

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

RESOLUTION No. 2023-127

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

**AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A PROPOSITION TO THE VOTERS
REGARDING THE INCREASE OF THE MUNICIPAL OPEN SPACE,
RECREATION AND FARMLAND AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
TRUST FUND TAX PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40:12-15.7, ET. SEQ.**

WHEREAS, under *N.J.S.A. 40:12-15.7 et seq.*, in a general election the voters of the Township of Verona approved a proposition authorizing the establishment of a “Municipal Open Space, Recreation, and Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund” funded by the imposition of an annual tax levy not to exceed two (2) cents per ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00) of assessed valuation for the purposes of (a) acquisition of lands for recreation and conservation purposes; (b) development of lands acquired for conservation purposes; (d) historic preservation of historic properties, structures, facilities, sites, areas or objects and acquisition of such properties, structures, facilities, sites, areas or objects for historic preservation purposes; and (e) payment of debt service on indebtedness issued or incurred by the Township of Verona for any of these purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council desires to submit to the voters of the municipality in the next general election a proposition amending the previously approved establishment of the “Municipal Open Space, Recreation, and Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund” to increase the rate of the annual levy, from the current maximum of two (2) cents per ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100) of assessed valuation, to three (3) cents per ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100) of assessed valuation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, County of Essex, State of New Jersey that pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 40:12-15.7, et seq.*, the Township Council hereby requests that the County Clerk of the County of Essex print upon the official ballots to be used at the November 7, 2023 general election the following proposition:

Shall the Township Council of the Township of Verona, County of Essex adopt an Ordinance amending the “Municipal Open Space, Recreation, and Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund” to increase the rate of the annual levy, from the current maximum of two (2) cents per ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100) of assessed valuation, to three (3) cents per ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100) of assessed valuation for the purposes of (a) acquisition of lands for recreation and conservation purposes; (b) development of lands acquired for recreation and conservation purposes; (c) maintenance of lands acquired for recreation and conservation purposes; (d) historic preservation of historic properties, structures, facilities, sites, areas or objects and acquisition of such properties, structures, facilities, sites, areas or objects for historic preservation purposes; and (e) payment of debt service on indebtedness issued or incurred by the Township of Verona for any of these purposes?

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk of the County of Essex is hereby requested to print upon the official ballots to be used at the November 7, 2023 general election the following Interpretative Statement:

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

A “yes” vote for this proposition means that you do want the Township of Verona to take the necessary steps to amend the Municipal Open Space, Recreation and Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund to increase the rate of the annual levy, from the current maximum of two (2) cents per ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100) of assessed valuation, to three (3) cents per ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100) of assessed valuation that shall be used to acquire lands for recreation and conservation purposes. The Trust Fund can also be used to develop or maintain lands that are acquired for recreation and conservation purposes or used for the acquisition or historic preservation of historic properties, structures, facilities, sites, areas or objects located

within the Township of Verona. The Trust Fund can also be used to make payments on bonds issued to acquire lands for these purposes.

If approved, the increase from the current maximum of two (2) cents per ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100) of assessed valuation, to three (3) cents per ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100) of assessed valuation, the additional tax will result in the annual increase of \$43.30 in the municipal portion of the real property taxes assessed on a home with an assessment of \$433,000, the Township average assessment, and based upon the current total assessed valuations of property within the Township, would raise approximately \$239,569.92 of additional funds annually for the Municipal Open Space, Recreation and Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Municipal Clerk shall file a copy of this ordinance with the County Clerk of County of Essex.

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 A REGULAR MEETING HELD ON JUNE 12, 2023.


JENNIFER KIERNAN
MUNICIPAL CLERK

