

**MINUTES OF THE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
UPPER DEERFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, HELD ON
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2019, AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING,
HIGHWAY 77, SEABROOK, NEW JERSEY, PURSUANT TO NOTICE**

Present were: James Crilley, John T. O'Neill, Sr., Bruce Peterson, John Daddario and Scott Smith all being members of the Township Committee. Also present were: Rocco Tedesco, Solicitor; Roy Spoltore, Township Administrator/Clerk; Chad Ott, Chief of EMS, Amy Colaneri, CFO, and Teresa Warburton, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order by Committeeman James Crilley and he read the following public meeting announcement.

"This meeting is being held in accordance with the "Open Public Meetings Act." Notice of the meeting has been provided and published as required by law in the Daily Journal and The Press, Cumberland County Edition. Notice has also been posted in the Municipal Building. The Clerk shall enter this statement in the minutes of this meeting. In compliance with State Fire Safety Statues the Chairman instructs those present how to exit the room in an emergency."

James Crilley gave an invocation followed by the flag salute led by Bruce Peterson.

At this time James Crilley, Chairman opened the meeting for public comment.

Tami Jo Hutchins of Merlin Drive stated she received a letter from Westrum Development that a fenced area with access to her property is located on Westrum's property and needs to be removed by December 2nd. Ms. Hutchins commented that she spoke with Maria DiSalvatore, Zoning Officer who suggested there were two options; the homeowners take down the garden fencing, or see if Westrum would remove the garden fencing. Ms. Hutchins asked the Committee if they could request a meeting of any property owner who received a letter from Westrum to discuss the situation. Township Solicitor, Rocco Tedesco stated that this is not a township issue and advised her to speak directly with Westrum, send them a letter if you cannot reach them or consult an attorney. Mayor Crilley urged Ms. Hutchins to follow the advice of the Township Solicitor.

There being no other public comments James Crilley, Chairman called for the approval of the minutes for the meeting of November 7, 2019. On a motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by John Daddario, to dispense with the reading of the minutes and to accept the minutes as received, unanimously approved 5-0.

James Crilley, Chairman called for a public hearing on an ordinance entitled, Amending Chapter 218 of the Upper Deerfield Township Code Entitled – "Fire Zones". The Clerk read the proposed Ordinance by title. On motion of Scott Smith, seconded by John T. O'Neill, Sr., to open the meeting for a public hearing on the proposed ordinance, and unanimously carried. The Chairman instructed the Clerk to distribute copies to those present. There being no public comments, on motion of John Daddario, seconded Bruce Peterson, to close the public hearing and unanimously carried. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by John T. O'Neill, Sr., to approve and adopt the proposed ordinance, unanimously carried 5-0, on a roll call vote.

INSERT ORDINANCE

James Crilley, Chairman called for a resolution entitled Awarding Bid for Home Rehabilitation Contract 2019-1. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by Scott Smith to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

James Crilley, Chairman called for a resolution entitled Awarding Services for Providing Snow Removal for the Upcoming Season to Various Roads within Upper Deerfield Township. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by John T. O'Neill, Sr. to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

James Crilley, Chairman called for a resolution entitled 2019 Utility Budget Transfer. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of John T. O'Neill, Sr., seconded by Bruce Peterson to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

James Crilley, Chairman called for a resolution entitled Resolution Calling for Study Commission to Review the Open Public Records Act. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by John T. O'Neill, Sr., to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried.

INSERT RESOLUTION

James Crilley, Chairman called for a resolution entitled Payment of Bills, in the amount of \$822,092.91. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by Scott Smith to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

John Daddario did not have a report this evening.

Scott Smith did not have a report this evening.

Bruce Peterson reported that he obtained recreation equipment information that is under State Contract at the League of Municipalities Convention.

John T. O'Neill, Sr. commented that the sanitary system repairs will need to be budgeted as sections of infrastructure begins to show their age.

Mayor Crilley commented that he attended the NJLM conference meeting and spoke with a few representatives on the convention floor.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Roy Spoltore, Administrator commented that the Bridgeton Rotary has a raffle request for 50/50 and an on premise raffle for February 20, 2020 to be held at Seabrook Fire & Rescue. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by John Daddario the raffle license request was unanimously approved. The

Union approved the Township's two year counter proposal. Mayor Crilley added that the committee is in the process of trying to bring everyone up to the \$15.00 minimum wage. A spreadsheet showing how the State energy program, that provides lighting and HVAC upgrades with 80% state funding and 20% municipal funding, would impact the seven eligible municipal buildings. The estimated cost of the eligible expenses is \$64,000.00, the township would be responsible for approximately \$12,000.00. The program would convert all lighting to LED at the municipal building, senior center, ambulance, public works and three fire companies and replace a furnace at the ambulance building and an HVAC unit at the senior center. WRT Representatives provided an updated timeline to implement the pilot study for their Biological Nitrate removal system. The State of New Jersey will view the pilot study in early January 2020. The biological filtration trailer will be delivered the first week of December 2019. The initial trailer is working and being monitored at their offices in Colorado. Rocco Tedesco, Solicitor asked what the estimated cost is for the biological system vs the ion exchange system and if the operating expenses are equivalent between the two systems? Mr. Spoltore stated that it is estimated that the biological removal is approximately \$1.4 million more and the operating costs are essentially the same. Roy Spoltore commented that he attended six sessions at the NJLM Conference. The session pertaining to Best Practices for PILOTS was very informative with how Woodbridge and Harrison Township are utilizing the state program. This evening's packet for review consisted of the remaining budgets as of November 14th, departmental reports for October and The Planner magazine.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Rocco Tedesco did not have a report this evening.

At this time James Crilley, Chairman opened the meeting for additional public comments.

Dean Hawk of Merritt Avenue asked about the condition of Button Mill Road. He was informed that electric lines burned holes into the roadway after a tree knocked down the lines in a storm. Public Works crew will be going out to seal the holes in Button Mill Road for the winter and will make the necessary repairs in the spring when it can be properly corrected. Mr. Hawk asked if the Township has looked into putting Solar at the Township building and other township buildings to help offset the costs. He was informed that the Township is reviewing the concept again. Nancy Ridgway of Irving Avenue asked if Cumberland County has taken full responsibility for the Silver Lake Dam. At the last County Freeholders meeting they made it seem like they have taken full responsibility of the Silver Lake Dam. The County and the Township are responsible.

With no further public comments and no further business to come before the Committee Chairman James Crilley, called for a resolution Authorizing Closed Session to discuss contracts, potential litigation and other matters requiring attorney client privileged confidential communications. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by Scott Smith to approve and adopt resolution, unanimously carried 5-0.

INSERT RESOLUTION

The Committee reopened the public portion of the meeting on a motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by Scott Smith and unanimously carried.

With no public comments and no further business to come before the Committee, on a motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by Scott Smith to adjourn the meeting, and unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa L. Warburton, Recording Secretary

Roy J. Spoltore, Township Clerk