

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Verona Township Council on Monday, December 2, 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, 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. Councilman Roman is present virtually.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Tamburro attended the NJ League of Municipalities Conference. He hopes everyone had an excellent Thanksgiving. He addressed the Thanksgiving service by the Verona Interfaith Clergy Council and congratulates the Verona A & C Team Eagles football players and cheerleaders. Fair in the Square will be coming up on Saturday and the Mayor encourages everyone to participate in Share your Light Night. Lastly, he announces that the Verona Fire Department and Rescue Squad Santa Day will be on Sunday, December 15th.

Mayor Tamburro presents certificates of recognition to Alice Holland, Maya Mahmood and Josie Villani from Girl Scout Troop 20528 for earning their Silver Award. Proclamations are also presented to the Verona Woman's Club for the annual Share Your Light Night and to the Prout Family, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Prout Funeral Home.

Essex County Liaison J. Coltre announces the Holiday House Tour this weekend with Kips Castle open, Holiday Lights at the Turtle Back Zoo, and the Holiday Food Drive at the Cherry Blossom Welcome Center on Thursday, December 19th.

Manager' Update:

Township Manager Joseph O. D'Arco has two items to discuss in Closed Session.

Deputy Manager Kevin O'Sullivan reports that the 2025 Pool Rate Study and Strategic Plan will be presented to the Council at the December 16th meeting. He also reports on wastewater infrastructure, the Claridge Pump Station and various road projects for Linden Avenue and Afterglow Way, Dodd Terrace and Summit Road for 2025. He also updates the Council on Everett Field, the pickleball and tennis court project at the Community Pool and the sustainable initiatives the Township is working towards.

Council Members Reports:

Deputy Mayor McEvoy reminds the public of the upcoming Fair in the Square and comments that the NJ League of Municipality Conference was very informative this year. The Historic Preservation Commission Meeting was last Thursday and lastly, on Wednesday of this week The Chamber of Commerce has their meeting in the Annex.

Councilman Roman remotely states that he is very excited for Fair in the Square and enjoyed seeing residents move into the Verona Flats as it is a very nice addition to the town.

Councilwoman McGrath also attended the League of Municipalities and the Interfaith Thanksgiving event. She thanks Congresswoman McIver for spending some time in Verona and concludes the report by announcing that this weekend was small business Saturday and the Friends of the Library Book Sale will be hosted on Thursday through Sunday.

Councilwoman Holland was also at the League of Municipalities and was honored to read the Thanksgiving Proclamation at the Interfaith Thanksgiving service. She thanks Congresswoman McIver for her attendance and engagement in our community and lastly encourages all residents to attend this year's Fair in the Square where the HBW Chamber Group will be performing their Christmas music.

Public Comment:

Paul Petrangelli, Verona, New Jersey

Hearing and Adoption of Ordinances:

ORDINANCE No. 2024-37

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$195,000 FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF PICKLE BALL/TENNIS COURTS, INCLUDING EQUIPMENT, IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA, IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$195,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE THE COST THEREOF

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance 2024-37 into the record.

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

Public Hearing:

Jamal Mahmood, Verona, New Jersey

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

Ordinance 2024-37 is adopted by a vote of 5-0. It will be published according to law.

ORDINANCE No. 2024-38

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$225,000 FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE BIG POOL FOR THE POOL UTILITY IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA, IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$225,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE THE COST THEREOF.

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance 2024-38 into the record.

Motion to move the ordinance is made by Councilwoman Holland; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath.

Public Hearing:

None

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

Ordinance 2024-38 is adopted by a vote of 5-0. It will be published according to law.

ORDINANCE No. 2024-39

REAPPROPRIATING \$340,000 PROCEEDS OF OBLIGATIONS NOT NEEDED FOR THEIR ORIGINAL PURPOSE IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR THE REPOINTING OF THE TOWNSHIP HALL IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA, IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance 2024-39 into the record.

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

Public Hearing:

None

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

Ordinance 2024-39 is adopted by a vote of 5-0. It will be published according to law.

