

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Verona Township Council on Monday, January 6, 2020, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 600 Bloomfield Avenue, Verona, New Jersey.

Call to Order:

Municipal Clerk reads notice of Open Public Meetings law. The notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act have been satisfied with respect to this meeting; specifically, the time, date and location were included in the annual notice of meetings adopted by the governing body, posted in the Municipal Building, and sent to the official newspapers of the Township, the Verona Cedar Grove Times and the Star Ledger. Additionally, the agenda for this meeting was posted in the Municipal Building and sent to the two newspapers before 4:30 p.m. on the Friday preceding this meeting.

Roll Call:

Mayor Jack McEvoy, Deputy Mayor Alex Roman, Councilman Kevin Ryan; Councilman Ted Giblin and Councilwoman Christine McGrath. Township Manager Matthew Cavallo, Brian Aloia, Township Attorney and Municipal Clerk Jennifer Kiernan are also present.

Mayor's Report:

Mr. McEvoy calls for the pledge of allegiance. There is a moment of silence in honor of past Township Manager Joseph Martin.

Julius Coltre approaches the lectern to update the public on County activities. He reports that the Essex County Deer Management Program will be conducted in South Mountain Reservation and Hilltop Reservation starting January 14 through February 20. Both reservations will be closed to the public.

Mr. McEvoy appoints Monica Vincent to the Library Board of Trustees as a regular member with a term ending 12/31/2024. The appointment is moved by Mayor McEvoy; seconded by Deputy Mayor Roman. Vote: 5-0.

Mr. McEvoy congratulates former Verona Police Department Captain Michael Ruglio on his retirement and congratulates Captain Dave Wardrope and Sergeant Chris Scheper on their recent promotions.

Manager's Report:

Mr. Cavallo invites Ann Jocelyn, Coordinator of the Verona Municipal Alliance Committee (VMAC) to the lectern. Ms. Jocelyn updates the public on VMAC programs and this year's grant application.

Mr. Cavallo discusses the 2020 Community Development Block Grant Application. He states that the application is due January 8, 2020. The initial public hearing for the CDBG was scheduled for December 6, 2019, however, being that the meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather, the first hearing was held at a regular meeting of the governing body on December 16, 2019. Public notices for the hearing were properly advertised, as was the public notice for this second hearing tonight. The Township is applying for three (3) projects: ADA ramp at FN Brown Elementary School; ADA ramp to the Forest Avenue Elementary School playground and replacement of the ramp at the Municipal Building, which is in poor condition. Assistant Township Engineer Michael DeCarlo approaches the lectern and states that the Township has received Community Development Block Grants since 1979. This grant relies on the US Census map. He states that up until 2010, the Township received funds for roadway projects, but since that time, the CDBG has honed down on projects in this area, but the ADA ramps are sorely needed.

Mr. Cavallo opens the floor to public participation. No one from the public rose to speak.

Police Chief Chris Kiernan approaches the lectern to give an update on personnel movement within the Department. Retired Captain Michael Ruglio served in the department for over 26 years and helped move the department forward. The Chief explains that as the department is governed by Civil Service rules, there is a movement of three (3) positions. Two promotions were

made on December 31: Captain Dave Wardrope and Sergeant Chris Scheper. There is no active Lieutenant list at this time, by the Chief expects a new list within 4-6 weeks, at which time the department will fill the Lieutenant position. Mr. Cavallo reports that police overtime was reduced 1700 hours in 2019, from 2018. The 54% decrease saved the Township \$111,000.

Mr. Cavallo appoints Glenn Beckmeyer, P.E. as Township Engineer to a term expiring 12/31/2020.

Mr. Cavallo announces that a PILOT Primer, an overview of PILOT programs, will be presented by Benecke Economics on Wednesday, January 29, 2020 at 7:30 pm in the Community Center Ballroom to the public. The seminar should last about 90 minutes and will be posted on YouTube afterwards.

Linn Drive Reconstruction work is underway Linn Drive Reconstruction Project. Belgian Block continues and paving is expected to take place in the spring. The Fairway Avenue Tank is back online and the project is complete. The Township is waiting for documents to close the project out.

At the request of the Court, the Affordable Housing Fairness Hearing, which was scheduled for Monday, December 16 in front of Judge Gardner, has been adjourned to a future date. This is expected to be rescheduled for late February 2020. Mr. Cavallo expects that a Special Meeting of the Township Council may be needed to introduce the Redevelopment Plan for the Cameco Project before the next meeting on January 27. The draft Plan is currently being reviewed by the Township's professionals. Once the Plan is introduced, it will be forwarded to the Planning Board for review. There are six openings on the newly formed Open Space Trust Fund Advisory Board. Anyone interested should submit his or her intentions to the Municipal Clerk using the appropriate forms that can be found on the Board and Committees webpage. It is expected that the governing body will make the appointments in March and the Committee will not meet until after June 30, 2020.

Mr. Cavallo reports that the Town Planner calendar has been received by residents. He states that the Town Planner is not the Township's official calendar. The Township's 2020 recycling calendar will be mailed out next week, meanwhile, it is available online.

The Division of Local Government Services' Local Finance Notice has extended the budget submission deadline from February 28 to March 30 and extended the adopted budget deadline to April 30.

The Board of Education Reorganization meeting is 1/7/2020 at 7 pm. The Board of Adjustment will meet on 1/9/2020 at 8 pm. The Neighborhood Traffic & Safety Committee will meet on 1/14/2020 at 7:30 pm. The Library Board of Trustees Committee will meet 1/16/2020 at 7:30 pm. The Rent Control Board will meet on February 20 at 7 pm. The Planning Board will meet on 1/23/2020 at 7:30 pm. The next Council meeting is 1/27/2020 at 7 pm.

Councilmember's Reports:

Deputy Mayor Roman congratulates Jim Day and Sara Drappi on their election to the Board of Education and thanks Glenn Elliot for serving on the Board and he looks forward to working with the new members.

Councilman Ryan reports that Affordable Housing seminar handout he received at the New Jersey League of Municipalities conference has been posted to the website. He wishes all a healthy and happy New Year. He comments on the number of recent anti-Semitic and biased attacks on Jewish houses of worship and urges the citizenry to say something if they see something. He also reports that the Verona Lions Club has donated \$5,500 in Shop Rite gift cards to assist families in Town. This is an annual donation made by the Lions Club every year.

Councilman Giblin comments that he know Joseph Martin for many years. He commends Mr. Martin's service in many capabilities throughout the State.

