

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



**PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**AGENDA**

MEETING

7:00 P.M.

*March 17, 2026*

**VCC CONFERENCE ROOM**

**And**

Via the internet, please click the link below to join the meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/92273231744>

Via telephone, please dial 1(312)626-6799 or 1(646)558-8656.

Use Zoom Meeting ID 92273231744 when prompted for a Participant ID, press #

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & OPEN PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE**

**C. ROLL CALL**

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Jan. 2026 & Feb. 2026.**

**E. CHAIRPERSON REPORT**

- Recreational Affordability Program Recommendation Letter.
- Proposed 2026 Recreation & Pool Budget Discussion based on CFO recommendation to the Town Council.

**F. SUB-COMMITTEE EXPLORATION TOPICS & GOALS. *What are our priorities for 2026?***

- Parks & Facilities. *Ex: Centennial Field, Veterans Field, Everett Field Status, Fees for Independent Sport Organizations using Verona Fields.*
- Recreational Programs & Events. *Ex: Summer Playground Program, Soccer, Activities in the Square. Women's Softball League.*
- Disability Programs: *Ex: Age Friendly or Additional Recommendations?*
- Marketing/Social Media discussion for the Committee.

**G. RECREATIONAL REPORT from the Director Community Services.**

- Spring Program Update Registration began March 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Summer Playground Camp Update for 2026.

- Program Survey Update... What programs will have survey's going forward?
- Community Pool Update FY 2026.
  - a.) Registration Report. How many resident members have joined since registration begun on Jan. 5, 2026? Breakdown of types of Membership? Marketing Update?
  - b.) Status, Strategy & Goals for the Pool Marketing Group?
  - c.) 2026 Pool Sponsorship Update & Drive for Additional Revenue?
  - d.) Update on Events, Parties or Rental Contracts with the Community Pool. (Example: Cougars) Any confirmed concerts or events at the pool?
  - e.) Food Service Contract for 2027.
  - f.) Pool Furniture Memo to Administration from Pool Sub-Committee.

**H. TOWN MANAGER/LIASON REPORT**

**I. TOWN COUNCIL LIASON REPORT**

**J. OLD BUSINESS**

**K. NEW BUSINESS**

**L. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**M. NEXT MEETING: APRIL 21, 2026.**

**N. ADJOURNMENT**

TOWNSHIP OF VERONA  
COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY

## PARKS &amp; RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 17, 2026

DRAFT

**RE: Recreational Affordability Fee Program for Verona Families.**

Dear Mr. Mayor &amp; The Town Council,

The Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee recommends "The Affordability Fee Program" for Verona families participating in activities offered by the Department of Recreation. Our guiding principle is for families below the poverty line to have the opportunity to apply for a "**discounted program fee**" so they can afford recreational programming offered within our town. (*\*Note: This program does not include the Community Pool or Senior Programming.*) In addition, if approved by the Town Council it will also allow the Recreational Department the opportunity or fee flexibility to increase program rates, when necessary, on a sliding scale with less financial impact to low-income families but still addressing rising inflation, increased minimum wage and increased overhead costs that affect overall cost and programming within the department.

**Who would be eligible for the program?**

The Recreation Affordability Fee Program would be based on family income eligibility within town. The Recreational Department would have to verify that those families applying to the program would be eligible through the free or reduced lunch program as a letter is provided to all Verona residents based on eligibility through the school district. The percentage of families or persons in poverty within the Township of Verona is 5.3% of the population according to the latest US Census data.

**Our recommended discount rates:**

- *35% Discount on all Recreation Programs.*

\*EXAMPLE- WINTER PROGRAMS- RECREATIONAL DEPT. 2026

Programs- Pre-K to 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade- 8 weeks: Dance, Art, Parent Movement:

- Current Fee: \$85.00
- Discount (35%): \$55.25

-  
Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

**Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee**

# Rec Dept. Expenses - Proposed Budget 2026

ITEM OF EXPENSE	2025 BUDGET	2025 EXPENDED	2026 PROPOSED
<b>28. VEHICLE MAINTENANCE</b>			
Other Expenses	170,000	168,175	152,500
<b>29. RECREATION</b>			
Salary and Wages	765,000	742,054	855,000
Other Expenses	189,800	188,040	217,000
Field Maintenance	65,000	64,742	72,000
	1,019,800	994,836	1,144,000
<b>30. CIVIC AFFAIRS</b>			
Other Expenses	70,000	63,519	78,550
<b>31. SENIOR CITIZENS</b>			
Salary and Wages	27,500	24,923	32,000
Other Expenses	13,000	12,593	15,000
<b>32. UNCLASSIFIED</b>			
Electricity & Natural Gas	510,000	490,736	500,000
Telephone & Internet	106,000	105,074	110,000
Contingency	25,000	0	25,000
Gasoline	165,000	137,914	155,000
<b>33. STATUTORY EXPENSES</b>			
Public Employee Retirement Fund	500,000	484,266	518,509
Police/Fire Retirement Fund	1,512,296	1,495,354	1,627,900
Outside Caps Health Insurance	0.00	0.00	0

Approx.  
13%  
increase  
from  
2025

Detail

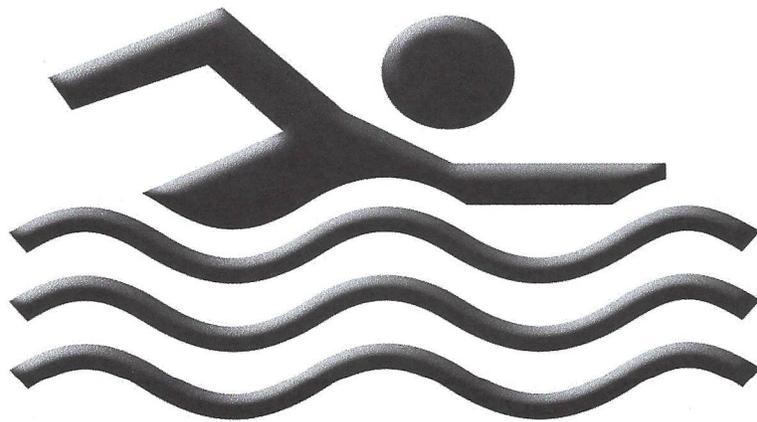
\* Offset by projected \$375,000 in program fees in which \$440,260 was collected in 2026.

2026 BUDGET - Expense		RECREATION		
ITEM OF EXPENSE		2025 BUDGET	2025 EXPENDED	2026 PROPOSED
<b>SALARIES AND WAGES</b>				
1.	Regular-Recreation	360,000	348,055	400,000
2.	Part-Time/Evening Hours	230,000	207,458	230,000
3.	Summer Programs	150,000	160,675	200,000
4.	Overtime	25,000	25,866	25,000
SALARIES AND WAGES TOTAL ==>		765,000	742,054	855,000
<b>OTHER EXPENSE</b>				
1.	Office Supplies	6,000	4,783	6,000
2.	New Equipment	10,000	0	5,000
3.	Capturepoint/Online Registration	5,000	4,000	5,000
4.	Sporting Goods & Equip.	7,500	2,977	7,500
5.	Shows, Bands, & Concerts	20,000	15,200	20,000
6.	Background Checks	0	3,500	7,500
7.	Special Programs/Offset	89,300	90,702	90,000
8.	Game Officials	30,000	29,157	30,000
9.	Program Trips	17,000	24,423	28,000
10.	Conferences & Meetings	2,000	3,746	4,000
11.	Community Center Maintenance/Supplies	0	9,239	11,000
12.	Travel	3,000	313	3,000
Other Expense Total====>		189,800	188,040	217,000
DEPARTMENT TOTAL====>		954,800	930,094	1,072,000
TOWN FIELDS		65,000	64,742	75,000