ORDINANCE No. 2024-40

AMENDING CHAPTERS 140-36 "NO PARKING CERTAIN HOURS", 140-38 "TIME LIMIT PARKING" AND 140-68 "PARKING METER/PERMIT PARKING ZONES DESIGNATED"

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance 2024-40 into the record.

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

Public Hearing:

None

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

Ordinance 2024-40 is adopted by a vote of 5-0. It will be published according to law.

Ordinances for Introduction:

ORDINANCE No. 2024-41

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE REVISION OF THE 2025 MUNICIPAL ELECTION DATE FROM MAY TO NOVEMBER

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

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

Ordinance H-1 is numbered 2024-41. It will be published according to law and a public hearing will be held on December 16, 2024.

Consent Agenda:

Public Comment on Consent Agenda:

None

RESOLUTION No. 2024-224

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

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA, IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY MAKING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-46

WHEREAS, the Township has an urgent need for the acquisition of two salt trucks with equipment prior to winter weather and no provision was foreseen or has been made in the Township's 2024 budget for such purpose or is available therefor either for the purchase or for the down payment that would be necessary to authorize bonds for such purpose;

WHEREAS, such acquisition is necessary for protection of the public health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the Township;

WHEREAS, this need creates an emergency that must be addressed with a supplementary appropriation;

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-46 provides for the creation of an emergency appropriation for this purpose; and

WHEREAS, the total amount of the emergency appropriation created, including the appropriation to be created by this resolution, is \$200,000, and 3% of the total and current utility operating appropriations in the budget for 2024 is \$1,110,343.75; and

WHEREAS, the foregoing appropriation, together with prior appropriations, does not exceed 3% of the total operating appropriations in the budget for 2024 (\$200,000); now, therefore,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED (by not less than two-thirds of the full membership of the governing body affirmatively concurring) in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-48 as follows:

1. An emergency appropriation in the amount of \$200,000 is hereby made to provide for the acquisition of two salt trucks with equipment. This appropriation is necessary because funds are not available in the 2024 budget or otherwise either for the current funding or down payment for a bond ordinance to fund the purpose in the current year.
2. The emergency appropriation set forth in Section 1 shall be funded in full in Fiscal Year 2025 either with a bond ordinance adopted prior to adoption of the budget, including all costs necessary therefore or incidental thereto, or funded by inclusion in the Fiscal Year 2025 budget pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-47.
3. Two certified copies of this resolution shall be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-225

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

**AUTHORIZE BUDGET TRANSFERS BETWEEN APPROPRIATION ACCOUNTS
PURSUANT TO NJSA 40a:40-1**

WHEREAS, certain transfers of funds for various 2024 budget appropriations are necessary to cover anticipated expenditures; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40a:4-58 provides for transfer of appropriations with an excess over and above the amount deemed necessary to fulfil their purposes to those appropriations deemed to be insufficient;

WHEREAS, the appropriations subject to fund transfers hereby are not within those restricted by N.J.S.A. 40a:4-58 for transfer purposes;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona that the Chief Financial Officer shall and is hereby authorized to make transfers between appropriations accounts of the 2024 Municipal Budget as follows:

	TO:	FROM:
Recreation - Salary and Wages	\$20,000.00	
Health - Other Expenses	\$2,000.00	
Vehicle Maintenance - Other Expenses	\$10,000.00	
Street & Highway - Other Expenses	\$10,000.00	
Pool - Operating	\$5,000.00	
Salary Adjustment		\$20,000.00
Recycling - Salary and Wages		\$2,000.00
Engineer - Other Expenses		\$5,000.00
Building and Grounds - Other Expenses		\$15,000.00
Pool- Salary and Wages		\$5,000.00
TOTALS	\$47,000.00	\$47,000.00

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-226

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

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA, COUNTY OF ESSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, CANCELLING FUNDED APPROPRIATION BALANCES UNDER CERTAIN BOND ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED BY THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA FOR VARIOUS WATER SEWER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$3,392.81