Councilwoman McGrath reports that the Recreation Advisory Committee will meet on January 14 at 7:30 pm in the Community Center. The Committee will discuss how recreation programs will be impacted by the upcoming school construction in the summer. She reports that she

attended the menorah lighting and that it was moving to see the community come together. She announces her first Councilwoman Office Hours and invites the community to come and ask questions or give opinions on Saturday, January 25 from 10-11 am in the 2nd floor conference room in the library.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-01

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING CHAPTER 13 (COURT, MUNICIPAL) IN ITS ENTIRETY AND ESTABLISHING A NEW CHAPTER 13 (COURT, MUNICIPAL) OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance No. 2020-01 by title into record.

Motion to introduce Ordinance No. 2020-01 is moved by Councilwoman McGrath; seconded by Councilman Giblin.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

Ordinance No. 2020-01 is adopted 5-0 and will be published according to law and a public hearing will be held on January 27, 2020.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-02

AMENDING CHAPTER 4 (ADMINISTRATION OF GOVERNMENT), SECTION 4-22 TO CHANGE THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance No. 2020-02 by title into record.

Motion to introduce Ordinance No. 2020-02 is moved by Mayor McEvoy; seconded by Councilman Ryan.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

Ordinance No. 2020-02 is adopted 5-0 and will be published according to law and a public hearing will be held on January 27, 2020.

ORDINANCE No. 2020-03

AMENDING CHAPTER 140 (VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC) BY AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance No. 2020-03 by title into record.

Motion to introduce Ordinance No. 2020-03 is moved by Councilwoman McGrath; seconded by Councilman Ryan.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

Ordinance No. 2020-03 is adopted 5-0 and will be published according to law and a public hearing will be held on January 27, 2020.

Minutes from the December 16, 2019 meeting are approved by unanimous consent.

RESOLUTION No. 2020-001

A motion was made by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Councilman Ryan that the following resolution be adopted:

**ADOPTING CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF VERONA**

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Township of Verona to earn additional revenue through the investment and prudent management of its cash receipts; and

WHEREAS, the Local Fiscal Affairs Law requires that each local unit shall adopt a cash management plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the following shall constitute the Cash Management Plan for the Township of Verona and the Township of Verona shall deposit and manage its funds pursuant to this plan:

Definitions

1. Treasurer shall mean the Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer of the Township of Verona.
2. Fiscal year shall mean the twelve-month period beginning January 1 ending December 31.
3. Cash Management Plan shall mean the plan as approved by this resolution.

Designation of Depositories

1. At least once each fiscal year the Township Council shall by resolution designate the depositories for the Township of Verona in accordance with *N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14*.

Audit Requirement

1. The Cash Management Plan shall be subject to the annual audit conducted pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 40A:5-4*.

Authority to Invest

1. The Township Manager and the Chief Financial Officer shall make and be responsible for municipal deposits and investments.

Investment Instruments

1. The Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer shall invest at his discretion in any investment instruments as approved by the State of New Jersey, Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services and in accordance with *N.J.S.A. 40A:5-15.1* with maturities of twelve months or less.

Records and Reports

1. The Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer shall report all investments in accordance with *N.J.S.A. 40A:5-15.2*.
2. At a minimum the Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer shall:
 - a. Keep a record of all investments.
 - b. Keep a cash position record, which reveals on a daily basis, the status of the Township's cash in its bank accounts.
 - c. Report monthly to the Township Council as to the status of cash balances in bank accounts, revenue collection and cash receipts and disbursements

Cash Flow

1. The Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer shall ensure that the Township's accounting system provides regular information concerning the Township's cash position and investment performance.
2. All monies shall be turned over to the Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer and deposited in accordance with *N.J.S.A. 40A:5-15*.
3. The Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer is authorized and directed to invest surplus funds of the Township of Verona as the availability of the funds permit. In addition, it shall be the responsibility of the Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer to minimize the possibility of idle cash by depositing the Township's monies in interest bearing accounts wherever practical and in the best interest of the Township of Verona.
4. The Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer shall ensure that funds are borrowed for Capital Projects in a timely fashion.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2020-002-016

A motion was made by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Councilman Ryan that the following resolution be adopted:

RESOLUTION No. 2020-002

RESOLUTION FIXING DEPOSITORY FOR CURRENT FUND

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14* provides that monies held in any separate fund shall be treated as monies held in trust and shall not be diverted to any other purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Investors Bank, New York Community Bank and Kearny Bank shall be the depository for Current Funds of the Township and that the custodian shall be Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer, Matthew Laracy.

All withdrawals shall be on orders signed by the Mayor, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer and Township Manager.

RESOLUTION No. 2020-003

RESOLUTION FIXING DEPOSITORY FOR WATER/SEWER UTILITY OPERATING FUND

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14* provides that monies held in any separate fund shall be treated as monies held in trust and shall not be diverted to any other purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that BCB Bank, Investors Bank, New York Community Bank and Kearny Bank shall be the depository for all Water Utility Operating Funds and the custodian shall be Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer, Matthew Laracy.

All withdrawals shall be on orders signed by the Mayor, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer and Township Manager.

RESOLUTION No. 2020-004

RESOLUTION FIXING DEPOSITORY FOR SWIMMING POOL UTILITY FUND

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14* provides that monies held in any separate fund shall

be treated as monies held in trust and shall not be diverted to any other purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that BCB Bank, Investors Bank, New York Community Bank and Kearny Bank shall be the depository for Swimming Pool Utility Funds of the Township and that the custodian shall be Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer, Matthew Laracy.

All withdrawals shall be on orders signed by the Mayor, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer and Township Manager.

RESOLUTION No. 2020-005

RESOLUTION FIXING OFFICIAL DEPOSITORY FOR ALL PAYROLL FUNDS

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14* provides that monies held in any separate fund shall be treated as monies in trust and shall not be diverted to any other purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that BCB Bank, Investors Bank, New York Community Bank and Kearny Bank shall be the depositories for all payroll funds and the custodian shall be Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer, Matthew Laracy.

All withdrawals shall be on orders signed by the Mayor, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer and Township Manager.

RESOLUTION No. 2020-006

RESOLUTION FIXING OFFICIAL DEPOSITORY FOR GENERAL CAPITAL FUNDS

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14* provides that monies held in any separate fund shall be treated as monies in trust and shall not be diverted to any other purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that BCB Bank, Investors Bank, New York Community Bank and Kearny Bank shall be the depository for all Water Utility Operating Funds and the custodian shall be Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer, Matthew Laracy.

