

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Verona Township Council on Monday, February 26, 2024, 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:

The Municipal Clerk reads the notice of Open Public Meetings Act.

Roll Call:

Mayor Christopher Tamburro, Deputy Mayor Jack McEvoy, Councilwoman Christine McGrath, Councilman Alex Roman and Councilwoman Cynthia Holland are present. Township Attorney Brian Aloia, Township Manager Joseph D'Arco, Municipal Clerk Jennifer Kiernan and Deputy Township Manager Kevin O'Sullivan are also present.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Tamburro thanks the Chamber of Commerce and the Municipal staff for organizing Verona's current Restaurant Week. He attended the kickoff event in Jimmy's Family Kitchen and encourages the public to check them out for themselves. The Mayor then invites Jay Coltre to the lectern to briefly comment on any future county events. Lastly, Mayor Tamburro presents two different proclamations recognizing Our Lady of the Lake Church and Our Lady of the Lake School for their 100th anniversaries.

Manager's Report:

Mr. D'Arco encourages questions from the Council on any items that they wish to discuss.

The CFO leads a 2024 budget discussion that includes the Administration, Finance, Municipal Clerk, Construction Code, Fire Department, Library, Rescue Squad and Recreation Departments as well as the Shade Tree line item budget.

Deputy Manager Kevin O'Sullivan reports on the status of WWTP permit renewal, Linn Drive and Fairview Avenue wells and various stormwater items including the Peckman River stabilization project and Joint Flood Committee. He also reports on the status of the Community Center Playground project, various road projects and applications submitted to grant programs.

Councilmember's Reports:

Deputy Mayor McEvoy encourages all residents to participate in Verona's Restaurant Week. He thanks Congressman Payne for his visit last week to Verona to discuss the public safety building and would like to acknowledge and congratulate the Sustainable Verona Green Team for their achievement of silver status.

Councilman Roman passes on his comments and notes regarding the Planning Board for a later time in the meeting.

Councilwoman McGrath enjoyed participating in the meeting with Congressman Payne and the Deputy Mayor. She congratulates and thanks the Multicultural Inclusion Accessibility Advisory Committee for their first Black History Month event. It was a very successful event for Verona and she looks forward to next year's celebrations.

Councilwoman Holland reports that the Winter Termination Program will soon be coming to an end and she reminds residents who are having trouble paying utility bills that they can get assistance now before the program ends.

Public Comment:

Kevin Ryan, Verona, New Jersey
Corey Schor, Verona, New Jersey
Chris Reilly, Verona, New Jersey
Paul Petrangeli, Verona, New Jersey

ORDINANCE No. 2024-07

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 140 "VEHICLES & TRAFFIC"
ARTICLE XIV "METERED/PERMIT PARKING" §140-68 "PARKING
METER/PERMIT PARKING ZONES DESIGNATED" AND CHAPTER A565-1
"SCHEDULE OF FEES" OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA
TO INCREASE THE METERED PARKING RATE TO \$0.25 PER TWENTY
MINUTES AND TO ADD SATURDAY TO THE DAYS PARKING METER
PAYMENTS ARE REQUIRED**

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance No. H-1 by title into record.

Motion to move Ordinance H-1 is moved by Councilwoman McGrath; seconded by Councilman Roman

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

Ordinance 2024-07 is introduced by a vote of 5-0. It will be published according to law and a public hearing will be held on March 11, 2024.

ORDINANCE No. 2024-08

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER A565-1 "SCHEDULE OF FEES" OF
THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA TO AMEND WATER AND
SEWER RATES**

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance No. H-2 by title into record.

Motion to move Ordinance H-2 is moved by Deputy Mayor McEvoy; seconded by Councilwoman Holland.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

Ordinance 2024-08 is introduced by a vote of 5-0. It will be published according to law and a public hearing will be held on March 11, 2024.

ORDINANCE No. 2024-09

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER A565-7(B) OF THE CODE OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF VERONA - "POOL FEES- MEMBERSHIP TYPES"**

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance No. H-3 by title into record.

Motion to move Ordinance H-3 is moved by Councilwoman McGrath; seconded by Councilman Roman.

After Council discussion, minor changes to clarify certain membership types are made.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

Ordinance 2024-09 is introduced by a vote of 5-0. It will be published according to law and a public hearing will be held on March 11, 2024.

ORDINANCE No. 2024-10

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER A565-7 OF THE CODE OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF VERONA - "POOL FEES"**

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance No. H-4 by title into record.

