

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Verona Township Council on Monday, July 6, 2026, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 600 Bloomfield Avenue, Verona, New Jersey, and via Zoom video conferencing.

Call to Order:

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

Roll Call:

Councilman Schor, Councilwoman McGrath, Councilman Roman, Deputy Mayor McEvoy, Township Manager Kevin O'Sullivan, Deputy Township Manager Michael Kraus, Township Attorney Brian Aloia, and Municipal Clerk Jennifer Kiernan are present.

Mayor Tamburro is not present.

Swearing in Ceremony – Corey Schor, incoming Council Member

Deputy Mayor's Report:

Deputy Mayor McEvoy welcomes Councilman Schor and thanks everyone for joining in the ribbon cutting of Everett Field with a special recognition to the Verona Rescue Squad for getting there early to set up the tents for the rain. He thanks the staff and all involved for the fireworks display and mentions our First Responders for helping and trying to protect everyone in the extreme heat.

Jay Coltre, Essex County Liaison introduces Len Luciano, County Commissioner, District 4. Commissioner Luciano congratulates new Councilman Corey Schor and recognizes Councilwoman Christine McGrath for her win in the Primary election where she is running for County Commissioner At-Large. Mr. Coltre then reports on the summer concert series events, the butterfly tent safari at the Turtle Back Zoo, the Wellness on the Waterfront event and full body work out events.

Manager's Report:

Township Manager Kevin O'Sullivan comments that on June 26th proposals were received for the roll of subject matter expert for the emergency services building.

Presentation – Community Energy Plan – DMR Architects

Presentation – NJ Future – Age Friendly Audit

Deputy Manager's Report:

Deputy Township Manager Michael Kraus reports that Strans Engineering is continuing their work, the window project is complete, there is a salary ordinance tonight and the new prescription coverage went into effect on July 1st. Lastly, several pool updates are given.

Councilmember's Reports:

Councilman Roman thanks everyone who helped put together the ribbon cutting for the new field as well as everyone who was involved in the project from start to finish.

Councilwoman McGrath also attended the Everett Field ribbon cutting and thanks the VBSL for being a significant partner in this project and for everyone involved. She attended the fireworks and congratulates all fellow council people recently sworn in in the county. She lastly got the chance to walk in the Montclair Parade and thanks the town of Montclair for hosting a beautiful event.

Councilman Schor also attended the Everett Field ribbon cutting, fireworks event and the pool over the weekend. He lastly provides a complete overview on what he has accomplished since being appointed and looks forward to working with the rest of the community, residents and administration.

Public Comment:

Paul Petrangelli, Verona, NJ

Hearing, Adoption or Amendment of Ordinances:

ORDINANCE No. 2026-10

**AMENDING CHAPTER 150 "ZONING" OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP
SPECIFICALLY ARTICLE XVI, "ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT"
SECTIONS 16.1 - 16.8**

The Municipal Clerk reads the ordinance by title.

A motion to move the ordinance is made by Councilwoman McGrath; seconded by Councilman Schor.

Public Hearing: None

After Council discussion Councilman Roman makes a motion to table the ordinance in order for the Township Manager to provide detailed information; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath.
Votes: 4 ayes.

ORDINANCE No. 2026-27

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 140 "VEHICLES & TRAFFIC"
ARTICLE XIV "METERED/PERMIT PARKING" §140-68, PARAGRAPH B, OF
THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA TO INCLUDE
MUNICIPAL LOT #3**

The Municipal Clerk reads the ordinance by title.

A motion to move the ordinance is made by Councilwoman McGrath; seconded by Councilman Roman.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Schor, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

ABSENT: Tamburro

Ordinance No. 2026-27 is introduced by a vote of 5-0. A public hearing will be held on July 20, 2026.

Consent Agenda:

Councilwoman McGrath requests to pull resolution L-11, Councilman Schor requests to pull resolution L-2 and the minutes from the consent agenda. Motion to pull resolutions is made by Councilman Roman; seconded by Councilman Schor. Vote: 4 ayes.

