TOWNSHIP COUNCIL AGENDA

R # 064 O # 07

MARCH 17, 2025

TOWNSHIP OF VERONA

COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY



TOWNSHIP COUNCIL AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING

7:00 P.M.

MARCH 17, 2025

THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD IN-PERSON

MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 600 BLOOMFIELD AVENUE

Via the internet, please click the link below to join the meeting: <u>https://zoom.us/j/95262662770</u> Via telephone, please dial 1(312)626-6799 or 1(646)558-8656 Use Zoom Meeting ID: 952-6266-2770, when prompted for a Participant ID, press #

A. CALL TO ORDER

The notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act have been satisfied with respect to this meeting of the Township Council. The meeting time and date were included in the public meeting notice along with the public internet link and telephone call-in information. Said notice and the meeting agenda was posted in the Municipal Building, and sent the official newspapers of the Township, the Verona-Cedar Grove Times and the Star Ledger at least 48 hours preceding the start time of this meeting. The agenda and public handouts for this meeting can be viewed online at <u>www.veronanj.org/councilmeetings</u>. A public comment period will be held in the order it is listed on the meeting agenda and instructions on how to comment will be provided at the appropriate time.

B. ROLL CALL

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. REPORT OF THE MAYOR

- 1. Certificate of Recognition 7th Grade Girls Suburban Basketball Team
- 2. Julius Coltre, Essex County Liaison

E. REPORT OF THE TOWNSHIP MANAGER

- 1. Introduction of 2025 Municipal Budget
 - a. Ordinance No. 2025- CAP Index
 - b. Resolution No. 2025- Introduction of 2025 Municipal Budget

F. COUNCILMEMBERS' REPORTS

G. PUBLIC COMMENT

H. HEARING ADOPTION OR AMENDMENT OF ORDINANCES

1. Ordinance No. 2025-06 Fixing the Salary of the Deputy Manager

I. ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION

1. Ordinance No. 2025- Amending Chapter 140, "Vehicles & Traffic", Article XII, Schedule IV, "Time Limit Parking"

J. PUBLIC COMMENT ON CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

TOWNSHIP COUNCIL AGENDA

CONSENT AGENDA

K. MINUTES

L. PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS

1. March 3, 2025 Meeting

- 1. Resolution No. 2025- Designating a Stormwater Management Coordinator
- 2. Resolution No. 2025- Refunding Board of Adjustment Escrow Payment
- 3. Resolution No. 2025- Executive Session

M. LICENSES AND PERMITS

N. ADDENDUM

O. NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

P. PUBLIC COMMENT

Q. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 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)

R. ADJOURNMENT

DUE TO THE ENACTMENT OF DANIEL'S LAW, PLEASE PROVIDE <u>ONLY YOUR NAME & TOWNSHIP</u> DURING PUBLIC COMMENT & PUBLIC HEARINGS The public may speak on any matter during Public Comment, listed on the agenda as items "G", "J" and "P" on the agenda. At that time, anyone from the public wishing to speak will be recognized. Your comments shall be limited to four (4) minutes.

ORDINANCE No. 2025-

AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, *N.J.S.A.* 40A:4-45.1 *et seq.*, provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said 2025 budget to 2.5% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A.* 40*A*:4-45.15*a* provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2025 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council hereby determines that a 2.5% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$519,682.33 in excess of the increase in final appropriations of an additional 1% amounting to \$207,872.93 otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2025 budget year, the final appropriations of the Township of Verona shall, in accordance with this ordinance and *N.J.S.A.* 40A:4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$727,555.26, and that the CY 2025 Municipal Budget for the Township of Verona be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

ATTEST:

JENNIFER KIERNAN, RMC, CMC MUNICIPAL CLERK

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE AFOREMENTIONED ORDINANCE WAS PUBLISHED IN THE STAR LEDGER, A NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX AND CIRCULATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA, IN THE XXX ISSUE AND XXXX ISSUE.

> JENNIFER KIERNAN, RMC, CMC MUNICIPAL CLERK

INTRODUCTION: PUBLIC HEARING: EFFECTIVE DATE:

RESOLUTION No. 2025-

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

INTRODUCTION OF THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey that the following statements of revenues and appropriations shall constitute the Municipal Budget of the Township of Verona for the 2025 calendar year.

