

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Verona Township Council on Monday, April 3, 2023, 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 Act.

Roll Call:

Mayor Alex Roman, Deputy Mayor Christine McGrath, Councilman Jack McEvoy, Councilwoman Cynthia Holland and Councilman Christopher Tamburro are present. Township Attorney Victoria Lucido and Township Manager Joseph D'Arco are also present. Municipal Clerk Jennifer Kiernan is absent.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Roman explains the Municipal Clerk is not feeling well and is absent this evening. Township Manager, Joseph D'Arco has his RMC certification and therefore will be acting in Ms. Kiernan's absence.

RESOLUTION No. 2023-063

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

**AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF A TEMPORARY ACTING
MUNICIPAL CLERK FOR APRIL 3, 2023**

WHEREAS, a Council meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2023, and the Township Municipal Clerk is unable to perform the municipal clerk functions for the meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Township Manager is willing and able to serve as a temporary acting Municipal Clerk for the Council meeting scheduled for April 3, 2023, as the Manager's RMC Clerks License (CO144) is active and current.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, that the Township Manager Joseph O. D'Arco is appointed as temporary Acting Municipal Clerk for the Council meeting of April 3, 2023.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

Mayor's Report:

Mayor appointments Arjun Thaker to the Library Board of Trustees - term ending 12/31/24.

Mayor Roman reports that NJ Transit is implementing emergency bus transport as DeCamp is canceling several routes. Essex County liaison Julius Coltre discusses the dates of this year's Cherry Blossom Festival in Branch Brook Park. He also reports on the dates for hazardous waste drop off and electronics drop off at the County's Public Works facility, 99 Bradford Avenue, Cedar Grove.

Councilman Tamburro makes a motion to move resolution K-9 on the agenda up; seconded by Deputy Mayor McGrath. The Deputy Mayor points out a discrepancy in the text of the resolution. The resolution should read the appointment is for "a four-year term effective retroactively to January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2026" and makes a motion to fix the scrivener's error; seconded by Councilman Tamburro. Vote to amend: 5 ayes.

Public Comment:

Kevin Ryan, Verona, New Jersey

RESOLUTION No. 2023-064

A motion was made by Councilman Tamburro; seconded by Councilwoman Holland that the following resolution be adopted:

**APPROVING THE TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S APPOINTMENT OF
JENNIFER MUSCARA AS CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:9-140.10(a)* provides that "in every municipality there shall be a Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the municipality"; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 5, Article X, Section 111(A) of the Verona Township Code provides that the CFO shall be appointed by the Township Manager; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 2022-081 was adopted on April 25, 2022, designating Jennifer Muscara as Temporary Chief Financial Officer, pursuant to *N.J.A.C. 5:32-2.5* for a one-year term expiring September 30, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Division of Local Government Services approved Township Manager Joseph D'Arco's request to re-appoint Jennifer Muscara as Temporary Chief Financial Officer to a second one-year term expiring September 30, 2023, memorialized by Resolution No. 2022-174; and

WHEREAS, on December 1, 2022, Jennifer Muscara obtained her Municipal Finance Officer certification issued by the New Jersey Division of Local Government Services; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 40A:9-140.10(a)*, "the term of office shall be four years, which shall run from January 1 in the year in which the chief financial officer is appointed"; and

WHEREAS, Township Manager Joseph D'Arco desires to appoint Jennifer Muscara to the position of CFO, for a four-year term effective retroactively to January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona, County of Essex, New Jersey does hereby ratify Township Manager Joseph D'Arco's appointment of Jennifer Muscara as CFO of the Township of Verona, effective January 1, 2023.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

Manager's Report:

Township Manager Joe D'Arco reports on Everett Field reconstruction. He suggests the Township use a professional to perform a rate study on water and sewer. He gives a presentation on Municipal Court Shared Services between Verona, Essex Fells and North Caldwell.

Director of Administration & Economic Development, Steven Neale reports that Congressional Community Project applications for well remediation have been submitted. He provides an update on the splash pad construction and the ADA playground at the Community Center. Shredding will be May 6th, the free rabies clinic May 3 at the DPW garage on Ozone Avenue. He provides a status on the Friends of Verona Parks non-profit status.