RESOLUTION No. 2026-156

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

**AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH
BOSWELL ENGINEERING FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AND
INSPECTION SERVICES FOR DERWENT AVENUE SEWER REPAIRS**

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 2026-129 awarded contract No. 2026-03 Derwent Avenue Sewer Repairs on June 8, 2026 to National Water Main Cleaning Company; and,

WHEREAS, construction management and inspections associated with the installation of an in-place sewer liner in the vicinity of the Derwent Avenue Sewer Improvements; and

WHEREAS, Boswell Engineering has submitted a proposal to provide professional engineering services for this project; and,

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona has a need to acquire such services pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19-44A-20.5; and

WHEREAS, the cost of this project shall not exceed \$110,000 and shall be charged to account C-51-44-997-022 and the availability of funds have been certified by the Chief Financial Officer.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township of Verona, County of Essex and the State of New Jersey, as follows:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Verona that a Professional Service contract is awarded to Boswell Engineering for the design and engineering of said project:

1. The Council hereby authorizes the Township 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.
2. The services requested shall not exceed \$110,000 and no services or materials shall be requested without a certification of funds.
3. This resolution and the contract will be on file and available for public inspection at the office of the Municipal Clerk.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Schor, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

ABSENT: Tamburro

RESOLUTION No. 2026-157

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

**COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE COUNTY OF ESSEX AND CERTAIN MUNICIPALITIES
FOR CONDUCTING CERTAIN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES**

WHEREAS, this Cooperation Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into and shall be effective as of October 1, 2026, by and between the County of Essex, a body politic and corporate of the State of New Jersey ("County"), and the Township of Verona, a municipal corporation of the State of New Jersey ("Municipality").

WHEREAS, Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (the "Act") provides for substantial federal funds being made to certain urban counties for use therein through the Community Development Block Grant ("CDBG") Entitlement Program, and

WHEREAS, the Emergency Shelter Grants program ("ESG") provided through Subtitle B of Title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act permits for substantial federal funds allocated to prevent homelessness and to enable homeless individuals and families to move toward independent living; and

WHEREAS, Title II of the Cranston-Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, as amended, permits and provides for the participation of the United States government in a wide range of local housing activities and programs administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) , including the HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) program, and provides that a consortium of geographically contiguous units of general local government can be considered to be a unit of general local government for the purpose of the HOME Program, and;

WHEREAS, the Housing and Community Development Act establishes certain criteria which must be met in order for a county to be the recipient of said funding, and

WHEREAS, the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidated Act (N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq.) provides a mechanism through which counties and municipalities may enter into agreements for the provision of joint services, it is therefore agreed by the County and Municipality as follows:

- A. This agreement covers activities to be carried out through the CDBG Entitlement program, and where applicable, the HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) and

Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) programs, with fund appropriations from Federal Fiscal Years 2027, 2028, and 2029 (October 1, 2026 to September 30, 2029), and for successive three (3) year periods, as provided in the Housing and Community Development Act and until terminated.

B. Community Development Planning Process

1. Nature and Extent of Services

- a) Purpose. The purpose of this Agreement is to establish a legal mechanism through which the county government may apply for, receive, and disburse federal funds available to establish urban counties under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act through the CDBG Entitlement Program, and Title II of the Cranston - Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act of 1990 ("NAHA") through the HOME Program, and to undertake or assist in undertaking such actions in cooperation with the participating municipalities as may be necessary to participate in the benefits of these programs. Federal CDBG funds received by the County shall be for such functions as water and sewer facilities, neighborhood facilities, public facilities, housing rehabilitation, open space and such other purposes as are authorized by the Act. Federal HOME funds received by the County shall be for such functions that expand the supply of decent, affordable housing for low- and moderate-income families. The County and the Municipality agree to cooperate to undertake, or assist in undertaking, community renewal and lower income housing assistance activities, specifically urban renewal and publicly assisted housing, and such other purposes as are authorized by the Act. Nothing contained in this Agreement shall deprive any municipality or other unit of local government of any powers of zoning, development control or other lawful authority which it presently possesses, nor shall any participant be deprived of any state or federal aid to which it might be entitled in its own right, except as herein provided.
- b) Responsibilities of Participating Municipality: The execution of this Agreement by the appropriate officials of the participating Municipality signifies that the Municipality understands that it:
 - (1) May not apply for grants from appropriations under the state CDBG Program for fiscal years during the period in which it participates in the County's CDBG Program; and
 - (2) May receive a formula allocation under the HOME Program only through the County's urban county allocation. Thus, even if the County does not receive a HOME formula allocation, the participating municipality cannot form a HOME consortium with other local governments; and
 - (3) May receive a formula allocation under the ESG Program only through the urban county.
- c) Establishment of Committee: There is hereby established a cooperative CDBG Committee, consisting of two (2) representatives from each participating Municipality and two (2) representatives of the County, each to be appointed for one-year periods coinciding with the calendar year. The governing body and the chief executive of each participating agency shall make one (1) appointment each.
- d) Responsibilities of Committee
 - (1) The Committee shall take formal action only upon two-thirds vote of the full membership thereof.
 - (2) With the concurrence of the Essex County Board of County Commissioners, an Administrative Liaison Officer shall be designated. He/She shall be an employee of the County. He shall within the limits of resources available, provide technical and administrative support to the CDBG Committee, and shall provide liaison between the CDBG Committee and the Board of County Commissioners.
 - (3) The CDBG Committee shall meet promptly after its establishment and thereafter as often as required. It shall establish rules of procedure as may be required.
 - (4) The CDBG Committee shall study and discuss the community development needs of the County, which affect the participating local governments, and shall determine the most effective and acceptable utilization of CDBG funds available to the County government. It shall recommend to the Board of County Commissioners an application for participation in Federal