	<b>MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE ANTICIPATED</b>		
	<b>2025</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>
<b>LOCAL REVENUE</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>REALIZED</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>
<b>LICENSES:</b>			
Alcoholic Beverages	15,000	19,217	15,000
Other	15,000	24,709	15,000
<b>FEES &amp; PERMITS</b>	125,000	191,368	125,000
<b>MUNICIPAL COURT</b>	125,000	173,268	125,000
<b>INTEREST ON COSTS AND TAXES</b>	125,000	130,035	125,000
<b>PARKING METERS</b>	50,000	79,622	50,000
<b>INTERLOCAL - ROSELAND CC</b>	152,038	114,029	156,599
<b>RECREATION FEES</b>	350,000	440,260	375,000
VERONA SENIOR CITIZENS ASSOC PILOT	215,000	249,390	215,000
HILLTOP PILOT TAX ABATEMENT 1	450,000	464,722	450,000
HILLTOP PILOT TAX ABATEMENT 2	500,000	512,347	500,000
CHILDREN'S INSTITUTE	17,624	18,505	18,505
VERONA PLACE	45,000	54,026	45,000
ANNIN LOFTS	330,000	388,561	360,000
<b>UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE FEES</b>	300,000	319,620	300,000
<b>COMCAST CABLEVISION</b>	68,738	68,739	68,738
<b>VERIZON FIOS</b>	146,531	146,531	146,531
<b>UNIFORM FIRE SAFETY ACT</b>	20,000	25,720	20,000
<b>COMMUNITY CENTER RENTAL</b>	35,000	56,000	35,000
<b>CELL TOWER LEASE</b>	140,000	174,087	140,000
<b>LEAF BAG SALES</b>	0	96	0
<b>INTEREST ON DEPOSITS</b>	400,000	738,575	400,000

***Swimming Pool Utility***

***2026 Budget***



## BUDGET SUMMARY

BUDGET SUMMARY			
2026 BUDGET	POOL UTILITY		
	2025 BUDGET	2025 REALIZED	2026 PROPOSED
<b>POOL ANTICIPATED REVENUE</b>			
Membership Fees	676,955	696,159	694,000
Non-Res. Membership	0	0	100,000
Misc. Rev. Anticipated	132,795	199,693	191,000
Sponsorship			50,000
Fund Balance	200,000	200,000	145,000
American Rescue Plan - COVID			
<b>TOTAL ==&gt;</b>	<b>1,009,750</b>	<b>1,095,852</b>	<b>1,030,000</b>
<b>POOL APPROPRIATIONS</b>			
Salary & Wages	387,500	370,620	402,750
Other Expenses	622,250	588,510	627,250
<b>TOTAL ==&gt;</b>	<b>1,009,750</b>	<b>959,130</b>	<b>1,030,000</b>

Realized

→ 1,035,000

↓  
If resident membership and sponsorship become realized then fund balance not required.

1,035,000  
- 1,030,000  
-----  
\$5,000 profit

2026 BUDGET		POOL		
ITEM OF EXPENSE		2025 BUDGET	2025 EXPENDED	2026 PROPOSED
SALARIES AND WAGES				
1.	Managers	40,000	33,965	47,000
2.	Pre-Season	3,250	3,918	3,500
3.	Lifeguards	232,750	184,078	232,750
4.	Swim Lessons	5,000	5,800	5,000
5.	Office	60,000	67,407	60,000
6.	Maintenance	32,500	25,896	32,500
7.	Other Part-Time	4,000	6,285	4,000
8.	Recreation Programs	10,000	9,698	18,000
SALARIES AND WAGES TOTAL ==>		387,500	337,047	402,750

2026 BUDGET		POOL		
ITEM OF EXPENSE		2025 BUDGET	2025 EXPENDED	2026 PROPOSED
OTHER EXPENSE				
1.	Stationary, Office Supplies, & Printing	3,250	2,830	1,250
2.	Badges	1,000	1,038	1,000
3.	Electricity	45,000	50,626	55,000
4.	Credit Card Charges	500	0	0
5.	Parts, Repairs & Equipment	35,000	39,889	28,000
6.	Chemicals	50,000	31,867	50,000
7.	Clothing	12,000	11,155	10,000
8.	Landscaping	6,000	5,797	6,000
9.	Splash Parties & Bands	0	5,981	6,000

\* Where is expense for 50k in pool furniture?

<b>2026 BUDGET</b>		<b>POOL</b>		
<b>ITEM OF EXPENSE</b>		<b>2025</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>
<b>OTHER EXPENSE</b>		<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>EXPENDED</b>	<b>PROPOSED</b>
10.	Support of Swim Team	800	800	2,500
11.	Water Delivery	500	144	500
12.	Audit	1,500	1,500	1,500
13.	Computer Software and Support	23,800	23,374	25,000
14.	General Insurance & Legal	2,500	2,500	2,500
15.	State Licenses	2,000	560	2,000
16.	Cleaning Services	12,000	8,645	12,000
17.	Township of Verona Water/Sewer	50,000	39,603	50,000
18.	Rate Study	5,000.00	10,030	0.00
19.	Safety Equipment	0.00	0	3,000.00
20.	Background Checks	0.00	0	1,000.00
21.	Marketing	0.00	0	10,000.00
<b>OTHER EXPENSE TOTAL ==&gt;</b>		<b>250,850</b>	<b>236,337</b>	<b>267,250</b>