Councilmember's Reports:

Deputy Mayor McGrath thanks the volunteer fire department for assisting her neighbor. The Township's Women of Impact event was a success. She updated the public on the elected officials she reached out to on the DeCamp service disruption and encourages the public to provide more comments and feedback to NJ Transit and elected officials on the cancelation of several DeCamp routes.

Councilman McEvoy attended the Scout's Pancake Breakfast and Sports Swap. He thanks the Holy Spirit Church for the Fish Fry. The library is holding an art auction until April 5th. He commends the Historic Preservation Commission for their hard work with the resident of 11 Cole Road, which will be on tonight's agenda to be designated a historic landmark.

Councilman Tamburro also attended the Scout's Pancake Breakfast. He commends the State's Legislative District 40 representatives, who, although are not yet representing the Township of Verona, have already done so much for the Town. The Neighborhood Traffic & Safety Advisory Committee met. The Councilman attended Disney over spring break with the VHS band.

Councilwoman Holland attended the Girl Scouts fair. She thanks NJ Transit for their response in the wake of the DeCamp route cancellations. She acknowledges the school shooting in Nashville and wants everyone to remember Gun Violence Awareness Day on June 2nd and wear orange.

ORDINANCE No. 2023-14

**BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING IN THEIR ENTIRETY AND
SUPERSEDING BOND ORDINANCE #2021-13 FINALLY ADOPTED
MAY 3, 2021, AND SUPPLEMENTAL ORDINANCE #2022-30 FINALLY
ADOPTED SEPTEMBER 19, 2022, OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA, IN
THE COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY**

The Acting Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance No. 2023-14 by title into record.

Motion to introduce Ordinance No. 2023-14 is moved by Deputy Mayor McGrath; seconded by Councilman Tamburro.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman

NAYS: Tamburro, McEvoy,

Ordinance No. 2023-14 is introduced 3-2 and a public hearing will be held on April 17, 2023.

Ordinance No. 2023-15 was discussed under New Business and then moved for introduction.

ORDINANCE No. 2023-15

**AMENDING CHAPTER 150 ZONING, ARTICLE XXII
HISTORIC PRESERVATION, SECTION § 150-22.13 OF THE CODE OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF VERONA TO DESIGNATE 11 COLE ROAD, VERONA AS A
LANDMARK**

The Acting Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance No. 2023-15 by title into record.

Motion to introduce Ordinance No. 2023-15 is moved by Councilman McEvoy; seconded by Councilman Tamburro.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

Ordinance No. 2023-15 is introduced 5-0 and will be referred to the Planning Board for a determination of consistency with the Master Plan. A public hearing will be published accordingly to announce the public hearing date.

Public Comment on Consent Agenda Items:

Kevin Ryan, Verona, New Jersey
Robert Blitz, Verona, New Jersey
Jessica Pearson, Verona, New Jersey

Minutes from the March 13, 2023 meeting are unanimously approved.

Deputy Mayor McGrath motions to table Resolution K-2; seconded by Councilman Tamburro.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS

At the request of Councilwoman Holland, Resolution K-5 is removed from the Consent Agenda for a separate discussion.

RESOLUTION No. 2023-065

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

ACKNOWLEDGING THE AWARD OF THE 2020 TONNAGE GRANT

WHEREAS, the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act, P.L.1987, c.102, has established a recycling fund from which tonnage grant may be made to municipalities in order to encourage local source separation and recycling programs; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent and the spirit of the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act to use the tonnage grants to develop new municipal recycling programs and to continue and to expand existing programs; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has promulgated recycling regulations to Implement the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act; and

WHEREAS, the recycling regulations impose on municipalities certain requirements as a condition for applying for tonnage grants, including but not limited to, making and keeping accurate, verifiable records of materials collected and claimed by the municipality; and

WHEREAS, tonnage grants are awarded through the State of New Jersey's Recycling Enhancement Act and are funded through a \$3 per-ton surcharge on trash disposed statewide at solid waste facilities; and