funding, and towards that end it shall, in the manner herein prescribed, be authorized to develop a 5-year Consolidated Plan for the County, including a housing assistance program, and such other documents and certifications of compliance as are required by the Federal Government for participation by the County in the CDBG Program

(5) The CDBG Committee shall develop, in full consultation with the county planning board and all affected agencies of the local governments involved, priorities for actual utilization of such funds as are made available from the Federal Government under this Title. The CDBG Committee shall recommend for each project or activity to be carried out with these funds a specific means of accomplishment. This may be for the County to carry out the project or function, for a Municipality to receive the monies to carry it out, or for some other combination of local or State agencies. Such implementation mechanism shall be established either by means of a separate contract entered into between the county government, upon the approval of the CDBG Committee, and the Municipality in which the activity or function is to take place, pursuant to the provisions of the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act, or by inclusion of such information in section C of this Agreement, subject to the same approvals. The implementation mechanism shall be established before submission of the application to HUD, and any relevant documents become part of this agreement and should be submitted to HUD with it.

(6) Every municipality participating in the CDBG committee may request participation in the expenditure of the Federal funds, comment on the overall needs of the County which may be served through these funds, or otherwise take part in the proceedings of the CDBG Committee through its members of the CDBG Committee. Pursuant to 24 CFR 570.501(b), every participating municipality is subject to the same requirements applicable to sub recipients of the federal funds, including the requirement of a written agreement set forth in 24 CFR 570.503. Pursuant to 24 CFR 570.501 and 24 CFR 570.503, the County shall enter into a written agreement with the Municipality prior to the disbursement of any funds for an approved project. No project may be undertaken or services provided in any municipality without the approval of the governing body of the municipality, which approval shall be established as provided in Subsection (5) above in addition to such other approvals as may be required by law. The Municipal approval of any projects or services shall not be a restriction or veto on the implementation of the approved Consolidated Plan. The County has final responsibility for selecting CDBG (and where applicable, HOME and ESG) activities and submitting the Consolidated Plan to HUD.

2. Standards of Performance

Every Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Agreement established pursuant to this agreement shall contain standards of performance as required by the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act and by the Housing and Community Development Act. Annually, a report shall be prepared by the Committee by each recipient of funds describing whether the desired objectives have been attained. The Committee shall thereupon report its findings to all participating local governments, and shall submit such reports to the Board of County Commissioners as may be required for submission to the Federal Government.

3. Estimated Cost and Allocation thereof

The amount of Federal funds involved shall be the amount applied for by the County pursuant to the recommendations of the Committee, subject to any modifications made by HUD. Any Federal funds received by letter of credit or otherwise shall be placed in a County Trust Fund established and maintained pursuant to regulations promulgated by the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs. This fund shall be in a separate bank account subject to the control of the County government, which shall be the designated recipient for the funds provided by the Federal Act. Upon authorization by the County, and in compliance with State law and promulgated regulations, funds may be expended from this Trust Fund by the County or by payment to the particular municipality pursuant to a specific contract. Neither the committee, the county government, nor any participating local government may expend or commit funds except as may be authorized pursuant to this agreement and in full compliance with State and Federal laws

and regulations. No participant under this contract may in any way be obligated to expend funds of its own except as may be mutually agreed in a lawful manner.

4. Duration of Contract and Automatic Renewal

The term of this Agreement shall be for three (3) years commencing on October 1, 2026, and shall continue in full force and effect for the consecutive three Federal Fiscal Years 2027, 2028, and 2029, and shall end on September 30, 2029, unless an earlier date of termination is fixed by HUD pursuant to law.