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona, Essex County, New Jersey previously adopted Bond Ordinances for the purpose of funding various capital projects and improvements of the Township as more fully specified in the Bond Ordinances and

WHEREAS, as of the date hereof, the projects have been completed and

WHEREAS, the Township now desires to cancel such appropriations and transfer the funded balances to their respective fund surplus;

ORDINANCE	ORDINANCE DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT TO BE CANCELLED
General Capital		
7-11H	Tennis Courts	\$ 505.21
2022-28	Police Equipment	\$.07
Total General Capital		\$ 505.28
Water/Sewer Capital		
2017-1B	New Chemical Feed	\$1,993.28
2022-35	Rick & Resilience	\$ 558.75
2023-39	Rate Study	\$ 335.50
Total Water/Sewer Capital		\$2,887.53

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro
NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-227

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

**AWARD CONTRACT 21-06 PRIMARY CLARIFIER PUMP STATION UPGRADES
TO RAPID PUMP AND METER**

WHEREAS, upgrades are need for the primary clarifier pump station at the wastewater treatment facility; 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, Rapid Pump and Meter, Paterson, New Jersey is the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder; and

WHEREAS, the Deputy Township Manager has recommended that Rapid Pump and Meter 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 Rapid Pump and Meter is hereby awarded a contract for providing services not to exceed \$1,123,000 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. 2024-228

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

**AWARDING CONTRACT No. 2024-13 - FURNISHING OF SNOW PLOW
EQUIPMENT & PERSONNEL**

WHEREAS, on November 21, 2024 the Township of Verona received one (1) responsive and responsible bid for Contract No. 2024-13, Furnishing of Snow Plow Equipment & Personnel; and

WHEREAS, Martin Contracting, LLC, 49 Commerce Court, Verona, New Jersey is the lowest responsive and responsible bidder; and

WHEREAS, the Deputy Township Manager has reviewed the proposal and recommends that Contract No. 2024-13 be awarded to Martin Contracting, LLC, for a twelve-month period, with the Township's option to renew for a maximum of two additional twelve-month terms.

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

1. The preamble to this Resolution is hereby incorporated as if more fully set forth herein.
2. Contract No. 2024-13 shall be awarded to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Martin Contracting, LLC.

3. No amount of this contract shall be chargeable until such time as to the certification of available funds is made by the Chief Financial Officer, upon receipt of a properly executed Purchase Order pursuant to *N.J.A.C. 5:30-11.10*
4. The Township Manager and the Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to enter into any agreement necessary 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. 2024-229

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

**AWARDING CONTRACT No. 2024-14
PICKLE BALL AND TENNIS COURTS IMPROVEMENTS**

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona received bids for the Improvement of Pickle ball and Tennis Courts – Contract No. 2024-14 on October 16, 2024; and

WHEREAS, four (4) bids were received for Contract 2024-14; and

WHEREAS, Dakota Excavating Contractors, Inc. was the lowest responsive and responsible bidder in the Base Bid Amount of \$442,565; and

WHEREAS, the Consulting Engineer has reviewed and recommends the Contract award be made to Dakota Excavating Contractors, Inc. PO Box 414, Saddle River, New Jersey 07458, as the lowest responsive and responsible bid.

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 Contract No. 2024-14 be awarded to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Dakota Excavating Contractors, Inc. in the total amount of \$442,565.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED \$442,565 shall be charged to any account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or her designee and shall be charged against and the availability of funds has been certified by the Chief Financial Officer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Manager or his designee is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement or any other required documents 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. 2024-230

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

**AWARDING CONTRACT No. 2024-15
IMPROVEMENTS AT THE COMMUNITY POOL**

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona received bids for the Improvements at the Community Pool – Contract No. 2024-15 on October 16, 2024; and

WHEREAS, three (3) bids were received for Contract 2024-15; and

WHEREAS, Tsivicos Enterprises, Inc. was the lowest responsive and responsible bidder in the Base Bid Amount of \$423,000; and

WHEREAS, the Consulting Engineer has reviewed and recommends the Contract award be made to Tsvicos Enterprises, Inc. 1420 9th Avenue, Suite 23, Neptune, NJ 07753, as the lowest responsive and responsible bid.

