

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

RESOLUTION No. 2022-175

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

**RENEWAL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA AS A PARTICIPATING
MEMBER OF A COOPERATIVE PURCHASING SYSTEM NAMED THE
SUSTAINABLE ESSEX ALLIANCE ENERGY PROCUREMENT
COOPERATIVE (SEAEPC), WITH THE TOWNSHIP OF MAPLEWOOD AS
LEAD AGENCY, FOR THE PURPOSE PURCHASING ELECTRIC
GENERATION SERVICES FOR RESIDENTS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
VERONA VIA A GOVERNMENT ENERGY AGGREGATION PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, on May 7, 2018 the Township of Verona (“Verona”) adopted Ordinance No. 2018-10 establishing a Government Energy Aggregation program in accordance with the provisions of the Government Energy Aggregation Act, *N.J.S.A. 48:3-93.1 et seq.* for the purpose of obtaining cleaner energy at as low a cost as possible for residential and business participants through a GEA program; and

WHEREAS, on April 3, 2018 the Township of Maplewood (“Maplewood”) adopted Ordinance No. 2899-18 establishing a Government Energy Aggregation (“GEA”) program in accordance with the provisions of the Government Energy Aggregation Act, *N.J.S.A. 48:3-93.1 et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, on March 21, 2022 Verona adopted Ordinance No. 2022-07 reestablishing a Government Energy Aggregation (“GEA”) program in accordance with the provisions of the Government Energy Aggregation Act, *N.J.S.A. 48:3-93.1 et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, on April 3, 2018 Maplewood adopted Resolution No. 78-18 establishing a Cooperative Pricing System referred to as the Sustainable Essex Alliance Energy Procurement Cooperative (SEAEPC) and authorizing Maplewood to serve as Lead Agency of the SEAEPC; and

WHEREAS on September 6, 2022, Maplewood adopted Resolution No. 266-22 renewing a Cooperative Pricing System referred to as the Sustainable Essex Alliance Energy Procurement Cooperative (SEAEPC) and authorizing Maplewood to serve as Lead Agency of the SEAEPC; and

WHEREAS, Verona has determined that it will be advantageous to the residents of Verona, as well as other participating municipalities, to jointly implement their Government Energy Aggregation programs through a joint purchasing initiative that will achieve economies of scale and attract increased attention of prospective bidding suppliers and, as a result, Verona has determined that it is in the best interests of its residents to renew its membership in a cooperative pricing system with Maplewood for the purpose of purchasing electric generation services including a renewable energy component and energy aggregation services for residents and potentially businesses; and

WHEREAS, on May 7, 2018, Verona adopted Resolution No. 2018-66 authorizing Verona to become a participating member of a Cooperative purchasing system named the Sustainable Essex Alliance Procurement Cooperative; and

WHEREAS, the member municipalities and Verona has determined that Maplewood is best suited to serve as Lead Agency of the joint purchasing system; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency will from time to time during the Effective Period (from date of adoption through **December 31, 2025** hereinafter referred to as “Effective Period”) issue one or more Requests for Proposals (“RFPs”) for electric generation services and energy aggregation services for residents of the Verona and member municipalities of the cooperative pricing system, pursuant to Local Public Contract Law Regulations, the Government Energy Aggregation Act and applicable New Jersey Board of Public Utilities regulations pertaining to Government Energy Aggregation programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Verona is hereby renewed as a participating member of a cooperative pricing system named the Sustainable Essex Alliance Energy Procurement Cooperative (SEAEPC) for the purpose of obtaining cleaner energy at as low a cost as possible for residential and business participants through a GEA program, and to submit an application to the Department of Community Affairs Division of Local Government Services for authorization to become a participating member of the SEAEPC, and for designation of the Township of Maplewood as Lead Agency of the SEAEPC.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Verona, is hereby authorized to execute a renewal Agreement for a Cooperative Pricing System, with the Township of Maplewood ("Maplewood"), as Lead Agency of the Cooperative Pricing System, that authorizes Verona's participation in the SEAEPC and delegates authority to Maplewood, as Lead Agency, to implement a RFP process for the purpose of purchasing electric generation services including a renewable energy component and energy aggregation services for residents of Verona, on Verona's behalf, pursuant to Local Public Contract Law Regulations, the Government Energy Aggregation Act and applicable New Jersey Board of Public Utilities regulations pertaining to Government Energy Aggregation programs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Verona shall not authorize Maplewood, as Lead Agency, to make an award of a contract to an electric power supplier on Verona's behalf, unless and until a bid is received in response to an RFP that provides pricing for power supply for Verona's participating residents that provides costs comparable to the cost of utility-supplier power, meets the renewable energy goals of Verona and/or is otherwise in the best interests of participating residents, and that is otherwise in compliance with applicable law and regulations.

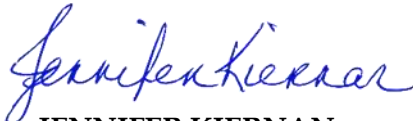
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage. The authorization provided to the lead agent shall be valid until **December 31, 2025** (the Effective Period) at which time the Cooperative Pricing System will be subject to renewal. Any rescission or expiration of this resolution shall not affect any Agreements entered into prior to such rescission or expiration.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND EXACT COPY OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA AT THE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2022.



**JENNIFER KIERNAN
MUNICIPAL CLERK**