Motion to move Ordinance H-4 is moved by Councilman Roman; seconded by Deputy Mayor McEvoy.

After Council discussion Deputy Mayor McEvoy motions to amend the senior membership fee; seconded by Councilman Roman. After discussion, the Mayor calls for a roll call vote to set the senior membership rate to \$185:

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS: Holland, McGrath, Roman

After discussion a motion to amend the senior membership fee to \$195 is made by Mayor Tamburro; seconded by Councilman Roman.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS: Holland, McGrath

Ordinance 2024-10 is introduced by a vote of 3-2. It will be published according to law and a public hearing will be held on March 11, 2024.

Mayor Tamburro recuses himself from discussion/voting on the next agenda item as he is a member of the Rescue Squad. He relinquishes his chair to Deputy Mayor McEvoy.

ORDINANCE No. 2024-11

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER A565-7 OF THE CODE OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF VERONA - "POOL FEES"
FOR VOLUNTEER FIRE/RESCUE SQUAD MEMBERS**

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance No. H-5 by title into record.

Motion to move Ordinance H-5 is moved by Councilman Roman; seconded by Deputy Mayor McEvoy.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS: Holland

ABSTAIN (Recusal): Tamburro

Ordinance 2024-11 is introduced by a vote of 3-1. It will be published according to law and a public hearing will be held on March 11, 2024.

Mayor Tamburro takes back the Chair.

ORDINANCE No. 2024-12

**FIXING THE SALARIES AND COMPENSATION OF THE PAID OFFICERS
AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR THE 2024 CALENDAR YEAR**

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance No. H-6 by title into record.

Motion to move Ordinance H-6 is moved by Councilman Roman; seconded by Deputy Mayor McEvoy.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS: Holland

Ordinance 2024-12 is introduced by a vote of 4-1. It will be published according to law and a public hearing will be held on March 11, 2024.

ORDINANCE No. 2024-13

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 18 "COMMITTEES,
COMMISSIONS AND BOARDS", ARTICLE V "PARKS AND RECREATION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE" OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP**

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance No. H-7 by title into record.

Motion to move Ordinance H-7 is moved by Councilwoman McGrath; seconded by Councilman Roman.

A correction to the terms of the Chairperson is made to a one-year term as it is more consistent with other boards.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

Ordinance 2024-13 is introduced by a vote of 5-0. It will be published according to law and a public hearing will be held on March 11, 2024.

RESOLUTION No. 2024-042

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

**DETERMINING THE FORM AND OTHER DETAILS OF ONE OR MORE
NOTES RELATING TO THE CONSTRUCTION FINANCING LOAN
PROGRAM OF THE NEW JERSEY INFRASTRUCTURE BANK, TO BE
ISSUED IN THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF UP TO \$4,000,000,
PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF SUCH NOTES TO THE
NEW JERSEY INFRASTRUCTURE BANK, AND AUTHORIZING THE
EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF SUCH NOTES BY THE TOWNSHIP IN
FAVOR OF THE NEW JERSEY INFRASTRUCTURE BANK, ALL PURSUANT
TO THE NEW JERSEY INFRASTRUCTURE BANK CONSTRUCTION
FINANCING LOAN PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey (the "Township of Verona"), intends to undertake improvements at the Linn Drive well, including but not limited to, PFAS remediation, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto (collectively, the "Project"), and it is the desire of the Township of Verona to obtain financing for such Project through participation in the environmental infrastructure financing program of the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank (the "I-Bank"); and

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona has determined to temporarily finance the undertaking of the Project prior to the closing with respect to the I-Bank, and to undertake such temporary financing with the proceeds of a short-term loan (or loans) to be made by the I-Bank (collectively the "Construction Loan") to the Township of Verona, pursuant to the Construction Financing Loan Program of the I-Bank (the "Construction Financing Loan Program"); and

WHEREAS, in order to (i) evidence and secure the repayment obligation of the Township of Verona to the I-Bank with respect to the Construction Loan and (ii) satisfy the requirements of the Construction Financing Loan Program, it is the desire of the Township of Verona to issue and sell to the I-Bank the "Note Relating to the Construction Financing Loan Program of the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank" in an aggregate principal amount of up to \$4,000,000 (collectively the "Note"); and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Township of Verona to authorize, execute, attest and deliver the Note or Notes to the I-Bank pursuant to the terms of the Local Bond Law of the State of New Jersey, constituting Chapter 2 of Title 40A of the Revised Statutes of the State of New Jersey (the "Local Bond Law"), and other applicable law; and