This Agreement will automatically be renewed for participation in successive three (3) year qualification periods, unless either the County or Municipality provides written notice to the other party that it elects not to participate in a new qualification period. A copy of this notice must also be sent to the Newark HUD Field Office. By no later than May 5th of the final year of the three (3) year ongoing program, the County will have notified the participating Municipality, in writing, of the Municipality's right not to participate in the new qualification period. By no later than July 7th of the final year of the ongoing three (3) year program, the municipality shall provide written notice to the Newark HUD Field Office and the County should it decide not to participate in the new qualification period. The determination not to participate by either party shall remain in effect for the next three (3) successive years. In no case may the Municipality drop out of an ongoing three (3) year program except as a result of HUD action.

The County and Municipality shall adopt any amendment to this Agreement incorporating changes necessary to meet the requirements for Cooperation Agreements set forth in the Urban County Qualification Notice applicable for a subsequent three (3) year urban county qualification period, and to submit such amendment to HUD at the time of such automatic renewal and, if the consortium's membership has changed, the state certification required under 24 CFR 92.101(a)(2)(i), and that such failure to comply will void the automatic renewal for such qualification period.

The terms of this Agreement shall remain in effect until CDBG {and HOME and ESG where applicable) funds and program income received (with respect to eligible activities carried out during the three (3) year qualification period and each successive qualification periods for which the agreement is renewed) are expended and funded activities completed.

5. Designation of Administrative Liaison Officer

The Administrative Liaison Officer selected pursuant to section B 1 (d) (2) of this Agreement is hereby designated as the administrative agent of the Board of County Commissioners for purposes of compliance with statutory and regulatory responsibilities. He shall be accountable to the Board of County Commissioners, and for this purpose shall be subject to the supervision of the Board.

C. Qualification as Urban County

In addition to such assurances and agreements as may have been made by previously executed ordinances in order to meet the criteria for funding eligibility as an "urban county" the municipality will cooperate with the county by undertaking or assisting in the undertaking of essential community development and lower-income housing assistance activities specifically including community renewal and publicly assisted housing as set forth in the application filed. The Municipality and the County will take all required actions to comply with the Urban County's certification required by Section 104(b) of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Fair Housing Act, Section 109 of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and other applicable laws. This Agreement shall be effective only when sufficient municipalities have signed the Agreement so that a population of at least 200,000 is represented and when all other federal eligibility criteria for designation as an "urban county" under the Act have been satisfied. In the event that sufficient municipalities meeting these criteria should not sign the Agreement within the time period set forth by HUD, the County Executive or his designee shall so notify all signatories and the Agreement shall thereupon be null and void. In order to comply with federal requirements, the County government, through the Board of County Commissioners, shall be the applicant for community development funds and shall take the full responsibility and assume all obligations of an applicant under the Federal Act. The County shall have final responsibility for selecting

activities and annually filing final statements, including the Consolidated Plan, with HUD.

Agreement As to Specific Activities

1. Specific Activities

Defining specific activities to be carried out by each municipality participating in the program will reflect some or all of the following considerations:

- a. community development needs
- b. short- and long-term community development objectives
- c. housing conditions and assistance needs of lower income households
- d. annual and three (3) year goals for housing assistance
- e. The general location of lower income housing and populations

The County will prepare the applications for these activities and assist in the administration thereof. In addition, the County will provide data from HUD and other sources regarding income eligibility for each municipality, surveys and trends for area housing and community needs, and a program summary of community development budgets for activities to be undertaken by and/or on behalf of the Municipality and within the time period to be defined by the activity contract to be executed after official approval of the current application by HUD for CDBG funds.

2. Identification of Participants and Authorized Officials

The chief executive officers of the participating municipalities as identified in the attached exhibits shall bear responsibility for compliance with the proper implementation of the activities in their respective municipalities and as described herein.

Full ultimate responsibility for compliance with the proper implementation of the activities described herein rests with the applicant and the County of Essex, New Jersey. For the purposes of this agreement, the County Executive represents the County.