All withdrawals shall be on orders signed by the Mayor, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer and Township Manager.

RESOLUTION No. 2020-007

RESOLUTION FIXING OFFICIAL DEPOSITORY FOR WATER/SEWER UTILITY CAPITAL FUND

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14* provides that monies held in any separate fund shall be treated as monies in trust and shall not be diverted to any other purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that BCB Bank, Investors Bank, New York Community Bank and Kearny Bank shall be the depository for all Water Utility Operating Funds and the custodian shall be Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer, Matthew Laracy.

All withdrawals shall be on orders signed by the Mayor, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer and Township Manager.

RESOLUTION No. 2020- 008

RESOLUTION FIXING OFFICIAL DEPOSITORY FOR SWIMMING POOL UTILITY CAPITAL FUND

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14* provides that monies held in any separate fund shall be treated as monies in trust and shall not be diverted to any other purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that BCB Bank, Investors Bank, New York

Community Bank and Kearny Bank shall be the depository for all Water Utility Operating Funds and the custodian shall be Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer, Matthew Laracy.

All withdrawals shall be on orders signed by the Mayor, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer and Township Manager.

RESOLUTION No. 2020-009

RESOLUTION FIXING DEPOSITORY FOR ALL PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FUNDS

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14* provides that monies held in any separate fund shall be treated as monies in trust and shall not be diverted to any other purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that BCB Bank, Investors Bank, New York Community Bank and Kearny Bank shall be the depository for all Water Utility Operating Funds and the custodian shall be Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer, Matthew Laracy.

All withdrawals shall be on orders signed by the Mayor, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer and Township Manager.

RESOLUTION No. 2020-010

RESOLUTION FIXING OFFICIAL DEPOSITORY FOR TRUST FUND-OTHER/ ESCROW BOOKKEEPER

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14* provides that monies held in any separate fund shall be treated as monies in trust and shall not be diverted to any other purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that BCB Bank, Investors Bank, New York Community Bank and Kearny Bank shall be the depository for all Trust Fund other/escrow bookkeeper and the custodian shall be Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer, Matthew Laracy.

All withdrawals shall be on orders signed by the Mayor, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer and Township Manager.

RESOLUTION No. 2020-011

RESOLUTION FIXING OFFICIAL DEPOSITORY STATE UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION INSURANCE ACCOUNT

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14* provides that monies held in any separate fund shall be treated as monies in trust and shall not be diverted to any other purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that BCB Bank, Investors Bank, New York Community Bank and Kearny Bank shall be the depository for all Water Utility Operating Funds and the custodian shall be Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer, Matthew Laracy.

All withdrawals shall be on orders signed by the Mayor, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer and Township Manager.

RESOLUTION No. 2020-012

RESOLUTION FIXING OFFICIAL DEPOSITORY FOR ANIMAL CONTROL FUNDS

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14* provides that monies held in any separate fund shall be treated as monies in trust and shall not be diverted to any other purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that BCB Bank, Investors Bank, New York Community Bank and Kearny Bank shall be the depository for all Water Utility Operating Funds and the custodian shall be Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer, Matthew Laracy.

All withdrawals shall be on orders signed by the Mayor, Chief Financial

Officer/Treasurer and Township Manager.

RESOLUTION No. 2020-013

**RESOLUTION FIXING OFFICIAL DEPOSITORY FOR ALL
DEVELOPMENT FEE TRUST FUNDS**

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14* provides that monies held in any separate fund shall be treated as monies in trust and shall not be diverted to any other purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that BCB Bank, Investors Bank, New York Community Bank and **Kearny** Bank shall be the depository for all Development Fee Trust Funds collected pursuant to Chapter 213, Section 213-55. The custodian of the accounts shall be the Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer, Matthew Laracy.

All withdrawals shall be on orders signed by the Mayor, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer and Township Manager.

RESOLUTION No. 2020-014

**RESOLUTION FIXING OFFICIAL DEPOSITORY FOR ALL
AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUNDS**

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14* provides that monies held in any separate fund shall be treated as monies in trust and shall not be diverted to any other purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that BCB Bank, Investors Bank, New York Community Bank and Kearny Bank shall be the depository for all Affordable Housing Trust Funds collected pursuant to Code. The custodian of the accounts shall be the Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer, Matthew Laracy.

All withdrawals shall be on orders signed by the Mayor, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer and Township Manager.

RESOLUTION No. 2020-015

RESOLUTION FOR COURT FUNDS

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14* provides that monies held in any separate fund shall be treated as monies in trust and shall not be diverted to any other purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that BCB Bank, Investors Bank, New York Community Bank and Kearny Bank shall be the depository for Court Account Funds of the Township and the custodian shall be the Court Administrator.

All withdrawals shall be on orders signed by the Municipal Court Administrator and Deputy Court Administrator or the Judge.

RESOLUTION No. 2020-016

**RESOLUTION FIXING OFFICIAL DEPOSITORY FOR ALL
OPEN SPACE TRUST FUNDS**

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14* provides that monies held in any separate fund shall be treated as monies in trust and shall not be diverted to any other purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that BCB Bank, Investors Bank, New York Community Bank and Kearny Bank shall be the depository for all Open Space Trust Funds collected pursuant to Code. The custodian of the accounts shall be the Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer, Matthew Laracy.

All withdrawals shall be on orders signed by the Mayor, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer and Township Manager.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2020-017

A motion was made by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Councilman Ryan that the following resolution be adopted:

**RESOLUTION DESIGNATING OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER FOR ALL
ADVERTISEMENTS AND NOTICES AND DESIGNATING TWO
NEWSPAPERS TO RECEIVE NOTICE OF MEETING**

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40:53.1* permits the governing body of every municipality to designate official newspapers for the publication of all advertisements and notices required by law to be published; and

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, *N.J.S.A.10:4-6 et seq.*, requires the governing body of each municipality to designate two newspapers to receive the notices of its meetings.