WHEREAS, on October 16, 2023, the Township of Verona adopted bond ordinance

#2023-41 (the "Township of Verona Bond Ordinance") pursuant to the provisions of the Local Bond Law; and

WHEREAS, Section 28 of the Local Bond Law allows for the sale of the Note or Notes to the I-Bank, without any public offering, and *N.J.S.A. 58:11B-9* allows for the sale of the Note or Notes to the I-Bank without any public offering, all under the terms and conditions set forth therein.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona as follows:

SECTION 1. In accordance with the provisions of the Local Bond Law, the Infrastructure Trust Act and the Township of Verona Bond Ordinance, the Township of Verona hereby authorizes the issuance, sale and award of the Notes in accordance with the provisions hereof. The obligations represented by the Notes have been appropriated and authorized by the Township of Verona Bond Ordinance, at which time a quorum was present and acted throughout, all in accordance with the Local Bond Law and other applicable law.

SECTION 2. The Chief Financial Officer of the Township of Verona (the "Chief Financial Officer") is hereby authorized to determine, pursuant to the terms and conditions hereof, (i) the final principal amount of the Note or Notes (subject to the maximum limitation set forth in Section 4(a) hereof), and (ii) the dated date of the Note or Notes.

SECTION 3. Any determination made by the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to the terms hereof shall be conclusively evidenced by the execution and attestation of the Note or Notes by the parties authorized pursuant to Section 4(h) hereof.

SECTION 4. The Township of Verona hereby determines that certain terms of the Note or Notes shall be as follows:

- (a) the aggregate principal amount of the Note or Notes to be issued shall be an amount not to exceed \$4,000,000;
- (b) the maturity of the Note or Notes shall be as determined by the I-Bank;
- (c) the interest rate of the Note or Notes shall be as determined by the I-Bank;
- (d) the purchase price for the Note or Notes shall be par;
- (e) the Note or Notes shall be subject to prepayment prior to its stated maturity in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Note or Notes;
- (f) the Notes shall each be issued in a single denomination and shall be numbered "CFP-2024-1";
- (g) the Note or Notes shall be issued in fully registered form and shall be payable to the registered owner thereof as to both principal and interest in lawful money of the United States of America; and
- (h) the Note or Notes shall be executed by the manual or facsimile signatures of the Mayor and the Chief Financial Officer under official seal or facsimile thereof affixed, printed, engraved or reproduced thereon and attested by the manual signature of the Township of Verona Clerk; and
- (i) the Note or Notes may be issued in one or more series as may be deemed necessary by the I-Bank.

SECTION 5. The Notes shall be substantially in the form on file with the Municipal Clerk, together with such additions, deletions and other modifications required by the I-Bank and agreed to by the Township of Verona upon consultation with counsel and any advisors to the Township of Verona, such determinations being conclusively evidenced by the execution of the Note or Notes by the Authorized Officers (as defined herein).

SECTION 6. The law firm of McManimon, Scotland and Baumann, LLC is hereby authorized to arrange for the printing of the Note or Notes, which law firm may authorize McCarter & English, LLP, bond counsel to the I-Bank for the Construction Loan Financing Program, to arrange for same.

SECTION 7. The Township of Verona Mayor, or Township Manager, Chief Financial Officer and Municipal Clerk (each an "Authorized Officer") of the Township of Verona are hereby further severally authorized to (i) execute and deliver, and the Verona Municipal Clerk

is hereby further authorized to attest to such execution and to affix the corporate seal of the Township of Verona to, any document, instrument or closing certificate deemed necessary, desirable or convenient by the Authorized Officers, in their respective sole discretion, after consultation with counsel and any advisors to the Township of Verona, and after further consultation with the I-Bank and its representatives, agents, counsel and advisors, to be executed in connection with the issuance and sale of the Note or Notes and the participation of the Township of Verona in the Construction Financing Loan Program, which determination shall be conclusively evidenced by the execution of each such certificate or other document by the party authorized hereunder to execute such certificate or other document, and (ii) perform such other actions as the Authorized Officers deem necessary, desirable or convenient in relation to the execution and delivery of the Note or Notes and the participation of the Township of Verona in the Construction Financing Loan Program.

