

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Verona Township Council on Monday, October 7, 2024, 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, Deputy Mayor McEvoy, Councilman Roman, Councilwoman McGrath, Councilwoman Holland, Township Manager Joseph D'Arco, Deputy Township Manager Kevin O'Sullivan, Township Attorney Brian Aloia and Municipal Clerk Jennifer Kiernan are present.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Tamburro attended the Sustainable Verona Electric Vehicle Fair. He thanks the Verona Environmental Commission, the members of Sustainable and the Shade Tree Commission for their involvement in the event. The opening dedication of the Accessible Inclusive Playground was held and he thanks the Township Administrator, Public Works and the Township Engineer for getting the job done. The Mayor then presents the undefeated 10U Verona Barnstormers with Certificates of Recognition for their undefeated, championship season. He then presents a proclamation to the Junior Women's Club for Verona Fights Hunger week. Kareem Rasposo from DCH Acura is present tonight to receive a certificate on behalf of DCH Acura, Verona for sponsoring the Welcome to Verona sign at the intersection of Bloomfield, Pompton and Mt. Prospect Avenues.

Manager's Report:

Township Manager Joseph D'Arco reports the inter-local agreement for fire prevention services with Cedar grove is still pending. Staff meetings for the 2025 budget have been scheduled. Negotiations with the OPEIU have begun and the Township Attorney is working on copyrighting the Township Seal.

Jennifer Muscara, CFO and Township Auditor Dave Gannon are present to report on the 2023 Municipal Audit.

RESOLUTION No. 2024-176

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

CERTIFICATION OF 2023 ANNUAL AUDIT

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A.40A:5-4* requires the governing body of every local unit to have made an annual audit of its books, accounts and financial transactions; and

WHEREAS, the Annual Report of Audit for the year 2023 has been filed by David J. Gannon a Registered Municipal Accountant with PKF O'Connor Davies LLP pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 40A:5-6*, and a copy has been received by each member of the governing body; and

WHEREAS, *R.S. 52:27BB-34* authorized the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey to prescribe reports pertaining to the local fiscal affairs; and

WHEREAS, the Local Finance Board has promulgated *N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5*, a regulation requiring that the governing body of each municipality shall, by resolution, certify to the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey that all members of the governing body have reviewed, at a minimum, the sections of the annual audit entitled, "Comments and Recommendations"; and

WHEREAS, such resolution of certification shall be adopted by the governing body no later than forty-five days after the receipt of the annual audit, pursuant to *N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5*; and

WHEREAS, all members of governing body have received and have familiarized themselves with, at least, the minimum requirements of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey, as stated aforesaid and have subscribed to the affidavit, as provided by the Local Finance Board; and

WHEREAS, failure to comply with the regulations of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey may subject the members of the local governing body to the penalty provisions of *R.S. 52:27BB-52*, to wit:

R.S. 52:27BB-52: A local officer or member of a local governing body who, after a date fixed for compliance, fails or refuses to obey an order of the director (Division of Local Government Services), under the provisions of this Article, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, may be fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both, in addition shall forfeit his/her office.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, hereby affirms compliance *N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5* and does hereby submit a certified copy of this resolution and the required affidavit to the Local Finance Board to show evidence of said compliance.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2023-177

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

**APPROVING THE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN FOR THE 2023 MUNICIPAL
AUDIT**

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona has received a report of audit for the year ending December 31, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Local Finance Notice No. 92-15 dated July 8, 1992 requires that the Chief Financial Officer submits a Corrective Action Plan for all findings in the audit within 60 days of receipt of the Report of Audit; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has prepared a Corrective Action Plan relating to the findings of the 2023 Audit.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, does hereby approve the Corrective Action Plan for the year 2023 as submitted by the Chief Financial Officer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Municipal Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this resolution and the Corrective Action Plan to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

Deputy Township Manager Kevin O’Sullivan reports that the 2025 Pool Rate Study by NewGen is near completion. It will be circulated to the Council as well as the Rec Advisory Committee. NewGen will attend the Rec Advisory meeting to give a presentation and after the bids for the pool projects are received, NewGen will provide the Council with a more in depth presentation at the 10/21 meeting. The Deputy Manager also reports on various wastewater infrastructure projects, energy initiatives, Affordable Housing’s Round 4 and the Municipal Building windows and repointing project.

Council Members Reports:

Deputy Mayor McEvoy comments on the well-received EV Fair and thanks the dealerships and the Verona Public Works for their involvement. He acknowledges the Community Center Playground and Community Garden ribbon cuttings and thanks the Church of the Holy Spirit for the blessing of the pets.

Councilman Roman also comments on the success of the EV Fair and thanks all involved in the Community Center Playground.