WHEREAS, all municipal advertisements shall be published in one or both of the designated official newspapers according to the various statutory provisions; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of Verona is desirous of designating two official newspapers for the purpose of satisfying the requirements of these statutes; and

WHEREAS, the VERONA-CEDAR GROVE TIMES and THE STAR LEDGER, a newspaper published within the County of Essex meets the statutory criteria for designation as the official newspapers for the Township of Verona.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the VERONA-CEDAR GROVE TIMES and THE STAR LEDGER be hereby designated as the official newspapers for all advertisements and notices of the Township of Verona required to be published.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the VERONA-CEDAR GROVE TIMES and THE STAR LEDGER be hereby designated as the two newspapers to receive the notices required by the Open Public Meetings Act.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2020-018

A motion was made by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Councilman Ryan that the following resolution be adopted:

**DESIGNATING MYVERONANJ, PATCH CEDAR GROVE/VERONA, AND
TAPINTO VERONA/CEDAR GROVE, AS ELECTRONIC NEWS SOURCES
FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA**

WHEREAS, the Senator Byron M. Baer Open Public Meetings Act, *N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 to 4-21*, requires written advance notice of at least 48 hours, giving the time, date, location and, to the extent known, the agenda of any regular, special or rescheduled meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Verona to at least two newspapers designated by the governing body, one of which shall be the official newspaper, to receive such notices; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the notice requirements set forth above, the Township Council may provide electronic notice of any meeting of the public body through the Internet in accordance with *N.J.S.A. 10:4-9.1*; and

WHEREAS, “electronic notice” means advance notice available to the public via electronic transmission of at least 48 hours, giving the time, date, location and, to the extent known, the agenda of any regular, special or rescheduled meeting, which notice shall accurately state whether formal action may or may not be taken at such meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to designate MyVeronaNJ, Patch Cedar Grove/Verona and TAPinto Verona/Cedar Grove as news sources for electronic notices pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-9.1; said notice being at the discretion of the governing body.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that MyVeronaNJ, Patch Cedar Grove/Verona and TAPinto Verona/Cedar Grove be and are hereby designated as news sources for electronic notices and other matters required to be advertised under the Open Public Meetings Act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no electronic notice issued pursuant to this act shall be deemed to substitute for, or be considered in lieu of, such adequate notice in accordance with *N.J.S.A. 10:4-9.2*.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2020-019

A motion was made by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Councilman Ryan that the following resolution be adopted:

SETTING THE RATE OF PENALTIES AND GRACE PERIOD FOR RECEIPT OF DELINQUENT TAXES AND MUNICIPAL CHARGES

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 54:67(a)* permits the governing body to fix the rate of interest to be charged for the nonpayment of taxes, assessments, or other municipal liens or charges on or before the date when they would become delinquent, and may provide that no interest shall be charged if payment of any installment is made within the tenth calendar day following the date upon which the same became payable. The rate so fixed shall not exceed 8% per annum on the first \$1,500.00 of the delinquency and 18% per annum on any amount in excess of \$1,500.00, to be calculated from the date the tax was payable until the date that actual payment to the tax collector is made; and

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 54:67(c)* permits the governing body to fix a penalty to be charged to a taxpayer with a delinquency in excess of \$10,000 who fails to pay that delinquency as billed, prior to the end of the fiscal year, the penalty so fixed shall not exceed 6% of the amount of the delinquency with respect to each most recent fiscal year only; and

WHEREAS, this legislation is permissive in nature and requires the adoption of a resolution by the governing body imposing the penalty for delinquencies in the municipality; and

WHEREAS, it has determined that it is in the best interests of the Township to authorize imposition of such penalty.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 54:4-67(a)* that the interest rate for delinquent taxes and any delinquency for the year 2020 be set at the rate of 8% per annum for amounts under \$1,500 and 18% per annum for amounts over \$1,500.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no interest shall be charged if payment of any installment is made by the 10th of the month after the date upon which the same became payable, effective January 1, 2020. In the event that the 10th of the month falls on a Saturday, Sunday or Legal Holiday, the date of the Grace Period ends with the following working day.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that pursuant to *N.J.S.A.54:4-67* the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to impose a penalty of 6% on any delinquent taxes and municipal charges in excess of \$10,000 in addition to the interest charges set forth above.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2020-020

A motion was made by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Councilman Ryan that the following resolution be adopted:

**AUTHORIZING TAX COLLECTOR TO MAKE CORRECTIONS AND/OR
ADJUSTMENT NOT EXCEEDING \$10.00**

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has to make certain corrections and adjustments to the accounts in the Tax Collector's Office; and

WHEREAS, it is proper bookkeeping procedure to have the Tax Collector's record reflect that there are no monies due and owing; and

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A 40A:5-17.1* allows the Tax Collector to process property tax refunds and cancellations or delinquency of less than \$10.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to make any corrections or adjustments to the accounts in the office of the Tax Collector where the correction or adjustment does not exceed \$10.00.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2020-021

A motion was made by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Councilman Ryan that the following resolution be adopted:

**AUTHORIZING TAX COLLECTOR TO REFUND
PROPERTY TAX AND UTILITY OVERPAYMENTS**

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to refund property tax and utility overpayments to the accounts in the office of the Tax Collector when deemed appropriate and necessary.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2020-022

A motion was made by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Councilman Ryan that the following resolution be adopted:

TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR OPERATING PURPOSES

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:4-19* provides that, where any contracts, commitments, or payments are to be made prior to the adoption of the 2020 budget, temporary appropriations be made for the purpose and amount required in the manner and time therein provided; and

WHEREAS, the total appropriation in the 2019 budget, exclusive of any appropriations made for principal and interest of debt, public assistance, and capital improvement fund, is the sum of \$20,576,271.68 for the Current Fund, \$5,673,500 for the Water/Sewer Utility Fund, and \$526,000 for the Pool Utility; and

WHEREAS, the temporary budget shall not exceed 26.25% of the total appropriations in

the 2019 budget, exclusive of any appropriations made for principal and interest of debt, public assistance, and capital improvement fund, which is the sum of \$5,401,271 for the Current Fund, \$1,489,293.75 for the Water/Sewer Utility Fund, and \$138,075 for the Pool Utility Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY the Township Council of the Township of Verona, County of Essex, that the following temporary appropriations for 2020 operating purposes be made in the amount of \$5,400,000 for the Current Fund, \$1,480,000 for the Water/Sewer Utility Fund, and \$138,075 for the Pool Utility Fund.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2020-023

A motion was made by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Councilman Ryan that the following resolution be adopted:

AUTHORIZING THE SETTLEMENT OF TAX APPEALS RESULTING IN A REDUCTION NOT EXCEEDING \$10,000.00

WHEREAS, there are tax appeals before the County Tax Board or the Tax Court of New Jersey where the amount of reduction in the total annual taxes as a result of a settlement does not exceed \$10,000.00 per tax year; and

