sidewalks be reconsidered. He received a comment from a resident about banning smoking on sidewalks, as stated in the ordinance. The Mayor states it may be a bridge too far as people who live in smoke-free apartments may want to step outside and may not have a parking lot and therefore may be a concern. The Township Attorney is asked to opine if the ordinance will require re-introduction if the word "sidewalks" is struck from section 435-B of the ordinance. Ms. Lucido states that since it is not a substantial change of clarification, it can still go forward. Mayor Roman makes a motion to strike the word "sidewalks" from section 435-B from the proposed ordinance; seconded by Deputy Mayor McGrath. Voice Vote: Ayes, 4; Nays, 0; (Absent, Tamburro). Councilman McEvoy states that his statement from last week still stands as he does not think it's fair that if someone is walking through our complex here or smoking a cigarette while walking their dog through the Civic Center to be subject to a penalty. He feels it is a little too strict and that most people who do smoke are respectable and look out for others if there's a crowd. He agrees that the ordinance is necessary to have in place for sports fields and the like, but feels this is places a burden unduly to the public.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman

NAYS: McEvoy

ABSENT: Tamburro

Ordinance No. 2022-20 is adopted 3-1 and will be published according to law.

Prior to approving the meeting minutes from June 27, 2022, Mayor Roman states that Councilman McEvoy sent some clarifications to his report. Township Manager Joe D'Arco states that the Municipal Clerk will refer back to the recording just to make sure the edits are correct and therefore the Council may wish to set the approval aside.

Mr. D'Arco further states that Council Members reading statements into the record the night of the meeting should hand those statements in writing to the Clerk so that is exactly the statement the council member has read. Mr. D'Arco verbally notes that he sees Counsel nodding, and that he got this right so he recommends that the minutes be tabled so the Clerk can verify the suggested correction.

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
Verona, New Jersey

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.

1. 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

2. 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