Councilwoman McGrath was also able to attend the opening of the Community Garden. Due to illness, she was not able to attend the EV Fair or the Hispanic Heritage Month celebration. She was able to attend the ribbon cutting for the first ADA accessible playground and thanks all of the partners and sponsors who helped get us to this next step.

Councilwoman Holland expresses her joy in regards to the completion of the new playground. She acknowledges the devastation across the globe in regards to hurricane season and encourages residents to prepare.

Public Comment:

Kathleen Nitti, Verona, New Jersey

Ordinances for Introduction:

ORDINANCE No. 2024-34

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE SEWER LINE NEAR THE PECKMAN RIVER IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA, IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$60,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$57,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance H-1 into the record.

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

Ordinance H-1 is numbers 2024-34. It will be published according to law and a public hearing will be held on October 21, 2024.

Consent Agenda:

Minutes from the September 23, 2024 meeting are unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION No. 2024-178

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

AUTHORIZING AWARD OF EMERGENCY CONTRACT UNDER NEW JERSEY LOCAL PUBLIC CONTRACTS LAW, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6 RESULTING FROM AN EMERGENCY CONDITION ON GROVE AVENUE

WHEREAS, an emergency has arisen with respect an emergent condition requiring immediate construction and repairs to a significant water main break on Grove Avenue for significant excavation in the roadway, repair of the pipe, backfill and repaving; and

WHEREAS, the Township Manager had determined that immediate attention to the pipe and roadway for the purpose of protecting public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, the need for such could not have been foreseen; and

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6* permits a contract to be negotiated or awarded without public advertisement for bids and bidding therefor, notwithstanding the contract price will exceed the bid threshold, when an emergency affecting the public health, safety or welfare requires the immediate delivery of goods or the performance of services; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.12*, contracts awarded under such circumstances are excepted from Pay-to-Play due to public exigency; and

WHEREAS, Stanziale Construction, PO Box 2597, Bloomfield, New Jersey 07003 has the ability to commence the emergency work required as soon as a contract is executed with the Township in an amount not to exceed \$26,000; and

WHEREAS, this expenditure shall be charged to an account deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or her designee, and the availability of funds have been contingently certified by the Chief Financial Officer.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey hereby authorizes award of an emergency contract pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 40A-11-6* to Stanziale Construction for emergency repairs resulting from a water main break on Grove Avenue for an amount not to exceed \$26,000.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED said contract shall be limited to duration as to meet only the immediate needs of this emergency.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-179

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

**AUTHORIZING AWARD OF EMERGENCY CONTRACT UNDER NEW JERSEY
LOCAL PUBLIC CONTRACTS LAW, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6
RESULTING FROM AN EMERGENCY CONDITION ON THE SANITARY SEWER
SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, an emergency has arisen with respect an emergent condition requiring immediate construction and repairs to resolve sewer backups in the sanitary sewer system, specifically between Derwent Avenue and the Peckman River; and

WHEREAS, the Township Manager had determined that immediate attention to the sanitary sewer main trunk main for the purpose of protecting public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, the need for such could not have been foreseen; and

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6* permits a contract to be negotiated or awarded without public advertisement for bids and bidding therefor, notwithstanding the contract price will exceed the bid threshold, when an emergency affecting the public health, safety or welfare requires the immediate delivery of goods or the performance of services; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.12*, contracts awarded under such circumstances are excepted from Pay-to-Play due to public exigency; and

WHEREAS, Wind River Environmental, 701 2nd Street Swedesboro, NJ 08085 has the ability to commence the emergency work required as soon as a contract is executed with the Township in an amount not to exceed \$60,000; and

WHEREAS, this expenditure shall be charged to an account deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or her designee, and the availability of funds have been contingently certified by the Chief Financial Officer.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey hereby authorizes award of an emergency contract pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 40A-11-6* to Wind River Environmental for emergency construction and repairs to resolve sanitary sewer backups between Derwent Avenue and the Peckman River.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED said contract shall be limited to duration as to meet only the immediate needs of this emergency.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-180

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

REQUESTING APPROVAL OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES TO ESTABLISH A DEDICATED TRUST BY RIDER FOR TREE REPLACEMENT ESCROW FUND

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, provides for receipt of fees received from the general public for tree replacement escrow fees in which the Chief Financial Officer and Zoning Officer administer various fees associated with the Tree Replacement Escrow; and

WHEREAS, NJDEP N.J.A.C. 7:8 provides for the receipt of Tree Replacement Fund by the municipality to provide for the operating costs to administer this act; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona has a Tree Preservation, Removal and Replacement ordinance in place; and

WHEREAS, part of this resolution it is required for an applicant to hold in escrow a performance bond of a tree replacement escrow fee; and

WHEREAS; these fees collected will either be refunded to the applicant once approval is made by the Zoning Officer or used to replace trees in the municipality

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A 40A:4-39* provides the dedication of funds collected as Tree Replacement Escrow are hereby anticipated as revenue and are hereby appropriated for the purpose to which said revenue is dedication by statute or other legal requirement.