WHEREAS, it will be more cost efficient for the Township to permit the Tax Assessor, the Attorney and the Township Manager to settle those tax appeals without the necessity of obtaining Township Council approval by way of a resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the Tax Assessor, the Attorney and the Township Manager are hereby authorized to settle any tax appeal where the amount of reduction in the total annual taxes as a result of a settlement does not exceed \$10,000.00 per tax year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all settlements authorized pursuant to this Resolution shall be reported at the next meeting thereafter of the Township Council.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2020-024

A motion was made by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Councilman Ryan that the following resolution be adopted:

AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF ASSESSOR'S TAX APPEALS, ANSWERS, COUNTERCLAIMS, APPEALS AND CROSS APPEALS IN TAX MATTERS ON BEHALF OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA

WHEREAS, statutory tax appeals and other matters and applications affecting the taxation of real property within the Township of Verona are routinely filed with the Essex County Board of Taxation and the Superior Court of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council finds it to be in the best interest of the citizens of the Township to authorize and direct the Tax Assessor to take any and all action that he/she deems advisable in such tax matters in order to protect, promote and advance the Township's interest in assuring that each property within the Township is fairly and equitably assessed in accordance with the law; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council finds it to be in the best interest of the citizens of the Township to authorize and direct the Township Attorney and/or Special Counsel to assist the Tax Assessor in such tax matters referred to herein;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, County of Essex, State of New Jersey that the Tax Assessor of the Township of Verona be and is hereby authorized and directed to prepare, file, pursue and litigate, if necessary, any Assessor's Tax Appeals, Answers to Tax Appeals, Counterclaims, Appeals and Cross-Appeals in statutory tax appeals and other matters and applications affecting the taxation of real property within the Township of Verona as may be filed with the Essex County Board of Taxation and/or the Superior Court of the State of New Jersey, that the Tax Assessor deems advisable in such tax matters in order to protect, promote and advance the Township's interest in assuring that each property within the Township is fairly and equitably assessed in accordance with the law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that notwithstanding the foregoing, the Tax Assessor shall provide the Township Manager and the Township Council with a quarterly report detailing all pending tax appeals, and shall be required to obtain the prior approval and consent of the Township Council for the following:

1. The settlement of all non-residential tax appeals
2. The hiring of expert witnesses for purposes other than real property appraisals
3. The Tax Attorney for the Township of Verona be and are hereby authorized and directed to take any and all action said Attorney deems advisable to assist the Tax Assessor of the Township of Verona in such tax matters as are referred to herein
4. The Township Manager, Township Tax Assessor, Township Tax Attorney be and are hereby authorized to take all necessary and appropriate actions to carry out the subject and intent of this Resolution

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2020-025

A motion was made by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Councilman Ryan that the following resolution be adopted:

APPOINTING A PUBLIC AGENCY COMPLIANCE OFFICER

WHEREAS, *N.J.A.C. 17:27-3.5* requires a municipality to designate an officer or employee to serve as its Public Agency Compliance Officer; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the Township Manager, Matthew Cavallo, shall serve as the Public Agency Compliance Officer for the Township.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that in pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.A.C. 17:27-3.5* the Township Manager, Matthew Cavallo, is hereby designated as the Public Agency Compliance Officer for the Township of Verona.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Municipal Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the State of New Jersey, Department of the Treasury, Public Contract Equal Employment Opportunity Compliance Monitoring Program.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2020-026

A motion was made by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Councilman Ryan that the following resolution be adopted:

AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT

OFFICE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Federal law permits the Secretary of Defense to transfer to Federal and State agencies personal property of the Department of Defense that the secretary determines is suitable for use by agencies in law enforcement activities; and

WHEREAS, known as the "Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO) 1033 Program", this program allows local law enforcement agencies to obtain, at little or no cost, surplus federal property originally intended for use by the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, although equipment is provided through the "Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO) 1033 Program" at no cost to county and municipal law enforcement agencies, these agencies are responsible for costs associated with the maintenance, fueling and upkeep of the equipment and for specialized training for its operation; and

WHEREAS, taxpayers are the primary consumers and financiers of services provided by county and municipal law enforcement agencies and have the right to be assured that their money is being spent in an efficient and effective manner and the right to know the purposes for which public funds are utilized; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to establish a system of local oversight for county and municipal law enforcement agencies that participate in and acquire equipment through the "Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO) 1033 Program" and guidelines for the use of this equipment by those agencies; and

WHEREAS, an application for the enrollment of a municipal law enforcement agency in any program established by the United States Department of Defense pursuant to 10 U.S.C. s.2576a shall be approved by a resolution adopted by a majority of the full membership of the governing body of a local unit prior to the transmittal of any such application to the State Coordinator of any such program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona, County of Essex, State of New Jersey does hereby authorize and approve participation in the "Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO) 1033 Program" established by the United States Department of Defense pursuant to 10 U.S.C. s.2576a.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Manager, Chief of Police and the Township Clerk are hereby authorized to make application for the enrollment on behalf of the Township of Verona.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Manager is hereby authorized to approve the acquisition of any property deemed appropriate under this agreement.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2020-027

A motion was made by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Councilman Ryan that the following resolution be adopted:

**AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH ALOIA LAW FIRM LLC,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW FOR TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY SERVICES**

WHEREAS, the Township has a need for legal services for the period commencing on January 1, 2020 and terminating on December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Township has received a proposal from Aloia Law Firm LLC, Attorneys at Law, 2 Broad Street, Suite 407, Bloomfield, New Jersey 07003 to represent the Township as the Township Attorney for 2020 at the same rate of compensation as in 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Township Manager has recommended that the Aloia Law Firm LLC be awarded a contract to provide the aforementioned services; and

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 award of the contract to the Aloia Law Firm LLC is being made pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5*; and

WHEREAS, the cost for said professional services shall be set at a monthly retainer of \$6,000 per month worked, or any portion thereof for "General Services" as outlined in the agreement, plus \$125 per hour for any and all legal services outside of the "General Services" performed by the Attorney, \$75 per hour for any paralegal work performed on services other than "General Services", plus the cost of any reimbursable items; and