SECTION 8. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

SECTION 9. Upon the adoption hereof, the Municipal Clerk shall forward certified copies of this resolution to McManimon, Scotland & Baumann, LLC, bond counsel to the Township of Verona, David Zimmer, Executive Director of the I-Bank, and Richard T. Nolan, Esq., McCarter & English, LLP, bond counsel to the I-Bank.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-043

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

RESOLUTION REQUESTING PERMISSION FOR THE DEDICATION BY RIDER FOR LEAD-BASED PAINT INSPECTIONS

WHEREAS, permission is required of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for approval as a dedication by rider of revenue received by a municipality when the revenue is not subject to reasonably accurate estimates in advance; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Council desire to provide a mechanism to maintain the Township's Trust Funds, namely the Lead-Based Paint Inspections as a Dedication by Rider; and,

WHEREAS, as a new State Mandated Program, the Township is ready for the implementation of this new law and needs a mechanism to track fees and costs that are all unknown at the time of a budget adoption; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-39 provides the dedicated revenues anticipated from the Lead-Based Paint Inspections in our Trust Fund and are hereby appropriated for the purpose to which said revenue is dedicated by statute or other legal requirements:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council, of the Township of Verona, County of Essex, State of New Jersey as follows (passage requires passage by a majority of the full membership):

1. The Council does hereby request permission of the Director of the Local Government Services to pay expenditures of the Lead-Based Paint Inspections under N.J.S.A 40A:4-39
2. The State of New Jersey requires the Lead-Based Paint Inspections Law by P.L. 2021, c. 182, and allows the municipality to set up a Trust Account
3. The Township Clerk of Township of Verona, County of Essex, State of New Jersey is hereby directed to forward two certified copies of this resolution, with the votes indicated, to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for approval.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-44

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

AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A LOCAL RECREATION IMPROVEMENT GRANT (LRIG) APPLICATION FUNDED BY THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona desires to apply for and obtain a grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for approximately \$100,000 to carry out a project to purchase seating areas for Everett Field for the Township of Verona.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township of Verona does hereby authorize the application for such a grant,

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED, that the Township recognizes and accepts that the Department may offer a lesser or greater amount and therefore, upon receipt of the grant agreement from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, does further authorize the execution of any such grant agreement; and also, upon receipt of the fully executed agreement from the Department, does further authorize the expenditure of funds pursuant to the terms of the agreement between the Township of Verona and the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the persons whose names, titles, and signatures appear below are authorized to sign the application, and that they or their successors in said titles are authorized to sign the agreement, and any other documents necessary in connection therewith:

Joseph D'Arco

Township Manager

Christopher Tamburro

Mayor

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

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 FEBRUARY 26, 2024.

RESOLUTION No. 2024-045

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

AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION TO THE COMPLETE STREETS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, safe, convenient, accessible, equitable, healthy, and environmentally and economically beneficial transportation for all users is a priority of the Township of Verona; and

WHEREAS, Complete Streets is a means to provide a comprehensive, integrated, connected multi-modal network of transportation options through planning, design, construction, maintenance, and operation of new and retrofit transportation facilities along the entire right-of-way for all roadway users of all ages and abilities; and

WHEREAS, Complete Streets can provide many benefits, including:

- Improved safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, children, older citizens, non-drivers and the mobility challenged as well as those that cannot afford a car or choose to live car free,
- Improved access to employment, education, residential, recreation, retail centers and public facilities,

- Local economic vitality,
- Access to the health benefits of physical activity,
- Improved stormwater management, and
- Reductions in greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, when streets are not complete, the negative impacts on public health, safety, equity, the economy and the environment are disproportionately borne by low-income and minority communities.

WHEREAS, through the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority's FY2024 *Complete Streets Technical Assistance Program*, Sustainable Jersey will coordinate and the Voorhees Transportation Center at Rutgers University will provide planning-level technical assistance services to municipalities for a specific project related to advancing a Complete Streets initiative in their communities; and

WHEREAS, although no direct funding is provided, selected municipalities will receive free direct technical assistance services to complete a specific task related to advancing a Complete Streets initiative in their communities.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona authorizes the Township Manager to submit an application to the *Complete Streets Technical Assistance Program* to receive free direct technical assistance services to complete a specific task related to advancing Complete Streets, and also commits pertinent municipal staff to coordinate and collaborate with Sustainable Jersey, Voorhees Transportation Center and the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority to support the successful and timely delivery of technical assistance services.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-046

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

AUTHORIZING A SUSTAINABLE JERSEY GRANT APPLICATION

WHEREAS, a sustainable community seeks to optimize quality of life for its residents by ensuring that its environmental, economic and social objectives are balanced and mutually supportive; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona strives to save tax dollars, assure clean land, air and water, improve working and living environments; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona and the Sustainable Verona Green Team are participating in the Sustainable Jersey Program; and