3. Fund Transmittal Procedures and Standards

The means of paying for a local project and transmitting the funds from the Federal Government under the applicable Title of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 through the Trust Account created pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-39 to the local governing bodies shall be as follows:

- a. The local governing body shall provide for any and all legal budgetary appropriations, together with all appropriations which are to be made by rider as shall be available through the Trust Account as herein above mentioned.
- b. After the appropriations have been provided for, the local body shall, in accordance with the Public Contract Law, prepare the necessary plans and specifications for the local project and secure bids pursuant to the statute. It shall in all respects comply with the statutory laws of the State of New Jersey for public improvements.
- c. The Clerk of the Municipality shall certify to the County Board of County Commissioners compliance with Paragraphs a and b hereof and submit all proofs of compliance therewith including Affidavits of Publication, Minutes of receipt of bids and awards.
- d. Any and all contracts for any project shall be between the local unit and the contractor or subcontractors, as the case may be, in accordance with the Public Contract law.
- e. Any and all payments in pursuance of the contract entered into under Paragraph d shall be made by and through the treasurer of the local body and the source of funds thereunder shall be as follows:
 - (1.) Those payments first to be made by the treasurer of the local body shall be from funds derived or secured through the bonding ordinances or bond anticipation notes or appropriations authorized issued by the local body to the full extent of said appropriations.
 - (2.) Prior to the delivery of the funds by the County Treasurer to the local body the local treasurer shall submit a schedule of all payments heretofore made by the local treasurer to the contractor or contractors working on said project together with copies of the certification of the architect setting forth that said work had been completed and that said contractors were entitled to said payment which schedules and certification shall be submitted to the County Administrator for his examination and verification.
 - (3.) Thereafter the payment of funds by the treasurer of the local body shall be from

those funds secured and held in the Trust Account pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-39. Payments from said Trust Account shall be made upon written request from the treasurer of the local body on a regular County voucher to the County Treasurer at least one week prior to date of payment. The County Treasurer shall thereafter secure the necessary funds for said Trust Account, in accordance with a request on a letter of credit and shall forthwith deliver said funds to the treasurer of the local unit.

4. Standards of Performance

County and all other cooperating municipalities shall take all actions necessary to assure compliance with the Urban County's certification under Section 104(b) of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, regarding the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Uniform Relocation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Fair Housing Act, and the implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 1, affirmatively furthering fair housing, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, Executive Order 11988, the Fair Housing Act, and the implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 100, Section 109 of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, and the implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 6, which incorporates Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 8, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 35, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and the implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 146, Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, and other applicable laws. Use of urban county funds for activities in, or in support of, any cooperating city that does not affirmatively further fair housing within its own jurisdiction or that impedes the county's actions to comply with the county's fair housing certification shall be prohibited. Pursuant to 24 CFR 570.501(b), the Municipality is subject to the same requirements applicable to sub recipients, including the requirement of a written agreement as described in 24 CFR 570.503. County, City, all other cooperating cities, metropolitan cities, urban counties, units of general local government, Indian tribes, and insular areas that directly or indirectly receive funds provided under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, may not sell, trade, or otherwise transfer all or any portion of such funds to another such entity in exchange for any other funds, credits, or non-Federal considerations, but must use such funds for activities eligible under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended.

5. Time Period

The activities covered by this Agreement shall commence immediately after the date of execution of this Agreement by and/or on behalf of the participating Municipality. These activities shall be completed in a timely manner and within the term defined in the activity contracts beginning from the date of the related and official HUD approval of the current year application for CDBG funds.

6. Availability of Records for Audit

The participating municipalities and the County shall maintain and share between themselves and the CDBG Committee all the necessary and sufficient records for review and audit that pertain to the implementation of the activities described herein, and as required by HUD.

7. Activities Subject to Review

Each activity, as described herein, is subject to review by the CDBG Committee and to any action that the Board of County Commissioners of the County may take that is, in its discretion, necessary to the proper administration of this program.

8. Arbitration

Arbitration of all questions in dispute under this Agreement shall be at the choice of either party hereto and shall be in accordance with the provisions, then existing, of the American Arbitration Association. This Agreement shall be specifically enforceable under the prevailing arbitration laws, and judgment upon the award may be entered, in the Court of the Forum, State or Federal, having jurisdiction. The laws of the State of New Jersey are deemed to govern this contract. The decision of the arbitrators shall be a condition precedent to the right of any legal action.

D. Prohibitions on Funding

No urban county funding shall be provided for activities in or in support of any

participating municipality that does not affirmatively further fair housing within its own jurisdiction or that impedes the County's actions to comply with its fair housing certification.

