

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Verona Township Council on Monday, August 3, 2026, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 600 Bloomfield Avenue, Verona, New Jersey, and via Zoom video conferencing.

Call to Order:

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

Roll Call:

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 commends the fire department for their rapid response to the electrical fire on Afterglow Avenue over the weekend. They also responded to two other towns for fires as well. He recognizes the Deputy Township Manager as he recently joined the VFD. He thanks Assemblyman Barlas for working with the Department of Treasury to create a tax relief program night. The date and time are TBD. The mayor wishes the deputy mayor a happy birthday.

Essex County liaison J. Coltre approaches the lectern and wishes the Deputy Mayor a happy birthday. Essex County Senior Wellness will be held on September 22nd at Codey Arena from 10am – 2pm. The 25th September 11th memorial ceremony will be held at 8am in Eagle Rock Reservation Look-Out.

Manager's Report:

The Township Manager reports that the Fairview Avenue well project is on schedule. The Derwent Avenue/Brookside Terrace sewer lining will begin next Monday. He also reports on the Montclair interconnection and stormwater items and provides an update on several road projects.

The Deputy Manager to present his report. Mr. Kraus reports the development of building evacuation plans, job postings, the status of moving the Township prescription plan to HarmonyRx, the Community Pool and informs the public that Sustainable Verona has received a \$10,000 grant for a composting program.

Councilmember's Reports:

Deputy Mayor McEvoy thanks everyone for the birthday wishes.

Councilman Roman has reviewed the proposal for the sound system in the Ballroom at the Community Center and reports it looks good.

Councilwoman McGrath sends her condolences to Councilwoman Holland whose father passed away recently.

Councilman Schor reports MIAAC did not meet in July. He also reports that the Pool's finances continue to look promising. He reminds the public that fall recreation program registration begins August 5th.

Public Comment:

Martha Peralta, Verona, NJ
Joann Chasinow, Verona, NJ

Hearing, Adoption or Amendment of Ordinances:

ORDINANCE # 2026-28

**FIXING THE SALARY AND COMPENSATION FOR THE SUPERVISING
SEWAGE PLANT OPERATOR**

The Municipal Clerk reads the ordinance by title.

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

Public Hearing: None

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Schor, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

Ordinance No. 2026-28 is adopted by a vote of 5-0

Public Comment on Consent Agenda Items:

None.

Consent Agenda:

Councilwoman McGrath requests K-2 be pulled from the consent agenda. Vote: 5-0

The minutes from the July 28th special Council meeting are removed from the consent agenda.

The minutes from the July 20th meeting are unanimously approved. The minutes are approved by a vote of 4-0 with 1 abstention by Councilman Schor. The July 28th minutes are approved 4-0 with Councilwoman McGrath abstaining.

RESOLUTION No. 2026-175

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

**AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH
BOSWELL ENGINEERING TO PROVIDE A WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT
PLAN - PHASE II - FOR THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE TIER-A
MUNICIPAL STORMWATER GENERAL PERMIT**

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona has a need for the engineering services to provide a Watershed Improvement Plan, an upcoming requirement of the NJ Department of Environmental Protection, for the Tier-A Municipal Stormwater General Permit, and seeks to award an engineer contract as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5*; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Council adopted Resolution No. 2025-216 for the execution of a contract with Boswell Engineering to provide a watershed improvement plan - phase I on September 8, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Administration has determined and certified in writing that the value of the service will exceed \$17,500; and,

WHEREAS, Boswell Engineering, Inc., with offices at 330 Phillips Avenue, South Hackensack, New Jersey (hereinafter "Boswell") has submitted a proposal indicating the ability to perform said services at a cost not-to-exceed \$33,000; and,

WHEREAS, this expenditure shall be charged to Capital Ordinance No. 2026 – 20, or any other account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or her designee, and the availability of funds have been certified by the Chief Financial Officer; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, that a contract is awarded to Boswell Engineering for engineering services in an amount not-to-exceed \$33,000 subject to the following:

1. The award of this contract is subject to finalization of the contract terms to be drafted and approved by the Township Attorney.
2. The contract and any contract amendments which may become necessary shall be subject to the Township's ability to appropriate sufficient funds, which appropriation shall be at the sole discretion of the Township Council.
3. The Council hereby authorizes the Township Manager, or his designee, to execute any and all documents and take any and all actions necessary to complete and realize the intent and purpose of this resolution.
4. The Township Clerk is in receipt of the Stockholder Disclosure form, Contribution Disclosure form, Certificate of Employee Information Report, Business Registration Certificate, and Certificate of Insurance.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Schor, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2026-176

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

**ACCEPTING THE AWARD OF THE 2026 NATIONAL OPIOID
SETTLEMENT**

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona has been awarded a grant in the sum of \$3,088.88 from the State of New Jersey for the 2026 National Opioid Settlement to help Verona with the abatement of the opioid epidemic across the country; and

WHEREAS, the Township's contribution toward the grant will be zero dollars.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the Township of Verona is hereby authorized to accept for this grant in the amount of \$3,088.88.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Manager, Municipal Clerk and any other officer deemed appropriate are hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to accept this grant.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Schor, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2026-177

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

**AUTHORIZING THE INSERTION INTO THE CY2026 MUNICIPAL
BUDGET PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (CHAPTER 159, P.L. 1948) OF A
SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE FORM OF THE NATIONAL OPIOID
SETTLEMENT GRANT**

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87* provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services (the "Director") may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue

in the budget of any county or municipality when such items shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and,

WHEREAS, said Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for an equal amount; and,