WHEREAS, the NJ Department of Environmental Protection returns 60% of that money to municipalities based upon how much recycling each community reports accomplishing during the calendar year; and

WHEREAS, during the 2020 calendar year, municipalities in New Jersey generated 20,997,099 total tons of solid waste, which represents disposal (9,474,871 tons) and recycling (11,522,228 tons).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey hereby acknowledges the acceptance for the 2020 Tonnage grant in the amount of \$14,908.08 that is recorded in the 2023 Municipal Budget.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the monies received from the Recycling Tonnage grant shall be deposited in a dedicated recycling trust fund to be used solely for the purposes of recycling.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2023-066

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

AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AGREEMENT FOR ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Township requires a qualified firm or Architect to provide professional architectural design services; and,

WHEREAS, Township advertised an RFP and reviewed the proposals received; and;

WHEREAS, the proposals were evaluated by the Township Manager and it was determined that Solutions Architecture having its principal office at 96 Pompton Ave, 2nd Floor, Verona, NJ 07044 (hereinafter "Architect") is qualified to provide the necessary architectural design services; and,

WHEREAS, the Administration recommends retaining the Architect to perform the services in the amount not to exceed \$17,500 for calendar year 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona that the Township Manager, or his designee, is authorized to execute a contract with Solutions Architecture in accordance with the attached RFP submission and subject to the following:

1. The award of this contract is subject to finalization of the contract terms.
2. Any contract amendments or change orders which may become necessary shall be subject to the Township's ability to appropriate sufficient funds, which appropriation shall be at the sole discretion of the Township Council.
3. The Council hereby authorizes the Manager, or his designee, to execute any and all documents and take any and all actions necessary to complete and realize the intent and purpose of this resolution.
4. The Township is in receipt of the vendor's Contribution Disclosure and Stockholder Disclosure Certification.
5. Architect may be paid upon passage and certification of this resolution, and for a period of ninety (90) days thereafter, before the final execution of a contractual agreement. Said payments shall be in accordance with this resolution and the RFP as is fully delineated herein. If a finalized contract is not entered within ninety (90) days following the date of the herein resolution, all work and payments will be put on hold until the contract is finalized. The vendor shall be entitled to payment upon submission of an appropriate invoice for all work authorized and performed during the ninety (90) day period but not for any work performed thereafter until and unless the contract is finalized and fully executed by both parties.
6. The Manager, or his designee, is hereby authorized to execute an agreement as outlined herein with Solutions Architecture, 96 Pompton Ave, 2nd Floor, Verona, NJ 07044.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2023-067

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

**AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE
AGREEMENT FOR LICENSED TREE EXPERTS - TOWNSHIP FORESTER**

WHEREAS, the Township requires a qualified firm or individual to act as the Township's Forester and provide professional licensed tree expert services; and,

WHEREAS, Township advertised an RFP for the required services and reviewed the proposals received; and

WHEREAS, the proposals were evaluated by the Township Manager and it was determined that Richard S. Wolowicz d/b/a Rich View Consulting with a mailing address of 4 Maude Lane, Hackettstown, New Jersey, and the Shade Tree Department, LLC, with a mailing address of P.O. Box 6089, West Orange, New Jersey 07052 are both qualified to provide the needed services; and

WHEREAS, the Township Manager opines that the Township would be served in the most efficient and expedient manner by approving both firms to perform the necessary services as the total cost of services received would not be increased by having more than one Forester; and

WHEREAS, the Administration recommends entering into contracts with both firms to perform the services in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for calendar year 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona that the Township Manager, or his designee, is authorized to execute a contract with Richard S. Wolowicz d/b/a Rich View Consulting with a mailing address of 4 Maude Lane,

Hackettstown, New Jersey, and the Shade Tree Department, LLC, with a mailing address of P.O. Box 6089, West Orange, New Jersey 07052 in accordance with the attached RFP submissions and subject to the following:

1. The award of this contract is subject to finalization of the contract terms.
2. Any contract amendments or change orders which may become necessary shall be subject to the Township's ability to appropriate sufficient funds, which appropriation shall be at the sole discretion of the Township Council.
3. The Council hereby authorizes the Manager, or his designee, to execute any and all documents and take any and all actions necessary to complete and realize the intent and purpose of this resolution.
4. The Township is in receipt of the vendor's Contribution Disclosure and Stockholder Disclosure Certification.
5. The Foresters may be paid upon passage and certification of this resolution, and for a period of ninety (90) days thereafter, before the final execution of a contractual agreement. Said payments shall be in accordance with this resolution and the RFP as is fully delineated herein. If a finalized contract is not entered within ninety (90) days following the date of the herein resolution, all work and payments will be put on hold until the contract is finalized. The vendor shall be entitled to payment upon submission of an appropriate invoice for all work authorized and performed during the ninety (90) day period but not for any work performed thereafter until and unless the contract is finalized and fully executed by both parties.
6. The Manager, or his designee, is hereby authorized to execute an agreement as outlined herein with both Richard S. Wolowicz d/b/a Rich View Consulting with a mailing address of 4 Maude Lane, Hackettstown, New Jersey, and the Shade Tree Department, LLC, with a mailing address of P.O. Box 6089, West Orange, New Jersey 07052.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2023-068

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

AUTHORIZING A NONFAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT WITH NATURE'S CHOICE CORPORATION FOR DISPOSAL OF ORGANIC YARD WASTE

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona has a need to award a contract for the disposal of curbside vegetative waste collected within the Township as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5*; and,

WHEREAS, the Qualified Purchasing Agent has determined and certified in writing that the value of the service will exceed \$17,500; and,

WHEREAS, this expenditure shall be charged to Budget Account No. 3-01-26-306-212, or any other account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or his/her designee, and the availability of funds have been contingently certified by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township pending approval of the 2023 Budget.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Verona that the Township Manager and Municipal Clerk are authorized to enter into a contract with Nature's Choice Corporation, 1106 Millstone River Road, Hillsborough, New Jersey 08844 not to exceed \$20,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Council hereby authorizes the Manager, or his designee, to execute any and all documents and take any and all actions necessary to complete and realize the intent and purpose of this resolution.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2023-069

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

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH TSIVICOS ENTERPRISES, INC.

WHEREAS, on September 22, 2022, the Council approved the award of the contract to Tsvicos Enterprises, Inc., pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5*; and

WHEREAS, at the time of the award the total necessary funding in the amount of \$1,329,631.00 was not available so the Council authorized a not to exceed amount of \$660,000.00 pending the availability of additional funds; and

WHEREAS, the additional funding in the amount of \$729,631.00 to complete the project is now available; 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, the funds necessary 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, an updated Business Entity Disclosure Certification and Political Contribution Disclosure Form completed by Tsvicos Enterprises, Inc. have been filed with the Township and are annexed to this Resolution as Exhibit C.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the Chief Financial Officer or other appropriate Township officer is authorized to pay for the work authorized by the September 22, 2022, Resolution utilizing the additional funds identified herein.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2023-070

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

DISPOSAL OF OBSOLETE TOWNSHIP EQUIPMENT

WHEREAS, the Township Manager has advised the Township Council that there is obsolete equipment that is no longer needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-36(7)* authorizes the disposition of personal property not needed for public use as part of a purchase to offset the price of the new purchase and;

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Township to dispose of said equipment 1993 Volvo Fire Department Rescue Truck VIN 2 4V52AFHC6PR472653.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the obsolete equipment referenced by the Township Manager which is no longer needed for public use by the Township shall be disposed of according to the manner as prescribed by law.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2023-071

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

REFUNDING ESCROW PAYMENT

WHEREAS, Escrow fees, for the Board of Adjustment, were received from Kathryn Zaccone and the fees have been held in Trust; and

WHEREAS, certification has been received from the Engineer to release these funds, from Trust, as follows:

ESCROW AMOUNT	EXPENSES	AMOUNT TO BE REFUNDED
\$500.00	\$187.89	\$312.11

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex New Jersey that the Chief Financial Officer and Tax Collector be authorized to refund, from the Trust Account, \$312.11 to Kathryn Zaccone, Verona, NJ 07044.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2023-072