E. Municipality's Policies Relative to Civil Rights Demonstrations

The execution of this Agreement by the appropriate officials of the participating municipality signifies that the municipality has adopted and is enforcing the following policies:

1. A policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies within the jurisdiction against any individuals engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations; and
2. A policy of enforcing applicable State and local laws against physically barring entrance to or exit from a facility or location which is the subject of such non violent civil rights demonstrations within its jurisdiction.

F. Non-Trade Clause

A unit of general local government may not sell, trade or otherwise transfer all or any portion of such funds to another such metropolitan city, urban county, unit of general local government, or Indian tribe, or insular area that directly or indirectly receives CDBG funds in exchange for any other funds, credits or non-Federal considerations, but must use such funds for activities eligible under title I of the Act.

G. Notices

All notices required to be given pursuant to this Agreement shall be deemed to have been given when the same shall be placed in writing and deposited in the United States Mail with postage prepaid as certified mail, return receipt requested, at the address of the parties to this Agreement as first hereinabove set forth.

H. Duplicate Originals

This Agreement may be executed in substantially similarly worded counter parts, each of which shall be signed by the County Executive and the chief executive of a participating municipality.

Each such signatory agrees to cooperate with all other signatories and be bound as if all had signed the same Agreement.

I. Opinion of County Counsel

Pursuant to the requirements of the HUD regulations, this Agreement was reviewed by the County's Counsel for compliance therewith and it is the opinion of County Counsel that the terms and provisions of the Agreement are fully authorized under state and local law and that the Agreement provides full legal authority for the County to undertake or assist in undertaking essential community renewal and lower-income housing assistance activities.

J. Severability and Modification Clause

In the event that any portion of this agreement shall be made inoperative by reason of judicial or administrative ruling, the remainder shall continue in effect.

Separate copies of this Cooperation Agreement may be signed by one or more individual participating municipalities to the same effect as if all participating municipalities executed the same copy. All executed copies shall be deemed to be duplication originals.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the Parties hereto have caused these present to be signed by its proper chief executive officer, attested by its clerk and affixed thereto its corporate seal.

Township of Verona

By _____
(Signature)

Date: _____

Christopher Tamburro, Mayor

ATTEST:

By _____

Date: _____

(Signature)

Jennifer Kiernan, CMC, Municipal Clerk
(seal)

County of Essex

By _____
(Signature)
Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr., County Executive

Date: _____

By _____
(Signature)

Date: _____

**Kathy Brown, Deputy Clerk of the Board
of County Commissioners**

(seal)

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By _____
(Signature)
Jerome St. John, County Counsel

Date: _____

ROLL CALL:
AYES: Schor, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy
NAYS:
ABSENT: Tamburro

RESOLUTION No. 2026-158

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

**AUTHORIZING INCLUSION IN THE ESSEX COUNTY
URBAN COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR
FEDERAL FISCAL YEARS 2027-2029
(OCTOBER 1, 2026, TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2029)**

WHEREAS, certain Federal funds are potentially available to the County of Essex under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, commonly known as the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG); and

WHEREAS, certain Federal funds are potentially available to the County of Essex under Title II of the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, as amended; commonly known as the HOME Investment Partnerships program (HOME); and

WHEREAS, substantial Federal funds are provided to the County of Essex through Subtitle B of Title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act are allocated to prevent homelessness and to enable homeless individuals and families to move toward independent living, commonly known as the Emergency Solutions Grants program (ESG)

WHEREAS, the current Uniform Shared Services and Consolidated Act (N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq.) provides a mechanism through which counties and municipalities may enter into agreements for the provision of joint services; and

WHEREAS, by July 8, 2026, each municipality must notify the Essex County Division of Housing & Community Development of its intent to continue as a participant in the Urban County entitlement programs noted above as part of the Urban County Requalification Process; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Township of Verona and its residents to participate in said entitlement programs; and.

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona desires to renew its' participation in the Essex Urban County for conducting certain community development activities for Federal Fiscal Years 2027-2029 (October 1, 2026, to September 30, 2029); and

WHEREAS, a letter has been drafted by the Mayor to the Essex County Division of Housing and Community Development notifying the County of the Township of Verona's desire to renew its inclusion as a participant municipality in the Essex Urban County entitlement program for Federal Fiscal Years 2027 to 2029 (October 1, 2026- September 30, 2029) and for successive three (3) year periods, as provided in the Housing and Community Development Act, until terminated; and

