Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Verona Township Council on Monday, October 19, 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 Deputy Township Manager reads the notice of Open Public Meetings Act.

Roll Call:
Mayor Tamburro, 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's Report:
Mayor Tamburro had the opportunity to attend UNICO's Italian American Heritage night as well as the truck loading for Verona Fights Hunger Week. He recognizes the importance of the breast cancer flag raising and highlights the board of health meeting. He thanks the Verona Emergency Management Coordinator and Deputy Coordinator for running a successful tabletop exercise that was a cyber security incident. He also thanks our police department, DPW and fire department in regards to their road duties due to PSE&G gas line replacements. He lastly mentions a productive conversation had with our county executive regarding the Veteran's Field on Linn Drive.

The mayor presents a Certificate of Recognition to the 8U Barnstormers Girls Softball Team.

J. Coltre, Essex County Liaison mentions the Strut your Mutt event on Saturday and encourages all to partake.

Manager's Report:
Township Manager Kevin O'Sullivan goes through the 2026 Best Practices survey, which will allow the Township to receive State aid.

Mr. O'Sullivan makes the following appointment to the Historical Preservation Commission:

Samantha Gabriele	Alternate #2	an unexpired term ending 1/15/2028

Township Manager Kevin O'Sullivan provides brief highlights on our drinking water projects.

Deputy Manager's Report:
Deputy Manager Michael Kraus provides updates on various projects including the Bloomfield Avenue Streetscape, BMED, lead paint and property maintenance. He lastly recognizes Frederick Tempesta from the Verona Rescue Squad for being awarded EMT of the year from the EMS Council of New Jersey.

Councilmember's Reports:
Deputy Mayor McEvoy attended the Verona Fights Hunger event and thanks Wings Support Group and Minette's Angels for all their hard work regarding breast cancer awareness.

Councilman Roman congratulates the Junior Women's Club for their successful Verona Fights Hunger event and thanks all who participated.

Councilwoman McGrath also attended the successful Verona Fights Hunger week, the breast cancer flag raising and an integrated healthy community's action plan brainstorming session. She represented Verona at the bar event in West Caldwell and there was a Shade Tree monthly meeting. She lastly encourages all residents to exercise their right to vote.

Councilman Schor congratulates the Juniors on their Verona Fights Hunger event and thanks all involved for all their hard work making it such a success.

Public Comment:

Roseann Pena, Verona, New Jersey
Kate Hartwyk, Verona, New Jersey

Hearing, Adoption or Amendment of Ordinances

ORDINANCE #2026-31

AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL CHAPTER 430 "SITE PLAN REVIEW" IN ITS ENTIRETY AND REPLACE WITH A NEW CHAPTER 430 "SITE PLAN REVIEW" OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA

The Municipal Clerk reads the ordinance by title.

A motion to move the ordinance is made by Deputy Mayor McEvoy; seconded by Councilman Schor.

Public Hearing: None

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

Ordinances for Introduction

ORDINANCE No. 2026-32

REPEALING CHAPTER 402 "RENT CONTROL" IN ITS ENTIRETY AND ESTABLISHING A NEW CHAPTER 402 "RENTAL REGULATIONS"

The Municipal Clerk reads the ordinance by title.

A motion to move the ordinance is made by Mayor Tamburro; seconded by Councilman Schor.

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

Ordinance 2026-32 is introduced by a vote of 5-0. It will be published according to law and a public hearing will be held on November 9, 2026.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-33

AMENDING CHAPTER A565-1 "SCHEDULE OF FEES", SPECIFICALLY "RENTAL REGULATIONS"

The Municipal Clerk reads the ordinance by title.

A motion to move the ordinance is made by Councilwoman McGrath; seconded by Mayor Tamburro.

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

Ordinance 2026-33 is introduced by a vote of 5-0. It will be published according to law and a public hearing will be held on November 9, 2026.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-34

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER A565 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA THEREOF ENTITLED FEES IN ORDER TO AMEND THE ANNUAL SEWER USER CHARGE AND SEWER & WATER CONNECTION FEES

The Municipal Clerk reads the ordinance by title.

A motion to move the ordinance is made by Deputy Mayor McEvoy; seconded by Councilman Roman.