WHEREAS, one of the purposes of the Sustainable Jersey Program is to provide resources to municipalities to make progress on sustainability issues, and they have created a grant program called the Sustainable Jersey Small Grants Program;

THEREFORE, the Township Council of the Township of Verona has determined that should apply for the aforementioned Grant.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Township Council, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey, authorize the submission of the aforementioned Sustainable Jersey Grant.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-047

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

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH GRAZIANO & CAMPI, P.C. FOR SERVICES AS RENT CONTROL BOARD ATTORNEY

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (*N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(a)(1)(i)*) permits contracts for professional services to be negotiated and awarded by the governing body without public advertising for bids and requires that the resolution authorizing the award of a contract for professional services without competitive bids and the contract itself be available for public inspection; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 402-12(C) of the Code of the Township of Verona calls for the appointment of Counsel to the Rent Control Board; and

WHEREAS, such appointment is made by a majority vote of the Township Council; and

WHEREAS, Alex J. Graziano, Esq. of the firm Graziano & Campi, P.C., 155 Pompton Avenue, Verona, New Jersey 07044 shall serve as Counsel to the Rent Control Board upon recommendation of the Township Attorney; and

WHEREAS, the cost for said professional services shall be set at a retainer of \$6,000 for the calendar year to include general services and a fixed hourly rate of \$125.00 per hour not to exceed \$17,500 for outside services without further authorization by the Township Council; and

WHEREAS, this expenditure shall be charged to Budget Account No. 04-01-22-200-045 or any other account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or her designee, and the availability of funds which shall be certified by the Chief Financial Officer upon presentation of a property executed Purchase Order and approval of the 2024 Budget.

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

1. The preamble to this Resolution is hereby incorporated as if more fully set forth herein.
2. An agreement with the Graziano & Campi, P.C., 155 Pompton Avenue, Verona, New Jersey 07044 is hereby authorized to provide to provide special legal services for the period commencing on January 1, 2024 and terminating on December 31, 2024 not to exceed \$17,500 without further authorization of the Township Council.
3. That the Township reserves the right to cancel this contract upon thirty (30) days' notice and Graziano & Campi, P.C. shall only be paid for the work completed; furthermore, no minimum amount of work or payment is implied or guaranteed.
4. That a notice of this action shall be published once in the Verona-Cedar Grove Times.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-048

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

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH PACE ANALYTICAL SERVICES, INC. FOR DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM ANALYSIS

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (*N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(a)(1)(i)*) permits contracts for professional services to be negotiated and awarded by the governing body without public advertising for bids and requires that the resolution authorizing the award of a contract for

professional services without competitive bids and the contract itself be available for public inspection; and

WHEREAS, the Water Utility has a need for laboratory testing services to conduct analyses of lead and copper levels in the distribution system in compliance with the Safe Water Drinking Act; and

WHEREAS, the Township desires to acquire laboratory testing services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5*; and

WHEREAS, the Township has solicited the services of Pace Analytical Services, Inc., 12 World's Fair Dr. 1, Somerset, NJ 08873 to provide these services for the Township; and

WHEREAS, Pace Analytical Services, Inc., has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Pace Analytical Services, Inc., has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit Pace Analytical Services, Inc., from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract, and

WHEREAS, the Township Manager recommends that the Council authorize an agreement with Analytical Lab Services, Inc., to provide said services; and

WHEREAS, the Township Manager hereby certifies that the cost of services with Pace Analytical Services, is in an amount not to exceed \$26,000; and

WHEREAS, funds will be charged to a Budget line item 4-05-55-502-380 or any other account deemed sufficient by the Chief Financial Officer; and

WHEREAS, the award of the contract to Pace Analytical Services, Inc. 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 Analytical Lab Services, Inc. have been filed with the Township and are annexed to this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey hereby authorizes contracts with Pace Analytical Services, Inc., 12 World's Fair Dr. 1, Somerset, NJ 08873 to provide laboratory testing services to conduct analyses required by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection related to the treatment of waste water not to exceed \$26,000 in the calendar year without further authorization of the Township Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township reserves the right to cancel this contract upon thirty (30) days' notice and Pace Analytical Services, Inc. shall only be paid for the work completed; furthermore, no minimum amount of work or payment is implied or guaranteed.