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

REFUNDING ESCROW PAYMENT

WHEREAS, Escrow fees, for the Board of Adjustment, were received from Robert O'Brien, and the fees have been held in Trust; and

WHEREAS, certification has been received from the Engineer to release these funds, from Trust, as follows:

ESCROW AMOUNT	EXPENSES	AMOUNT TO BE REFUNDED
\$500.00	\$174.89	\$325.11

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex New Jersey that the Chief Financial Officer and Tax Collector be authorized to refund, from the Trust Account, \$325.11 to Robert O'Brien, Verona, NJ 07044.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2023-073

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

REFUNDING ESCROW PAYMENT

WHEREAS, Escrow fees, for the Board of Adjustment, were received from Seneta Whiting, and the fees have been held in Trust; and

WHEREAS, certification has been received from the Engineer to release these funds,

from Trust, as follows:

ESCROW AMOUNT	EXPENSES	AMOUNT TO BE REFUNDED
\$500.00	\$215.76	\$284.24

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex New Jersey that the Chief Financial Officer and Tax Collector be authorized to refund, from the Trust Account, \$284.24 to Seneta Whiting, Verona, NJ 07044.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2023-074

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

REFUNDING ESCROW PAYMENT

WHEREAS, escrow fees, for the Board of Adjustment, were received from Carrie Quigley and the fees have been held in Trust; and

WHEREAS, certification has been received from the Engineer to release these funds, from Trust, as follows:

ESCROW AMOUNT	EXPENSES	AMOUNT TO BE REFUNDED
\$500.00	\$189.45	\$310.55

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex New Jersey that the Chief Financial Officer and Tax Collector be authorized to refund, from the Trust Account, \$310.55 to Carrie Quigley, Verona, NJ 07044.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2023-075

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

PERMITTING ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township 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)*
2. Personnel Matters pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (8)*

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2023-076

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

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH FAIRVIEW INSURANCE AGENCY ASSOCIATES FOR SERVICES AS HEALTH CARE BROKER FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona needs the services of a professional Health Care Broker to handle certain insurance matters for the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Township desires to make this appointment under the provisions *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5*, as a non-fair and open contract; and

WHEREAS, the Township Manager has determined that the value of these services may exceed \$17,500; and

WHEREAS, the Township Manager has determined that it would be beneficial to appoint Fairview Insurance Agency Associates, 25 Fairview Avenue, Verona, New Jersey 07044 as the Township Health Broker; and

WHEREAS, the cost for said professional services shall be paid while the Township's Medical and Dental coverage is provided by the Bergen Municipal Health Insurance Fund and Prescription Drug coverage is provided by Benecard Services Inc.; and

WHEREAS, Fairview Insurance Agency Associates has completed and submitted the attached Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that the company 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 Fairview Insurance Agency Associates from making any reportable contributions through the duration of the contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that Fairview Insurance Agency Associates, 25 Fairview Avenue, Verona, New Jersey 07044 is hereby appointed as the Health Insurance Broker for the Township of Verona.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that no minimum payment is implied or guaranteed, the Township reserves the right to cancel this contract upon thirty (30) days' notice.

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that the Township Manager and the Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to enter into an agreement for the aforementioned services a copy of which shall be available for public inspection in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, Tamburro, McEvoy, McGrath, Roman

NAYS:

New Business:

Council discussion on an ordinance to amend Chapter 150, Article XXII, Section 13 of the Code of the Township to Designate 11 Cole Road as a landmark. It is moved for introduction.

Public Comment:

Kevin Ryan, Verona, New Jersey
Chris Budes, Verona, New Jersey

Council enters into Executive Session at 9:44 p.m. and returns into Public Session at 10:30 p.m.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting at XXX p.m. is made by Councilman Tamburro; seconded by Mayor Roman. The next regular scheduled meeting of the Township Council is April 17, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Jennifer Kiernan, Municipal Clerk


Alex Roman, Mayor

APPROVED: May 1, 2023