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

Ordinance 2026-34 is introduced by a vote of 5-0. It will be published according to law and a public hearing will be held on November 9, 2026.

ORDINANCE No. 2026-35

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

The Municipal Clerk reads the ordinance by title.

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

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

Ordinance 2026-35 is introduced by a vote of 5-0. It will be published according to law and a public hearing will be held on November 9, 2026.

ORDINANCE No. 2026-36

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

The Municipal Clerk reads the ordinance by title.

A motion to move the ordinance is made by Mayor Tamburro; seconded by Councilman Schor.

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

Ordinance 2026-36 is introduced by a vote of 4-1. It will be published according to law and a public hearing will be held on November 9, 2026.

Public Comment on Consent Agenda Items

Keith Pajonas, Verona, New Jersey

RESOLUTION No. 2026-231

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

ENABLING RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Green Acres Program ("State"), provides loans and/or grants to municipal and county governments and grants to nonprofit organizations for assistance in the acquisition and development of lands for outdoor recreation and conservation purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona has previously obtained a Green Acres grant of

$1,900,000 from the State to fund the following project(s):

#0720-21-001 Verona Open Space Acquisition; and

WHEREAS, the State and the Township of Verona intend to increase Green Acres funding by $1,900,000, to increase Green Acres funding to a total of $3,800,000.

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

1. The Township Manager of the above-named body or board is hereby authorized to execute an agreement and any amendment(s) thereto with the State known as 0720-21-001 Verona Open Space Acquisition
2. The applicant agrees to provide its matching share to the Green Acres funding, if a match is required, in the amount of $3,800,000
3. The applicant agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations in its performance of the project
4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

RESOLUTION No. 2026-232

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

SUPPORT SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FOR NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL FY2027 PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the FY2027 Safe Routes to School Program ("Program") provides federal funds for infrastructure projects that facilitate walking and/or bicycling to school, including the construction or installation of sidewalks, crosswalks, signals, traffic-calming measures, and bicycle facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona, in coordination with the Verona Board of Education has worked diligently to implement projects that improve the accessibility, safety, use, and maintenance of the areas surrounding schools within the community; and

WHEREAS, the project will help to continue and improve the promotion and encouragement of pedestrian and bicycle access and safety for residents and school children; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the as follows:

A. The Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey, formally authorize the Township Manager to submit an electronic grant application for the Franklin Street Pedestrian Bridge to the New Jersey Department of Transportation for funding under the 2027 Safe Routes to School Program on behalf of the Township of Verona.
B. This project involves roadways that are owned and maintained by the Township of Verona.
C. Following the completion of the proposed project, the Township of Verona will assume maintenance responsibility for all improvements completed with grant funding awarded under the FY2027 Safe Routes to School Program.
D. The Township of Verona is designating Michael Kraus as the "responsible charge" for this program. Michael Kraus is a full-time employee of the Township of Verona and will be the responsible charge for the proposed Federal-aid construction project.
E. Upon receipt of a grant award, the Township Manager is hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Township of Verona, and the Township Manager's signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.
F. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.

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

RESOLUTION No. 2026-233

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

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH APPLIED CONCEPTS INC.

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona's police department has a need to purchase radar systems; and

WHEREAS, Applied Concept Inc. provides such goods; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona may, without advertising for bids, purchase such materials through the State Contract #17-FLEET-00726 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:1l-12 and N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.29 et seq., and

WHEREAS, the Qualified Purchasing Agent has determined that the value of said services will not exceed $27,240.00; and

WHEREAS, this expenditure shall be charged to Budget Account Nos. C-53-46-040-076 or T-95-56-881-001 any other account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or her designee, and the availability of funds have been contingently certified by the Chief Financial Officer.

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

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

RESOLUTION No. 2026-234

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

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT FIREFIGHTER ONE, LLC.

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona's volunteer fire department requires specific equipment, turnout gear and vehicle parts; and

WHEREAS, Firefighter One LLC supplies such items; and,

WHEREAS, the QPA has determined such items to be purchased will not exceed $30,000.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, that Firefighter One LLC is hereby awarded a contract to supply gear for the Verona Volunteer Fire Department in an amount not to exceed $30,000, charged to budget lines G-60-41-724-331 and 6-01-25-255-082 and the CFO has certified the availability of funds.