WHEREAS, the Township of and the Essex Urban County desire to enter into a Cooperation Agreement for Federal Fiscal Years 2027-2029 (October 1, 2026 to September 30, 2029) which authorizes the automatic renewal of the agreement for successive qualification periods of three years, and shall remain in effect at least until the CDBG, ESG and HOME funds from each of the federal fiscal years of the agreement's specified qualification period, and each successive qualification period for which the agreement is renewed, are expended and the funded activities completed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona that it hereby authorizes the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute the attached Cooperation Agreement in accordance with the provisions of law; for the Federal Fiscal Years 2027 to 2029 (October 1, 2026- September 30, 2029), and for successive three (3) year periods, as provided in the Housing and Community Development Act, until terminated; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption, and a copy to this resolution be forwarded to the Essex County Division of Housing & Community Development no later than July 31, 2026.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Schor, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

ABSENT: Tamburro

RESOLUTION No. 2026-159

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

ACCEPTING THE 2023 RECYCLING 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.

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 2023 Tonnage grant in the amount of \$19,297.29.

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: Schor, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

ABSENT: Tamburro

RESOLUTION No. 2026-160

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

**AUTHORIZING THE INSERTION INTO THE CY2025 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 2023 RECYCLING
TONNAGE 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 \$19,297.29 from the State of New Jersey in the form of a 2023 Recycling Tonnage Grant and wishes to amend its CY2026 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 CY2026 Municipal Budget in the sum of \$19,297.29 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:
Recycling Tonnage Grant

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the CY2026 Municipal Budget in the like sum of \$19,297.29 appropriated under the caption of:

General Appropriations:
(A) Operations - Excluded from “CAPS”
Public and Private Revenues Offset with Appropriations:
Recycling Tonnage 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: Schor, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

ABSENT: Tamburro

RESOLUTION No. 2026-161

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

**AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH
SCHIFANO CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION**

WHEREAS, Township Municipal Lot #2 and the horseshoe of the Civic Center require road resurfacing; and

WHEREAS, Schifano Construction Corp. provides said services and is under MCCPC Contract #6A Road Resurfacing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that Schifano Construction Corp., under MCCPC

Contract #6A Road Resurfacing is hereby awarded a contract for resurfacing Municipal Lot #2 and the Civic Center horseshoe in an amount not to exceed \$76,590.00, charged to C-53-46-040-080 or any other account deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: **Schor, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy**
NAYS:
ABSENT: **Tamburro**

RESOLUTION No. 2026-162

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

**AUTHORIZING THE CANCELLATION OF OUTSTANDING
CHECKS AND RECONCILING ITEMS**

WHEREAS, certain checks have been identified in the Claims Fund bank account by the Chief Financial Officer as outstanding; and

WHEREAS, it is a normal financial practice to review the bank accounts for old outstanding items for cancellation with the balances to be returned to the Fund Balance; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to formally cancel said checks so that the unnecessary balances may be returned to the fund balance of the respective funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Verona, County of Essex, State of New Jersey that the following old outstanding checks, be cancelled:

<u>Date of Check Issue</u>	<u>Check Number</u>	<u>Amount</u>
7/21/2025	9631	\$ 166.94
8/18/2025	9861	\$ 120.00
9/8/2025	9963	\$ 50.25
9/8/2025	10004	\$ 200.00
9/8/2025	10012	\$ 75.00
9/8/2025	10053	\$1,762.14
10/6/2025	10187	\$ 3.60
10/20/2025	10303	\$ 89.20
11/10/2025	10537	\$3,385.35
12/15/2025	10750	\$ 245.00
	Total Claims Fund	\$ 6,094.48

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that two certified copies of the resolution are to be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services and that a certified copy of this resolution shall be provided by the Township Clerk to each of the following:

- 1. Chief Financial Officer
- 2. Township Auditor

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Schor, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

ABSENT: Tamburro

RESOLUTION No. 2026-163

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

**PERMITTING THE REMOVAL OF AN EXTRAORDINARY TREE
PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 493, ARTICLE II, PARAGRAPH 21(C)
OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP**

WHEREAS, the property owner at 79 Fairview Avenue, Block 1501, Lot 1, has requested a permit to remove a Red Oak tree located on their property; and

WHEREAS, the tree has a diameter of forty-five inches (45") and is defined as an extraordinary tree in Chapter 493, Article II of the Township Code; and

WHEREAS, the Township Forester has reported that the tree is located adjacent to the drive is dead, causing a hazard to the homeowner's property and should be removed; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 493, Article II, paragraph 21(C) of the Township Code states that removal of extraordinary trees shall be prohibited except upon the specific written recommendation of the Zoning Official after consultation of the Township Forester and approval by resolution of the Township Council; and

WHEREAS, the Zoning Official is in agreement with the Township Forester's recommendations as stated in the attached memorandum.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Verona that due to the forester's concern, immediate removal of the 45" Red Oak tree is warranted pursuant to Chapter 493 of the Township Code.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall serve as the written authorization pursuant to Chapter 493, Article II, Paragraph 21(C).