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 the Township Manager and the Township Clerk 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 Township Clerk.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-049

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

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH

ANALYTICAL LAB SERVICES, INC. FOR WASTEWATER ANALYSIS

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (*N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(a)(1)(i)*) permits contracts for professional services to be negotiated and awarded by the governing body without public advertising for bids and requires that the resolution authorizing the award of a contract for professional services without competitive bids and the contract itself be available for public inspection; and

WHEREAS, the Water & Sewer Utility has a need for laboratory testing services to conduct analyses required by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection related to the treatment of wastewater; and

WHEREAS, the Township desires to acquire laboratory testing services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5*; and

WHEREAS, the Township has solicited the services of Analytical Lab Services, Inc., 301 Fulling Mill Road, Suite A, Middletown, Pennsylvania 17057-5966 to provide these services for the Township; and

WHEREAS, Analytical Lab Services, Inc., has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide the services for the Township; and

WHEREAS, Analytical Lab Services, Inc., has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Analytical Lab Services, Inc., has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit Analytical Lab Services, Inc., from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract, and

WHEREAS, the Township Manager recommends that the Council authorize an agreement with Analytical Lab Services, Inc., to provide said services; and

WHEREAS, the Township Manager hereby certifies that the cost of services with Analytical Lab Services is in an amount not to exceed \$21,000; and

WHEREAS, funds will be charged to a Budget line item 4-05-55-508-380 or any other account deemed sufficient by the Chief Financial Officer; and

WHEREAS, the award of the contract to Analytical Lab Services, Inc. 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 Analytical Lab Services, Inc. have been filed with the Township and are annexed to this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey hereby authorizes contracts with Analytical Lab Services, Inc., 301 Fulling Mill Road, Suite A, Middletown, Pennsylvania 17057-5966 to provide laboratory testing services to conduct analyses required by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection related to the treatment of waste water not to exceed \$21,000 in the calendar year without further authorization of the Township Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township reserves the right to cancel this contract upon thirty (30) days' notice and Analytical Lab Services, Inc. shall only be paid for the work completed; furthermore, no minimum amount of work or payment is implied or guaranteed.

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 the Township Manager and the Township Clerk 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 Township Clerk.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-050

A motion was made by Councilwoman McGrath; seconded by Deputy Mayor McEvoy 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. Purchase, Lease or Acquisition of Real Property pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (5)*
2. Pending, Ongoing, or Anticipated Litigation and Contract Negotiations pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (7)*

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-051

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

APPROVAL OF PLACE-TO-PLACE TRANSFER OF PLENARY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION LICENSEE, WATCHUNG SAINTS, LLC

WHEREAS, an application has been filed for a Place-to-Place Transfer of Plenary Retail Distribution License Number 0720-33-006-014 and Expansion of Premises, heretofore issued to Watchung Saints, LLC for premises located at 706 Bloomfield Avenue, Verona, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the submitted application form is complete in all respects, the transfer fees have been paid, and the license has been properly renewed for the current license term.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona, County of Essex does hereby approve, effective the, the 26th day of February in the year 2024 the Place-to-Place Transfer and expansion of premise for the aforesaid Plenary Retail Consumption licensed premises for Watchung Saints, LLC, dba Parkside Social, 706 Bloomfield Avenue, Verona, New Jersey.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Municipal Clerk shall endorse the issued license certificate pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:2 et seq.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-052

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

AUTHORIZE BUDGET TRANSFERS BETWEEN APPROPRIATION ACCOUNTS PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-59

WHEREAS, certain transfers of funds for various 2023 budget appropriations are

necessary to cover anticipated expenditures; and

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40a:4-59* provides for transfer of appropriations with an excess over and above the amount deemed necessary to fulfil their purposes to those appropriations deemed to be insufficient;

WHEREAS, the appropriations subject to fund transfers hereby are not within those restricted by *N.J.S.A. 40a:4-59* for transfer purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Verona that the Chief Financial Officer shall and is hereby authorized to make transfers between appropriations accounts of the 2023 Municipal Budget as follows:

	TO:	FROM:
Municipal Clerk - Salaries and Wages	\$7,500.00	
Municipal Clerk - Operating Expenses		\$7,500.00
TOTAL:	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

Public Comment:


Cory Schor, Verona, New Jersey

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:14 p.m. is made by Councilman Roman; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath. Vote: 5 ayes. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Township Council is March 11, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Jennifer Kiernan
Municipal Clerk


Dr. Christopher Tamburro
Mayor

APPROVED: March 11, 2024