<b>2026 BUDGET</b>		<b>POOL</b>		
<b>ITEM OF EXPENSE</b>		<b>2025 BUDGET</b>	<b>2025 EXPENDED</b>	<b>2026 PROPOSED</b>
<b>CAPITAL AND STATUTORY</b>				
1.	Capital Improvement Fund	25,000	25,000	35,000
2.	Payment of Bonds	145,000	145,000	139,000
3.	Interest on Bonds	11,000	10,095	6,000
4.	Interest on Notes	80,000	62,377	90,000
5.	Legal Installment	38,700	38,700	0
6.	Contrib. to Social Security	10,000	10,000	20,000
7.	General Insurance	1,000	1,000	10,000
8.	Deferred Charge - COVID	60,000	60,000	60,000
9.	Over Expenditure	700	700	0
<b>CAPITAL AND STATUTORY =&gt;</b>		<b>371,400</b>	<b>352,172</b>	<b>360,000</b>
<b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL =====&gt;</b>		<b>1,005,050</b>	<b>959,130</b>	<b>1,029,750</b>

Corey Schor <coreyschor@gmail.com>

to Kevin, Michael, Pam, Jack, Ashley, Janet, Christopher, bcc: Christine, bcc: Christopher

Dear Kevin & Administration,

Fri, Feb 27, 12:02 PM (9 days ago)

*\* Pool Furniture Email to Admin from Sub-Committee*

The Community Pool Sub-Committee has met and we would like to present the following recommendations to the administration.

1. Due to the increase of **Non-Residential memberships** (100 new families) we recommend the maintenance and fixing of all existing Pool furniture.
2. To make room for additional Pool furniture the Sub-Committee recommends the following:
  - A. The Corn Hole concrete set in the front of the Pool will be moved to the Rec Tent area.
  - B. The Ping Pong Tables moved from the front of the pool near the women's bathroom to the concrete area near the LifeGuard Tent or to the Rec Tent area if feasible given the grass.

*\*Note: The Rec Tent area on the grass and within the Tent area becomes the focal point of activities for young teens at the pool. This could be built up nicely and we do not believe this area will be used for seating. Please place the furniture purchased last year in the Rec Tent area as well.*

3. We recommend "two areas" to place additional pool furniture which include:

A.) The Flag Pole area between the Snack Bar and Pool going from fence to the Kiddie Pool area. More long tables placed next to the Kiddie Pool area replacing the ping pong tables as this would be ideal for a larger eating area near the Snack Bar.

B.) Additional tables can be placed on the lawn area between the Pool and the Gazebo and beyond if necessary and makes sense for pool parties at the Gazebo.

4. The pool Sub-Committee recommends the grass area between the pool or the handicapped entrance of the pool and the volleyball court be reserved for lawn chairs only. Let members bring chairs and lie down on their towels in the grass area.

5. We recommend the following pool tables to purchase for the 2026 summer pool season.

- We recommend the color "blue" on all table purchases.
- We also recommend that all tables purchased should be "square" just like our current tables except the few long table purchases.
- Also... we recommend that all tables have an "umbrella" so that also needs to be purchased.
- Our guidance is a purchase of 2 to 4 "longer" tables to accommodate more seating near the Snack Bar and force our members to share tables more often. Should be blue and similar to the square table purchases.
- Belson Outdoors- Mesh Style 46" Octagon Picnic Tables. *Can we please check the warranty program for Belson? It states only 1-3 years. Can we also look at competitors like General Recreation? For example they have They promote a longer warranty program. Might be a good idea to compare pricing to reduce cost.*

*Note- Cost:* Based on the table prices along with the umbrella it appears the cost per table and umbrella would be approx. \$2,000 per table. Based on the discussed budget of \$50,000 for 2026 and potential larger volume at the pool this summer this purchase would only allow the Pool to buy around 20-21 square tables and 3-4 long tables which is below the targeted purchase that was forecasted which we believe was around 40 tables. The administration might want to consider a larger purchase or investment to reduce the price per table as larger orders usually decrease cost. Having both Belson and General Recreation compete for business might also help our price as well.

Thanks for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

The Community Pool Sub-Committee