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Schor, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

ABSENT: Tamburro

RESOLUTION No. 2026-164

A motion was made by Councilwoman McGrath; seconded by Councilman Roman 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 exist.

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: Schor, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

ABSENT: Tamburro

RESOLUTION No. 2026-165

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

**APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A
GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION FOR THE IMPROVEMENTS TO MORNINGSIDE
ROAD PROJECT**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona formally approves the grant application for the above stated project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Manager and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as MA-2027 - 00231 - Improvements to Morningside Road to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Township of Verona.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Manager and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Township of Verona and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

ABSENT: Tamburro

ABSTAIN (RECUSE): Schor

Councilwoman McGrath makes a motion to amend resolution L-11 to say “to be approved by the Township Manager”; seconded by Councilman Schor.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Schor, McGrath, Roman

NAYS: McEvoy

ABSENT: Tamburro

RESOLUTION No. 2026-166

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

**AMENDING THE COMMUNITY POOL RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR
THE 2026 POOL SEASON, SPECIFICALLY HOURS OF OPERATION**

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 2025-268 set the rules and regulations for the 2026 pool season; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to amend the hours of operation as stated in Resolution No. 2025-268.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey does hereby amend the pool hours as stated below. **[Additions are bolded in brackets]**:

POOL HOURS for the 2026 PRE-SEASON
[HOURS SUBJECT TO CHANGE FOR TOWNSHIP EVENTS
APPROVED BY THE TOWNSHIP MANAGER]

Memorial Day Weekend (May 23rd, 24th, & 25th)

Saturday, Sunday & Monday (Adult Hour – 18+ & Splash Pad).....10:00am to 11:00am

Saturday and Sunday.....11:00am to 8:00pm

Monday May 25th – Memorial Day.....11:00am to 7:00pm

Remaining Pre-Season – Saturday & Sunday Hours (May 30 & 31, June 6th, 7th, 13th and 14th)

Saturday & Sunday (Adult Hour – 18+ & Splash Pad).....10:00am to 11:00pm

Pre-Season Saturdays (May 30, June 6th & 13th).....11:00am to 8:00pm

Pre-Season Sundays (May 31, June 7th & 14th).....11:00am to 7:00pm

POOL OPENS FULL TIME SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 2026

HOURS of OPERATION for the 2026 POOL SEASON

Monday through Friday (SPLASH PAD ONLY).....10:00am to Noon

Monday through Friday.....Noon to 8:00pm

Saturday & Sunday (ADULTS ONLY - 18+ & Splash Pad)10:00am to 11:00am

Saturday & Sunday 11:00am to 8:00pm

RECREATION TENT HOURS – BEGINNING ON JUNE 22, 2026

Monday through Friday from 2:00pm to 6:00pm

****By entering the pool, you agree to the following statement:**

**I HAVE READ THE VERONA COMMUNITY POOL RULES AND AGREE THAT I, MY FAMILY
MEMBERS AND ANY GUESTS WILL ABIDE BY ALL POOL RULES.**

Verona Community Pool, 287 Fairview Avenue, Verona, New Jersey 07044

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township of Council of the Township of Verona hereby approves the 2026 Community Pool Season rules and authorize the Director of Community Services to establish and enforce these rules as deemed necessary.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Schor, McGrath, Roman

NAYS: McEvoy

ABSENT: Tamburro

New Business:

The Council discusses Council liaisons. Corey Schor is appointed as Council liaison to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee and the Multicultural Inclusion & Accessibility Advisory Committee and Mr. McEvoy is appointed to the Joint Flood Advisory Board.

Public Comment:

Pam Priscoe, Verona, New Jersey

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn at 9:12 p.m. is made by Councilwoman McGrath; seconded by Councilman Schor. Vote: 4 ayes.

The next meeting is July 20, 2026

Respectfully submitted,


Jennifer Kiernan, Municipal Clerk

APPROVED: July 20, 2026