WHEREAS, this expenditure shall be charged to Account No. 01-20-155-027, or any other account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or his designee, and have been contingently certified by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township pending approval of the 2020 Budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that Aloia Law Firm LLC, Attorneys at Law, 2 Broad Street, Suite 407, Bloomfield, New Jersey 07003 is hereby awarded a contract to provide to provide legal services for the period commencing on January 1, 2020 and terminating on December 31, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the cost for said professional services shall be set at a monthly retainer of \$6,000 per month worked, or any portion thereof for "General Services" as outlined in the agreement, plus \$125 per hour for any and all legal services outside of the "General Services" performed by the Attorney, \$75 per hour for any paralegal work performed on services other than "General Services", plus the cost of any reimbursable items.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Entity Disclosure Certification and Determination of Value are to be placed on file with this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this contract is being awarded pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5*.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this expenditure shall be charged to Account No. 01-20-155-027, or any other account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or his designee, and have been contingently certified by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township pending approval of the 2020 Budget.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a notice of this action shall be published once in the Verona-Cedar Grove Times; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Manager and the Township 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 Township Clerk.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2020-028

A motion was made by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Councilman Ryan that the following resolution be adopted:

**AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH PKF O'CONNOR DAVIES, LLP
FOR AUDIT SERVICES**

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:5-4* requires every local unit to cause an annual audit of their books by a Registered Municipal Accountant licensed in the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Township Manager, concurring with the Chief Financial Officer, has determined that it would be beneficial for the Township Council to appoint the PKF O'Connor Davies, LLP, 293 Eisenhower Parkway, Suite 270, Livingston, New Jersey 07039 to perform Auditing Services pursuant to statute for the fixed amount of \$57,600; and

WHEREAS, the John Lauria, RMA, PSA, Engagement Principal of PKF O'Connor Davies, LLP, has extensive experience in the field of Municipal Accounting and a long standing history in Verona; and

WHEREAS, this expenditure shall be charged to Budget Account Nos. 01-20-145-217, 05-55-502-278, 05-55-502-381, or any other account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or his designee, and the availability of funds have been contingently certified by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township pending approval of the 2020 Budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that PKF O'Connor Davies, LLP, 293 Eisenhower Parkway, Suite 270, Livingston, New Jersey 07039 is hereby awarded Contract #18-20 to perform auditing services pursuant to statute for the fixed amount of \$57,600.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this expenditure shall be charged to Budget Account Nos. 01-20-145-217, 05-55-502-278, 05-55-502-381, or any other account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or his designee, and the availability of funds have been contingently certified by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township pending approval of the 2020 Budget.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a notice of this action shall be published once in the Verona-Cedar Grove Times.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Manager and the Township 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 Township Clerk.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2020-029

A motion was made by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Councilman Ryan that the following resolution be adopted:

**AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH BECKMEYER ENGINEERING, P.C.
FOR GENERAL ENGINEERING SERVICES IN**

WHEREAS, the Township has a need for general engineering services for the period commencing on January 1, 2020 and terminating on December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Township Manager has determined that it would be beneficial in to re-appoint Glenn Beckmeyer, P.E., P.P., C.M.E. of the firm Beckmeyer Engineering, P.C., 117 Herman Street, East Rutherford, New Jersey 07073 to provide general engineering services for the 2020 calendar year; and

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 award of the contract to the Beckmeyer Engineering, P.C. is being made pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5*; and

WHEREAS, the cost for said professional services shall be set at a fixed rate of \$4,000.00 per month for "general engineering services" plus the cost of services outside the scope of "general engineering services" ranging in hourly rates from \$60 - \$135 per hour, plus

reimbursable expenses, not to exceed \$25,000 for the calendar year without further authorization by the Township Council; and

WHEREAS, this expenditure shall be charged to Budget Account Nos. 01-26-290-028, 05-55-502-028, or any other account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or his designee, and the availability of funds have been contingently certified by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township pending approval of the 2020 Municipal Budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the Beckmeyer Engineering, P.C., 117 Herman Street, East Rutherford, New Jersey 07073 is hereby awarded a contract for General Engineering Services and shall be paid at the fixed rate of \$4,000.00 per month for “general engineering services” plus the cost of services outside the scope of “general engineering services” ranging in hourly rates from \$60 - \$135 per hour, plus reimbursable expenses, not to exceed \$25,000 for the calendar year without further authorization by the Township Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Entity Disclosure Certification and Determination of Value are to be placed on file with this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township reserves the right to cancel this contract upon thirty (30) days’ notice and the Beckmeyer Engineering, P.C. 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 this expenditure shall be charged to Budget Account Nos. 01-26-290-028, 05-55-502-028, or any other account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or his designee, and the availability of funds have been contingently certified by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township pending approval of the 2020 Municipal Budget.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a notice of this action shall be published once in the Verona-Cedar Grove Times.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Manager and the Township 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 Township Clerk.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2020-030

A motion was made by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Councilman Ryan that the following resolution be adopted:

**AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. DeMIRO,
JR. FOR SERVICES AS SPECIAL LEGAL COUNSEL**

WHEREAS, the Township Attorney has determined a need for outside Special Counsel to handle certain litigation matter related to property tax appeals; and

WHEREAS, the Township Manager, concurring with the Township Attorney, has determined that it would be beneficial in to appoint the Law Offices of Michael A. DeMiro, Jr., 155 Pompton Avenue, Verona, New Jersey 07044 as Special Legal Counsel to represent the Township in these matters; and

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 award of the contract to the Law Offices of Michael A. DeMiro, Jr. is being made pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5*; and

WHEREAS, the cost for said professional services shall be set at a fixed hourly rate of \$125.00 per hour for attorney services plus the cost of reimbursable expenses, not to exceed \$35,000 for the calendar year without further authorization by the Township Council; and

WHEREAS, this expenditure shall be charged to Budget Account No. 01-20-155-028, or any other account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or his designee, and the availability of funds have been contingently certified by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township pending approval of the 2020 Municipal Budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the Law Offices of Michael A. DeMiro, Jr. 155 Pompton Avenue, Verona, New Jersey 07044 is hereby appointed as Special Legal Counsel and shall be paid at the fixed hourly rate of \$125.00 an hour, plus the cost of reimbursable expenses, not to exceed \$35,000 for the calendar year without further authorization by the Township Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Entity Disclosure Certification and Determination of Value are to be placed on file with this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township reserves the right to cancel this contract upon thirty (30) days' notice and the Law Offices of Michael A. DeMiro, Jr. 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 this expenditure shall be charged to Budget Account No. 01-20-155-028, or any other account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or his designee, and the availability of funds have been contingently certified by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township pending approval of the 2020 Municipal Budget.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a notice of this action shall be published once in the Verona-Cedar Grove Times.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Manager and the Township 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 Township Clerk.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2020-031