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

1. The Township Council does hereby request permission of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to include as a Dedication by Rider in the 2023 and subsequent budgets, Tree Replacement Escrow Fund.
2. The Municipal Clerk is hereby directed to forward two certified copies of this resolution to the Director of Local Government Services.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-181

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

AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH BOSWELL ENGINEERING FOR CONSTRUCTION SERVICES FOR CLARIDGE PUMPING STATION

WHEREAS, a pumping station is needed to increase the water pressure available at the hydrants adjacent to Claridge Buildings I and II; and

WHEREAS, the project is being funded by the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank (NJIB) Program, which requires full-time inspection and related engineering involvement during the construction phase; and

WHEREAS, Boswell Engineering has submitted a proposal prepared in accordance with NJIB guidelines, including construction administration and inspection services and agency coordination services; and

WHEREAS, the Township Manager has recommended that Boswell Engineering be awarded a contract to provide the services stated above.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that Boswell Engineering is hereby awarded a contract for providing services not to exceed \$164,000.00 without further authorization of the Governing Body.

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-182

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

**ACCEPTING A GRANT FROM THE NEW JERSEY BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
COMMUNITY ENERGY PLAN**

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona has been awarded a grant from the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities Community Energy Plan in the amount of \$10,000; and

WHEREAS, this grant will help fund the development of local Community Energy Plans that align with the goals and strategies in the New Jersey's Energy Master Plan.

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 \$10,000.

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: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-183

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

**AUTHORIZING THE INSERTION INTO THE CY2024 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 NEW JERSEY BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
COMMUNITY ENERGY PLAN 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 \$10,000 from the State of New Jersey in the form of the Board of Public Utilities Community Energy Plan Grant and wishes to amend its CY2024 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 CY2024 Municipal Budget in the sum of \$10,000 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:
Community Energy Plan Grant

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the CY2024 Municipal Budget in the like sum of 1,000 appropriated under the caption of:

General Appropriations:
(A) Operations - Excluded from "CAPS"
Public and Private Revenues Offset with Appropriations:
Community Energy Plan 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: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro
NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-184

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

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH THE DMR ARCHITECTS FOR PREPARATION OF COMMUNITY ENERGY PLAN

WHEREAS, upon receipt of a grant from the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities, the Township is required to develop a local Community Energy Plan that aligns with the goals and strategies in NJ's Energy Master Plan (EMP); and

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona has a need to acquire such services; and

WHEREAS, the Township Manager has recommended that the DMR Architects, 777 Terrace Avenue, Suite 607, Hasbrouck be awarded a contract to provide an action plan for the Township to advance the goals of NJ's EMP while improving quality of life and cost of living for Township residents and workers.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that DMR Architects is hereby awarded a contract for providing services not to exceed \$10,000.00 without further authorization of the Governing Body.

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-185

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

**AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH THE DMR ARCHITECTS FOR
PREPARATION OF THE FOURTH ROUND HOUSING ELEMENT AND FAIR
SHARE PLAN**

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey established the bill known as A4/S50, signed into law by Governor Murphy on March 20, 2024, known as the Fourth Affordable Housing Round; and

WHEREAS, Bill A4/S50 established the rules and procedures for the creation and implementation of affordable housing plans for the Fourth Round;

WHEREAS, the Bill also sets a timeline of events that are to take place before the Fourth Round begins in July 1, 2025 including a mandate that before June 30, 2025 the municipality adopt a Housing Element and Fair Share Plan, with draft ordinances implementing the Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Township Manager has recommended that the DMR Architects, 777 Terrace Avenue, Suite 607, Hasbrouck be awarded a contract to prepare the Fourth Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that DMR Architects is hereby awarded a contract for providing services not to exceed \$63,000 without further authorization of the Governing Body.

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-186

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

**AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH PROPERTY PILOT, LLC
DBA GOVPILOT**

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

WHEREAS, Property Pilot, LLC DBA GovPilot provides modules to help manage cost not-to-exceed \$20,000.00 for the 2024 budget year; and

WHEREAS, modules provided by GovPilot shall be charged to Capital ordinance 2024-24(d); and

WHEREAS, GovPilot has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that GovPilot has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Verona in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit the GovPilot 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 be awarded to Property Pilot, LLC DBA GovPilot, 204 East Main Street, Manasquan, New Jersey 08736, subject to the following:

1. The Council hereby authorizes the Municipal Clerk, to execute any and all documents and take any and all actions necessary to complete and realize the intent and purpose of this resolution.
2. The Township 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: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-187

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

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH SHI INTERNATIONAL CORP.