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 Contract No. 2024-15 be awarded to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Tsvicos Enterprises, Inc. in the total amount of \$423,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED \$423,000 shall be charged to any account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or her designee and shall be charged against and the availability of funds has been certified by the Chief Financial Officer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Manager or his designee is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement or any other required documents for the aforementioned services a copy of which shall be available for public inspection in the Office of the Township Clerk.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-231

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

**AWARDING CONTRACT No. 2024-17
TOWN HALL REPOINTING AND WINDOW REPLACEMENT**

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona received bids for the Town Hall Repointing and Window Replacement - Contract No. 2024-17 on October 17, 2024; and

WHEREAS, nine (9) bids were received for Contract 2024-17; and

WHEREAS, the apparent lowest bidder's bid was rejected due to improper submission of their bid bond; and,

WHEREAS, Panoramic Window & Door System, Stockton, New Jersey was the lowest responsive and responsible bidder in the Base Bid Amount of \$773,000.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Consulting Engineer, Township Manager and Township Attorney has reviewed and recommends the Contract award be made to Panoramic Window & Door System as the lowest responsive and responsible bid in a total amount of \$773,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED \$773,000 shall be charged to any account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or her designee and shall be charged against and the availability of funds has been certified by the Chief Financial Officer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Manager or his designee is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement or any other required documents for the aforementioned services a copy of which shall be available for public inspection in the Office of the Township Clerk.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

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

RESOLUTION No. 2024-232

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

**AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH HIGHWAY
TRAFFIC CONTROL, INC.**

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona has a need to for various street signs and other signage in and around the Township; and

WHEREAS, Highway Traffic Control Inc., provides such goods; and

WHEREAS, the Administration has determined and certified in writing that the value of the service will exceed the pay to play threshold of \$17,500 but will not exceed \$20,000; and,

WHEREAS, Highway Traffic Control, Inc. has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Highway Traffic Control Inc. 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 Highway Traffic Control Inc. 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 Highway Traffic Control Inc. to provide various signage in and around the Township of Verona:

1. 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.
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.
3. The services requested shall not exceed \$20,000 and no services or materials shall be requested without a certification of funds.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-233

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

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH MGL PRINTING SOLUTIONS

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona has a need to for various printing and mailing services; and

WHEREAS, MGL Printing Solutions provides such services; and

WHEREAS, the Administration has determined and certified in writing that the value of the service will exceed the pay to play threshold of \$17,500 but will not exceed \$20,000; and,

WHEREAS, MGL Printing Solutions has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that MGL Printing Solutions 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 MGL Printing Solutions 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 Highway Traffic Control Inc. to provide printing and mailing services to the Township of Verona:

4. 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.
5. 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.

6. The services requested shall not exceed \$20,000 and no services or materials shall be requested without a certification of funds.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-234

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor McEvoy; seconded by Mayor Tamburro 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 YEAR END DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED
OVER 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 \$7,000 from the United States Department of Transportation/National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in the form of the 2024 Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Statewide Year End Crackdown 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 \$7,000 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:
Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Statewide Year End Crackdown Grant

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the CY2023 Municipal Budget in the like sum of \$7,000 appropriated under the caption of:

General Appropriations:
(A) Operations - Excluded from "CAPS"
Public and Private Revenues Offset with Appropriations:
Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Statewide Year End Crackdown 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. 2024-235

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

ACCEPTING THE AWARD OF THE 2024 NATIONAL OPIOID SETTLEMENT

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona has been awarded a grant in the sum of \$156.96 from the State of New Jersey for the 2024 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 \$156.96.