A motion was made by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Councilman Ryan that the following resolution be adopted:

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH GIBLIN & GANNAIO, LLC FOR SERVICES AS SPECIAL LEGAL COUNSEL

WHEREAS, the Township Attorney has determined a need for outside Special Counsel to handle certain litigation matters; and

WHEREAS, the Township Manager, concurring with the Township Attorney, has determined that it would be beneficial in to appoint Giblin & Gannaio, LLC, 2 Forest Avenue, Suite 200, Oradell, New Jersey 07649 as Special Legal Counsel to represent the Township in these matters; and

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 award of the contract to Giblin & Gannaio, LLC is being made pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5*; and

WHEREAS, the cost for said professional services shall be set at a fixed hourly rate of \$125.00 per hour for attorney services plus the cost of reimbursable expenses, not to exceed \$35,000 for the calendar year without further authorization by the Township Council; and

WHEREAS, this expenditure shall be charged to Budget Account No. 01-20-155-028, or any other account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or his designee, and the availability of funds have been contingently certified by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township pending approval of the 2020 Budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that Giblin & Gannaio, LLC, 2 Forest Avenue, Suite 200, Oradell, New Jersey 07649 is hereby appointed as Special Legal Counsel and shall be paid at the fixed hourly rate of \$125.00 an hour, plus the cost of reimbursable expenses, not to exceed \$35,000 for the calendar year without further authorization by the Mayor and Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Entity Disclosure Certification and Determination of Value are to be placed on file with this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township reserves the right to cancel this contract upon thirty (30) days' notice and Giblin & Gannaio 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 this expenditure shall be charged to Budget Account No. 01-20-155-028, or any other account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or his designee, and the availability of funds have been contingently certified by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township pending approval of the 2020 Budget.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a notice of this action shall be published once in the Verona-Cedar Grove Times.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Manager and the Township 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 Township Clerk.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2020-032

A motion was made by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Councilman Ryan that the following resolution be adopted:

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH MCMANIMON, SCOTLAND & BAUMANN, LLC FOR SERVICES AS SPECIAL LEGAL COUNSEL

WHEREAS, the Township Attorney has determined a need for outside Special Counsel to handle certain matters related to the issuance of bonds and notes and other legal and litigation matters deemed appropriate by the Township Attorney; and

WHEREAS, the Township Manager, concurring with the Township Attorney, has determined that it would be beneficial in to appoint McManimon, Scotland & Baumann, LLC, 75 Livingston Avenue, Roseland, New Jersey 07068 as Special Legal Counsel to represent the Township in these matters; and

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 award of the contract to McManimon, Scotland & Baumann, LLC, is being made pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5*; and

WHEREAS, the cost for said professional services shall be set at a fixed hourly rates of ranging from \$125.00 to \$ 215 per hour for services plus the cost of reimbursable expenses, not to exceed \$50,000 for the calendar year without further authorization by the Township Council; and

WHEREAS, this expenditure shall be charged to Budget Account No. 01-20-155-028, certain Capital Ordinances, or any other account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or his designee, and the availability of funds have been contingently certified by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township pending approval of the 2020 Municipal Budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that McManimon, Scotland & Baumann, LLC, 75 Livingston Avenue, Roseland, New Jersey 07068 is hereby appointed as Special Legal Counsel and shall be paid at hourly rates of \$125 - \$ 215 per hour, plus the cost of reimbursable expenses, not to exceed \$50,000 for the calendar year without further authorization by the Township Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Entity Disclosure Certification and Determination of Value are to be placed on file with this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township reserves the right to cancel this contract upon thirty (30) days' notice and McManimon, Scotland & Baumann, LLC 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 this expenditure shall be charged to Budget Account No. 01-20-155-028, certain Capital Ordinances, or any other account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or his designee, and the availability of funds have been contingently certified by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township pending approval of the 2020 Municipal Budget.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a notice of this action shall be published once in the Verona-Cedar Grove Times.

BE IT FUTURE RESOLVED that the Township Manager and the Township 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 Township Clerk.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2020-033

A motion was made by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Councilman Ryan that the following resolution be adopted:

**AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH
LYONS ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, LLC**

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona has a need to contract with an outside firm to provide Licensed Sewage Collection, Licensed Water Treatment and Licensed Water Distribution System Operators to meet the requirements of the system permits from the New Jersey

Department of Environmental Protection; and

WHEREAS, the Township has solicited the services of Lyons Environmental Services, LLC, 1105 Green Grove Road, Building #2, Neptune, New Jersey 07753 to provide these services for the Township; and

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 award of the contract to Lyons Environmental Services, LLC is being made pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5*; and

WHEREAS, the cost for said professional services shall not exceed \$28,000 for the calendar year without further authorization by the Township Council; and

WHEREAS, this expenditure shall be charged to Budget Account No. 05-55-502-028, or any other account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or his designee, and the availability of funds have been contingently certified by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township pending approval of the 2020 Municipal Budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that Lyons Environmental Services, LLC is hereby awarded a contract to provide licensed sewage collection, licensed water treatment and licensed water distribution system operators not to exceed \$28,000 for the calendar year without further authorization by the Township Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Entity Disclosure Certification and Determination of Value are to be placed on file with this Resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township reserves the right to cancel this contract upon thirty (30) days' notice and Lyons Environmental Services, LLC 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 this expenditure shall be charged to Budget Account No. 05-55-502-028, or any other account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or his designee, and the availability of funds have been contingently certified by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township pending approval of the 2020 Municipal Budget.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a notice of this action shall be published once in the Verona-Cedar Grove Times; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Manager and the Township 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 Township Clerk.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-034

A motion was made by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Councilman Ryan that the following resolution be adopted:

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE LIEN

WHEREAS, the Construction Code Official determined that the owner of the Block 501, Lot

51 on the Tax Maps of the Township of Verona, commonly known as 25 Gordon Place, to comply with the Township property maintenance code, specifically not clearing the snow of the property; and

WHEREAS, clean up was performed by Green Valley Landscape Design on behalf of the Township on October 4th and October 19th totaling the amount of \$250.00; and