WHEREAS, a need exists for the acquisition of workstations for the employees of the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona may, without advertising for bids, purchase such materials through the Morris County Co-Op Contract Name: NASPO Computer Equipment - Dell Direct, Contract #23023-C000001148027, Subcontract #24-TELE-71883 pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12* and *N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.29 et seq.*

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, that SHI International Corp. is hereby awarded a contract to supply employee workstations in an amount not to exceed \$91,000, charged to budget line C-53 – 46-040-016.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-188

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

**RATIFYING THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH
POLICEMEN’S BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION LOCAL #72**

WHEREAS, the Administration has been successful in reaching a settlement in contract negotiations with Policemen’s Benevolent Association (PBA), Local #72; and

WHEREAS, the parties have reduced the terms of the settlement to an Agreement, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, agreement has been ratified by the rank and file of PBA Local #72 and sets forth the terms and conditions of employment as well as all privileges, benefits and salaries to be embodied in a collective bargaining agreement for the period commencing January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2026;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that it hereby ratifies the attached Agreement and authorizes the Township Manager to execute a collective bargaining agreement with PBA Local #72 for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2026 that embodies the terms and conditions of employment as well as all privileges, benefits and salaries as set forth in the attached Agreement.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-189

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ELECTRONIC TAX SALE

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 54:5-19.1* authorizes electronic tax sales pursuant to rules and regulations to be promulgated by the Director of Government Services, and

WHEREAS, an electronic tax sale is innovative and provides a greater pool of potential lien buyers, thus creating the environment for a more complete tax sale process; and

WHEREAS, the Director of the Division of Local Government Services has approved NJ Tax Lien Investors/RealAuction.com to conduct electronic tax sales, and

WHEREAS, NJ Tax Lien Investors/RealAuction.com, whom conducted the 2023 electronic tax sale, has a price quotation of \$15.00 per certificate advertised, and

WHEREAS, then Township of Verona wishes to award NJ Tax Lien Investors/RealAuction.com contract for electronic tax sale.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, New Jersey, that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to participate in an electronic tax sale on December 5, 2024, with NJ Tax Lien Investors/RealAuction.com, for 2023 municipal charges.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-190

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

AUTHORIZING THE FEES ASSOCIATED WITH AN ELECTRONIC TAX SALE

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 54:5-19.1* authorizes electronic tax sales pursuant to rules and regulations to be promulgated by the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, and

WHEREAS, the rules and regulations require a municipality to send two notices of tax sale to all properties included in said sale; and

WHEREAS, the rules and regulations allow said municipality to charge a fee of \$25.00 per notice for the creation, printing and mailing of said notice; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to more fairly assign greater fiscal responsibility to delinquent taxpayers, the Township of Verona wishes to charge \$25.00 per notice mailed which will be assessed specifically to the delinquent accounts that are causing the need for a tax sale and not to the general tax base.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by Township Council of the Township of Verona, New Jersey, that a fee of \$25.00 per notice be established and is hereby authorized and directed to be charged for each notice of tax sale that is sent in conjunction with the 2024 electronic tax sale.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-191

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

REFUNDING ESCROW PAYMENT

WHEREAS, Escrow fees, for the Board of Adjustment, were received from Clifton Dunn and the fees have been held in Trust; and

WHEREAS, certification has been received from our Engineer to release these funds, from Trust, as follows:

ESCROW AMOUNT	EXPENSES	AMOUNT TO BE REFUNDED
\$1,150.00	\$185.86	\$964.14

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex New Jersey that the Chief Financial Officer and Tax Collector be authorized to refund, from the Trust Account, \$964.14 to Clifton Dunn.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-192

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

PERMITTING ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

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

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

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

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

New Business:

The following appointments are unanimously made to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee:

		Unexpired Term Ending
1. Michael Duda	Member	6/30/2027
2. Sharon Curtin	Member	6/30/2025

Council discusses an ordinance to amend Chapter 150 of the Zoning Code then votes to introduce the ordinance.

ORDINANCE No. 2024-35

**AMENDING CHAPTER 150 - ZONING, ARTICLE XXV
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT CONTROLS AND REQUIREMENTS
OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE**

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance N-2 into the record.

Motion to move the ordinance is made by Deputy Mayor McEvoy; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

Ordinance N-2 is numbers 2024-35. It will be sent to the Planning Board for review to determine if it is consistent with the Master Plan.

Public Comment:

None.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn is made at 8:30 p.m. by Councilwoman McGrath; seconded by Councilman Roman. The next meeting is October 21, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,


Jennifer Kiernan, Municipal Clerk


Christopher Tamburro, Mayor

APPROVED: October 22, 2024