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. 2024-236

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor McEvoy; seconded by Mayor Tamburro 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 SUSTAINABLE JERSEY-PSE&G ENERGY
EFFICIENCY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM RESIDENTIAL OUTREACH CAMPAIGN
TRACK 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 \$5,000 from the State of New Jersey in the form of the Residential Outreach Campaign 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 \$5,000 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:
SJ-PSE&G Residential Outreach Campaign Track 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:
SJ-PSE&G Residential Outreach Campaign Track 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. 2024-237

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

REFUNDING TAX LIEN REDEMPTION

WHEREAS, property located at 1 Claridge Drive unit 1028, Block 101 Lot 1 Qualifier C1028, owned by [REDACTED], has been held in tax lien since December 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, payment was received, in the amount of \$51,920.78 from Closing USA, clearing the lien as follows:

Certificate #22-00002	
Certificate	\$11,341.54
6% Redemption Penalty	\$ 680.49
Recording Fee	\$ 45.00
Search Fee	\$ 12.00
2022 Taxes plus Interest and Penalty	\$16,107.65
2023 Taxes plus Interest and Penalty	\$14,650.47
2024 Taxes plus Interest and Penalty	<u>\$ 9,083.63</u>
Total Redemption	\$51,920.78
Premium	\$73,500.00
Total	\$125,420.78

WHEREAS, this certificate has been held by the Township of Verona 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, \$125,420.78 to:

FUNDPALITY II LLC
100 N. LA SALLE, SUITE 710
CHICAGO, IL 60602

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-238

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

DECLARING THE VERONA PUBLIC LIBRARY TO BE A BOOK SANCTUARY LIBRARY

WHEREAS, the freedom to read is a human right, constitutionally protected by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution, and individuals have the right to free inquiry and the equally important right to form their own opinions; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council recognizes the Township of Verona Library has a responsibility to protect and promote the constitutional rights of each Library patron to access and use library resources; and

WHEREAS, books do not require readers to agree with topics or themes but instead allow readers to explore and engage with differing perspectives to form and inform their own views; and

WHEREAS, over the last several years, there has been a significant increase in censorship activities in the United States resulting in books being removed from library shelves and schools; and

WHEREAS, book bans often seek to impose restrictions based on the political, ideological, or cultural preferences of the individuals calling for book bans; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council opposes censorship of books and materials in the Library collection and the Township Council protects freedom of expression in the community by supporting the Library's goal of providing information and promoting free and respectful expression of differing viewpoints; and

WHEREAS, the Verona Public Library has a material selection process that is fair, deliberative, equitable, and accessible to the public as set forth in its Collection Development Policy adopted by the Verona Public Library Board of Trustees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona hereby declares the Verona Public Library to be a Book Sanctuary Library.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-239

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor McEvoy; seconded by Mayor Tamburro 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:

RESOLUTION No. 2024-240

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

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH RAUSCH USA

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to install security cameras at the Department of Public Works facility; and

WHEREAS, Rausch USA provides such goods and services; and

WHEREAS, the Qualified Purchasing Agent has determined that the value of the service will exceed the pay to play threshold of \$17,500 but will not exceed \$21,000; and,

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona may, without advertising for bids, procure such goods and services through the New Jersey State Contract Pricing Contract Sourcwell Contract #120721-RAU pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12* and *N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.29 et seq.*, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, that Rausch USA is hereby awarded a contract to supply and install

security cameras at the DPW facility in an amount not to exceed \$21,000 charged to budget lines G-60-41-723-331 in the amount of \$6,500, 4-05-55-502-382 in the amount of \$9,500 and C53-46-24-001 in the amount of \$5,000.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Holland, McGrath, Roman, McEvoy, Tamburro

NAYS:

New Business:

None.

Public Comment:

Kevin Ryan, Verona, New Jersey
Paul Pertangelli, Verona, New Jersey

Council goes into Executive Session at 8:45 p.m. and returns to the public session at 10:40 p.m.

Motion to adjourn at 10:41 p.m. is made by Mayor Tamburro; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath.

The next meeting is Monday, December 16, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Jennifer Kiernan, Municipal Clerk


Christopher Tamburro, Mayor

APPROVED: December 16, 2024