Gener	al Appropriations:	<u>Year 2025</u>
1.	Appropriations within "CAPS" (H-1 Sheet 19)	\$ 21,866,966.00
2.	Appropriations excluded from "CAPS" (H-2 Sheet 28)	\$ 5,435,073.00
3.	Reserve for Uncollected Taxes (M-Sheet 29)	<u>\$ 1,500,000.00</u>
4.	Total General Appropriations (Item 9, Sheet 29)	\$ 28,802,039
5.	Less: Anticipated Revenues Other than Current Property Tax (Item 5, Sheet 11)	\$ (9,373,381.00)
6.	Less: Minimum Library Tax (Item 6(c), Sheet 11)	<u>\$ (1,140,016.00)</u>
7.	Difference: Amount to be raised by Taxes for support of the Municipal Budget (as follows) (a) Local Tax for Municipal Purposes including Reserve for Uncollected Taxes (Item 6(a), Sheet 11)	\$ 18,288,642.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said Budget will be published in the Monday, March 24, 2025 edition of the Star Ledger.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Verona does hereby approve the preceding as the Budget for the 2025 year:

A Hearing on the Budget and Tax Resolution will be held both in-person and via a Zoom video conference on April 21, 2025 at 7 o'clock p.m. at which time and place discussions to said

Budget and Tax Resolution for 2025 may be presented by taxpayers or other interested persons. <u>https://zoom.us/j/95262662770</u>

Via telephone, please dial 1(312)626-6799 or 1(646)558-8656 *Use Zoom Meeting ID:* 952-6266-2770, *when prompted for a Participant ID, press* #

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that A copy of the 2025 Municipal Budget and tax resolution will be available at no cost during regular business hours by contacting the Municipal Clerk's Office at 973-857-4770 or visiting the Township's website at www.veronanj.org/budgetinfo for the members of the general public who shall request the same up to and including the time when the Township Council shall further consider this for final passage. All persons interested in the proposed budget will have an opportunity to address the Township Council during the aforementioned public hearing.

ROLL CALL: AYES: NAYS: ABSENT: ABSTAIN:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND EXACT COPY OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA AT A REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MARCH 17, 2025.

JENNIFER KIERNAN MUNICIPAL CLERK

ORDINANCE # 2025-06

FIXING THE SALARY AND COMPENSATION OF THE DEPUTY MANAGER

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey as follows:

DEPARTMENT/POSITION	SALARY (\$)
Office of the Township Manager	
Deputy Manager	\$120,000 to \$145,000

SECTION 1: The salary and compensation of the various paid officers and employees of the Township of Verona shall be at rates as stated above:

SECTION 2: Salaries recorded above are base salaries.

SECTION 3: The salary herein fixed shall be paid semi-monthly, unless the method of payment is changed by resolution of the Township Council.

SECTION 4: Such salaries respectively shall be in lieu of any and all fees to which the respective incumbents of said officers might be otherwise entitled to by statute of ordinance which fee immediately upon collection thereof shall be paid over to the Township Treasurer for the use of the Township.

SECTION 6: This ordinance shall take effect after final adoption and publication and otherwise as provided by law.

ATTEST:

JENNIFER KIERNAN MUNICIPAL CLERK

NOTICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE AFOREMENTIONED ORDINANCE WAS PUBLISHED IN THE STAR LEDGER, A NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX AND CIRCULATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA, IN THE ISSUES OF MARCH 7, 2025 AND XXX.

JENNIFER KIERNAN MUNICIPAL CLERK

INTRODUCTION: March 3, 2025 PUBLIC HEARING: March 17, 2025 EFFECTIVE DATE:

ORDINANCE No. 2025-

AMENDING CHAPTER 140, VEHICLES & TRAFFIC, ARTICLE XII, SCHEDULE IV "TIME LIMIT PARKING"

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, County of Essex, New Jersey as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 140, Article XII, Schedule IV, Time Limit Parking of the Code of the Township of Verona is hereby amended in part to read as follows (**additions** in **bold**, strike outs to be eliminated):

In accordance with the provisions of § <u>140-10</u>, no person shall park a vehicle for longer than the time limit shown on any day, except Sunday and holidays, unless otherwise indicated, upon any of the following streets, parts of streets or public off-street parking areas:

Name of Street	Side	Time Limit; Hours/Days	Location
Beechwood Road	Both	2 hours; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Entire length
Bloomfield Avenue	Both	2 hours; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Entire length
Bloomfield Avenue	Both	30 minutes, 7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday	Park Avenue to Hillcrest Terrace
	NORTH		
880 Bloomfield Avenue Community Center	East side of building	2 hours; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Entire lot
Civic Center Driveway	Both	2 hours; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m./Monday through Friday only (not applicable to permit holders)	Entire length
Civic Center	West	20 minutes; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m./Monday through Friday	From 87 feet north of Bloomfield Avenue for 52 feet
Claremont Avenue	South	2 hours; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m./Monday through Friday	From Montclair Avenue to Pompton Avenue
Crestmont Road	West	2 hours; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.	From Westover Road to Claremont Avenue
East Lincoln Street	West	2 hours; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m./Monday through Friday	Entire length
Gould Street	West	2 hours; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Entire length
Lakeside Avenue	Both	4 hours; 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	Entire length
Linn Drive			
Montrose Avenue	West	2 hours; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.	From Bloomfield Avenue to Hill Street
Nassau Road	Both	2 hours; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Pompton to Witherspoon Road
Oakridge Road	East	2 hours; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.	From Fells Road to point opposite north curbline of Chestnut Road
Pine Street	North	2 hours; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m./Monday through Saturday	From a point 79 feet west of the intersection of Fairview Avenue and Pine Street continuing to Sunnyside Place
Rockland Terrace	East	2 hours; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Entire length
South Prospect Street	East	2 hours, 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Beginning 25 feet north of Hill Street for 93 feet north

Name of Street	Side	Time Limit; Hours/Days	Location
South Prospect Street	East	2 hours, 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Beginning 138 feet north of Hill Street for 113 feet north
South Prospect Street	West	2 hours, 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Beginning 176 feet south of Bloomfield Avenue for 316 feet south
West Lincoln Street	West	2 hours; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m./Monday through Friday	Entire length
Westover Road	Both	2 hours; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Pompton to Witherspoon Road

SECTION 3. In case any one or more of the provisions of this Ordinance shall, for any reason, be held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this Ordinance shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision had not been contained herein.

SECTION 4. If any section, sub-section, paragraph, sentence or any other part of this ordinance is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder of this ordinance.

SECTION 5. All ordinances or parts of ordinances which are inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 6. This ordinance shall take effect 20 days after final passage and publication as prescribed by law.

ATTEST:

JENNIFER KIERNAN, RMC, CMC MUNICIPAL CLERK

NOTICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE AFOREMENTIONED ORDINANCE WAS PUBLISHED IN THE STAR LEDGER, A NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX AND CIRCULATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA, IN THE ISSUE OF XXX AND XXX.

JENNIFER KIERNAN, RMC, CMC MUNICIPAL CLERK

INTRODUCTION: PUBLIC HEARING: EFFECTIVE DATE:

RESOLUTION No. 2025-

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

DESIGNATING A MUNICIPAL STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection mandates that a Stormwater Management Coordinator be designated for each municipality, and;

WHEREAS, Township Manger Kevin O'Sullivan possess the necessary requirements to serve as Stormwater Management Coordinator.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona that Kevin O'Sullivan be designated Municipal Stormwater Management Coordinator and George Zhender of the Public Works Department serve as back-up Coordinator.

ROLL CALL: AYES: NAYS: ABSENT: ABSTAIN:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND EXACT COPY OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA AT A REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MARCH 17, 2025.

JENNIFER KIERNAN, RMC, CMC MUNICIPAL CLERK

RESOLUTION No. 2025-

A motion was made by	; seconded by	that the following resolution
be adopted:	-	-

REFUNDING ESCROW PAYMENT

WHEREAS, escrow fees, for the Board of Adjustment, were received from Vanessa Juarez and the fees have been held in Trust; and

WHEREAS, certification has been received from our Board of Adjustment Secretary to release these funds, from Trust, as follows:

ESCROW	EXPENSES	AMOUNT TO
AMOUNT		BE REFUNDED
\$2,425.00	\$2,046.12	\$378.88

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, \$378.88 to Vanessa Juarez.

ROLL CALL: AYES: NAYS: ABSENT: ABSTAIN:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND EXACT COPY OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA AT THE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MARCH 17, 2025.

JENNIFER KIERNAN, RMC, CMC MUNICIPAL CLERK

RESOLUTION No. 2025-

A motion was made by	; seconded by	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)

ROLL CALL: AYES: NAYS: ABSENT: ABSTAIN:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND EXACT COPY OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA AT A REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MARCH 17, 2025.

JENNIFER KIERNAN, RMC, CMC MUNICIPAL CLERK