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona has received \$3,088.88 from the State of New Jersey in the form of the National Opioid Settlement Grant and wishes to amend its CY2026 Municipal Budget to include this amount as a revenue.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey hereby requests the Director to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the CY2026 Municipal Budget in the sum of \$3,088.88 which is now available as revenue from:

Miscellaneous Revenues - Section F:
Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated with Prior Written Consent of
Director of Local Government Services -
Public and Private Revenues Offset with Appropriations:
National Opioid Settlement Grant

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the CY2026 Municipal Budget in the like sum of \$3,088.88 appropriated under the caption of:

General Appropriations:
(A) Operations - Excluded from "CAPS"
Public and Private Revenues Offset with Appropriations:
National Opioid Settlement Grant

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution will be electronically filed with the Director for approval as required by law.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Schor, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2026-178

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

**ACCEPTING THE AWARD OF THE 2026 NATIONAL OPIOID
SETTLEMENT**

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona has been awarded a grant in the sum of \$3,452.86 from the State of New Jersey for the 2026 National Opioid Settlement to help Verona with the abatement of the opioid epidemic across the country; and

WHEREAS, the Township's contribution toward the grant will be zero dollars.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the Township of Verona is hereby authorized to accept for this grant in the amount of \$3,452.86.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Manager, Municipal Clerk and any other officer deemed appropriate are hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to accept this grant.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Schor, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2026-179

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

**AUTHORIZING THE INSERTION INTO THE CY2026 MUNICIPAL
BUDGET PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (CHAPTER 159, P.L. 1948) OF A
SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE FORM OF THE NATIONAL OPIOID
SETTLEMENT GRANT**

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87* provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services (the "Director") may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such items shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and,

WHEREAS, said Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for an equal amount; and,

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona has received \$3,452.86 from the State of New Jersey in the form of the National Opioid Settlement Grant and wishes to amend its CY2026 Municipal Budget to include this amount as a revenue.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey hereby requests the Director to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the CY2026 Municipal Budget in the sum of \$3,452.86 which is now available as revenue from:

Miscellaneous Revenues - Section F:

Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated with Prior Written Consent of
Director of Local Government Services –

Public and Private Revenues Offset with Appropriations:

National Opioid Settlement Grant

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the CY2026 Municipal Budget in the like sum of \$3,452.86 appropriated under the caption of:

General Appropriations:

(A) Operations - Excluded from "CAPS"

Public and Private Revenues Offset with Appropriations:

National Opioid Settlement Grant

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution will be electronically filed with the Director for approval as required by law.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Schor, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2026-180

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

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH YORKTEL

WHEREAS, the Municipal Clerk’s office requires software for efficient processing of various statutory obligations and administrative responsibilities; and,

WHEREAS, Yorktel, Wall, NJ under State Contract #20-TELE-01509 has agreed to provide such services; and

WHEREAS, the Qualified Purchasing Agent has determined and certified in writing that the value of the service will not exceed \$39,000 for such services; and,

WHEREAS, this expenditure shall be charged to Budget Account No. 6-01-20-120-288 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 of the Township; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, that Rio Supply, LLC is hereby awarded a contract for providing Clerk’s software modules in an amount not to exceed \$39,000.00.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Schor, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2026-181

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

PERMITTING ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the Public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

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

The public shall be excluded from discussion of an action upon the hereinafter specified subject matter.

1. Purchase, Lease or Acquisition of Real Property pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (5)*
2. Pending, Ongoing, or Anticipated Litigation and Contract Negotiations pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (7)*
3. Personnel Matters pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (8)*

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Schor, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2026-182

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

**AWARDING CONTRACT No. 2026-06
SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT - EMERGENCY SERVICES BUILDING DESIGN
REVIEW, CONSTRUCTION AND BID DOCUMENTS**

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona received bids for RFP No. 2026-06, "Subject Matter Expert (SME) for Emergency Services Building Design Review, Construction and Bid Documents" on June 26, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council interviewed three (3) firms at a Special Meeting held on July 28, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council voted to award the contract H2M Architects & Engineers, Inc., 1639 Route 10, Suite 101, Parsippany, New Jersey 07054.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the contract for RFP No. 2026-06 be awarded to H2M Architects & Engineers, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$135,000 without further authorization from the Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or her designee, shall be charged against Ordinance 2026-23(b) and the availability of funds has been certified by the Chief Financial Officer.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Schor, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

New Business:

Council discusses the town center/business report, a short-term tax abatement ordinance and the subject matter expert (Contract #2026-06). The Council votes 5-0 to authorize a contract with H2M for Contract #2026-06.

Public Comment:

Kevin Ryan, Verona, NJ.

Executive Session:

Council enters into executive session at 9:01 p.m. and returns to the public session at 9:47 p.m.

RESOLUTION No. 2026-183

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

AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH LA BELLA PRINCESS CAFÉ

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the Township Manager is authorized to execute a settlement agreement with La Bella Princess Cafe, 555 Bloomfield Avenue, allowing the business to open pending review of a variance application filed on the business's behalf contingent upon the execution of the settlement agreement requiring the cafe to be open to the general public a minimum of 25 hours per week as outlined in the settlement agreement.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Schor, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

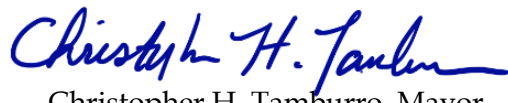
Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn at 9:53 p.m. is made by Deputy Mayor McEvoy; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath. Vote: 5 ayes.

The next meeting is August 17, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,


Jennifer Kiernan, Municipal Clerk


Christopher H. Tamburro, Mayor

APPROVED: August 17, 2026