WHEREAS, these charges shall be imposed on the property in the form of a municipal lien for above services pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 54:5-8* and to any other applicable State of Federal regulation.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, County of Essex, New Jersey, that the Tax Collector be and is hereby authorized and directed to take all appropriate actions to impose on the property commonly known as 25 Gordon Place, Verona, New Jersey (Block 501, Lot 51) a municipal lien in the amount of the tax lien certificate (\$250.00), where upon the Tax Collector shall, within ten (10) days of encumbering of the property, send official notice of said encumbrance via certified mail, return receipt requested and regular mail to any and all other lien holders or creditors with a secured interest in the property.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-035

A motion was made by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Councilman Ryan that the following resolution be adopted:

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE LIEN

WHEREAS, the Construction Code Official determined that the owner of the Block 902, Lot 10 on the Tax Maps of the Township of Verona, commonly known as 111 Linden Avenue, to comply with the Township property maintenance code, specifically not clearing the snow of the property; and

WHEREAS, clean up was performed by Green Valley Landscape Design on behalf of the Township on October 1st and October 22nd totaling the amount of \$100.00; and

WHEREAS, these charges shall be imposed on the property in the form of a municipal lien for above services pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 54:5-8* and to any other applicable State of Federal regulation.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, County of Essex, New Jersey, that the Tax Collector be and is hereby authorized and directed to take all appropriate actions to impose on the property commonly known as 111 Linden Avenue, Verona, New Jersey (Block 902, Lot 10) a municipal lien in the amount of the tax lien certificate (\$100.00), where upon the Tax Collector shall, within ten (10) days of encumbering of the property, send official notice of said encumbrance via certified mail, return receipt requested and regular mail to any and all other lien holders or creditors with a secured interest in the property.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2020-036

A motion was made by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Councilman Ryan that the following resolution be adopted:

REFUNDING TAX LIEN REDEMPTION

WHEREAS, property located at 1 Claridge Drive #1004, Block 101 Lot 1 Qualifier C1004, owned by Robert Mautone Jr., has been held in tax lien since December 5, 2019; and

WHEREAS, payment was received, in the amount of \$575.64 from Robert Mautone Jr., clearing the lien as follows:

Certificate #19-00001	
Certificate	\$564.35
2% Redemption Penalty	<u>\$ 11.29</u>
Total	\$575.64
Premium	\$19,400.00

WHEREAS, this certificate has been held by D1 Softball Clinic and the certificate has been received and properly signed for cancellation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chief Financial Officer and Tax Collector be authorized to refund, from Trust, \$19,975.64 to:

D1 Softball Clinic
20 Glenside Terrace
Montclair, NJ 07043

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2020-037

A motion was made by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Councilman Ryan that the following resolution be adopted:

REFUNDING TAX LIEN REDEMPTION

WHEREAS, property located at 25 Gordon Place, Block 501 Lot 51, owned by Helena Houdova, has been held in tax lien since December 1, 2016; and

WHEREAS, payment was received, in the amount of \$185,457.74 from Meridian Mortgage Corporation, clearing the lien as follows:

Certificate #16-00005	
Certificate	\$19,902.25
6% Redemption Penalty	\$ 1,194.14
Search Fee	\$ 12.00
Recording Fee	\$ 53.00
2016 Taxes plus Interest	\$46,488.82
2016 Utilities plus Interest	\$ 802.31
2016 6% Year End Penalty	\$ 1,800.90
2017 Taxes plus Interest	\$41,910.06
2017 Utilities plus Interest	\$ 1,292.45
2017 6% Year End Penalty	\$ 1,872.08
2018 Taxes plus Interest	\$37,555.44
2018 Utilities plus Interest	\$ 761.36
2018 6% Year End Penalty	\$ 1,925.50
2019 Taxes plus Interest	\$28,363.82
2019 Utilities plus Interest	\$ 1,037.21
2019 Maintenance Liens	\$ 486.40
Total	\$185,457.74
Premium	\$145,900.00

WHEREAS, this certificate has been held by Isaac Moradi and the certificate has been received and properly signed for cancellation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chief Financial Officer and Tax Collector be authorized to refund, from Trust, \$331,357.74 to:

Isaac Moradi
520 Elm Street
Kearny, NJ 07032

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2020-038

A motion was made by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Councilman Ryan that the following resolution be adopted:

AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE VERONA MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE GRANT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-21

WHEREAS, the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (GCADA) established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council further recognize that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council has applied for funding to the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (GCADA) through the County of Essex.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the Verona Municipal Alliance Grant for fiscal year 2020-21 in the amount of:

Drug Enforcement Demand Reduction Fund (DEDR)	\$27,691
Local Match	\$7,000
<u>In-Kind Match</u>	<u>\$20,768</u>
GRANT TOTAL	\$55,459

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Council acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2020-039

A motion was made by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Councilman Ryan that the following resolution be adopted:

APPROVING CONTRACT CHANGE NO. 1 AND CONTRACT CLOSE-OUT CONTRACT NO. 18-05 - RECONSTRUCTION OF PARK AVENUE,

SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, AND HARRISON STREET

WHEREAS, Stanziale Construction, LLC and the Township of Verona have heretofore entered into an Agreement, more particularly known as Contract No. 18-05 - "Reconstruction of Park Avenue, South Prospect Street and Harrison Street" for the furnishing of labor, equipment and materials in the amount of \$725,493.73, in accordance with the requirements of the Local Public Contract Law, *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Council has received Contract Change No. 1 and Contract Close-Out for the within contract in an amount of minus \$149,346.79, for a final contract amount of \$552,967.88; and

WHEREAS, the Contract Change No. 1 and Contract Close-Out do not expand the scope of the within contract; and

WHEREAS, the within Contract Change No. 1 and Contract Close-Out is in the best interests of the Township of Verona.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that Contract Change No. 1, in the amount of minus \$149,346.79, for a final contract amount of \$552,967.88 be approved and Contract No. 18-05 be closed out; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Manager, the Township Engineer, the Township Clerk and any other officer as may be deemed appropriate are hereby authorized to execute Contract Change No. 1 and Contract Close-Out for Contract No. 18-05 on behalf of the Township.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

New Business:

Councilwoman McGrath requests that the Council be provided safety and traffic reports completed as well as a summary of other things to be implemented from those reports before the next meeting.

Public Comment:

Al DeOld, 15 Howard Street, Verona, New Jersey
Steve Neale, 600 Bloomfield Avenue, Verona, New Jersey

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 pm is motioned by Councilman Giblin; seconded by Councilman Ryan.

The next regular scheduled meeting is January 6, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Kiernan
Jennifer Kiernan, Municipal Clerk

Jack McEvoy
Jack McEvoy, Mayor

APPROVED: January 27, 2020