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

RESOLUTION No. 2026-235

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

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH ROUTE 23 AUTO MALL

WHEREAS, a need exists for the acquisition of automobile parts for the daily operations of the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona may, without advertising for bids, purchase such materials through the Sourcewell Contract #CNTR 080124 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12 and N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.29 et seq., and

WHEREAS, the QPA has determined the purchase of auto parts will not exceed $24,250.00.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, that Route 23 Auto Mall is hereby awarded a contract for various auto parts in an amount not to exceed $24,500.00, charged to account number 6-01-26-295-0151 or any other account deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer and the availability of funds have been contingently certified by the Chief Financial Officer.

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

RESOLUTION No. 2026-236

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

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH SJ FUEL SOUTH COMPANY, INC.

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona has a need to purchase motor gasoline; and

WHEREAS, SJ Fuel South Co. Inc., Barrington, New Jersey provides such goods; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona may, without advertising for bids, purchase such materials through the Morris County Co-Op Contract #1-Motor Gasoline pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12 and N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.29 et seq., and

WHEREAS, the Qualified Purchasing Agent has determined that the value of said services will not exceed $53,000.00; and

WHEREAS, this expenditure shall be charged to Budget Account No. 6-01-31-436-241 or any other account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or her designee, and the availability of funds have been contingently certified by the Chief Financial Officer.

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that SJ Fuel South Company, Inc., Barrington, New Jersey will provide motor gasoline in an amount not to exceed $53,000.00.

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

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

RESOLUTION No. 2026-237

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

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH SPATIAL DATA LOGIC FOR MUNICIPAL MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona has a need to continue using municipal management software services; and

WHEREAS, the Township has solicited the services of Spatial Data Logic, 285 Davidson Avenue, Suite 302, Somerset, New Jersey 08873 to provide these software services to the Township; 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 Qualified Purchasing Agent has determined that the value of said services will not exceed $32,000.00; and

WHEREAS, quotes were obtained by the IT Department, one of which quoted the lowest price; and

WHEREAS, this expenditure shall be charged to Budget Account No. 6-01-24-264-030 or any other account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or her designee, and the availability of funds have been contingently certified by the Chief Financial Officer.

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that Spatial Data Logic, 285 Davidson Avenue, Suite 302, Somerset, New Jersey municipal management software services in an amount not to exceed $32,000.00.

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

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

RESOLUTION No. 2026-238

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor McEvoy; seconded by Councilman Schor 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 36 Valhalla Way, block 603, lot 1, has requested a permit to remove a White Oak tree located on their property; and

WHEREAS, the tree has a diameter of thirty-eight inches (38″) 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 next to the driveway and is half dead and the entire crown is dead causing a hazard; 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 38″ White 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, Tamburro**
NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2026-239

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor McEvoy; seconded by Councilman Schor 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: **Schor, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro**
NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2026-240

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

APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING A GRANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA AND THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND PREPAREDNESS

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness (NJOHSP) and its division, the New Jersey Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Cell (NJCCIC) maintain and operate information technology services and networks that are used to provide critical and essential government services; and

WHEREAS, the NJOHSP is designated as the State Administrative Agency responsible for the administration of Federal homeland security and preparedness grants including the State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP); and

WHEREAS, NJCCIC has procured the services to provide endpoint security, threat intelligence, and cyberattack response services to its customers; and

WHEREAS, the NJOHSP has awarded the Township of Verona with grant funding in order to utilize the services provided by CrowdStrike, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, the attached grant agreement must be executed in order to memorialize the terms of an agreement between the Township of Verona and the State of New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Information Technology recommends execution of the respective agreement in order for the Township to utilize the services provided by NJOHSP as described in the NJCCIC Advanced Endpoint Protection Solution Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, County of Essex, New Jersey, that the Township Manager and any other Officers of the Township are authorized to execute an agreement between the Township and NJOHSP.

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

Public Comment:

Kathy Laterza, Verona, New Jersey
Kate Hartwyk, Verona, New Jersey

Adjournment:
A motion to adjourn is made at 8:10pm by Deputy Mayor McEvoy; seconded by Councilman Roman.

The next meeting is November 9, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Kiernan, Municipal Clerk

Christopher H. Tamburro, Mayor

APPROVED: November 9, 2026