

**MINUTES OF THE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF  
UPPER DEERFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, HELD ON  
THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2020, 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, Township Solicitor, Roy Spoltore, Township Administrator/Clerk; Brian Murphy, Township Engineer; Amy Colaneri, CFO; and Chad Ott, Public Works Supervisor.

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

"A regularly scheduled public meeting of the Upper Deerfield Township Committee is being held pursuant to P.L. 2020, Ch. 11, the meeting will be conducted via teleconference. A call-in number, meeting ID and access code to listen to the meeting for the public was provided on the Township website and on the rear door of township municipal building. **THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING IS NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.** Public comment will be held according to the agenda in the usual manner via teleconference. The agenda is posted on the Township website under "Public Records". 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.

James Crilley gave an invocation followed by the flag salute led by John Daddario.

At this time James Crilley, Chairman asked for a Roll Call and opened the meeting for public comment. Wayne Sabota thanked public works for putting up road sign on Quail Ridge Drive.

There being no other public comments James Crilley, Chairman called for the approval of minutes for the Meeting of April 16, 2020. 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 discussion and introduction of an ordinance entitled, Authorizing the Expenditure of Capital Reserve Funds for the Purchase of an Ambulance. The Clerk read the proposed Ordinance by title. On motion of John Daddario, seconded by Scott Smith to approve and adopt proposed ordinance on first reading and setting the date for public hearing on May 21, 2020 at 7:00 pm and was carried 5-0 on a roll call vote. The Chairman instructed the Clerk to advertise same in the Daily Journal as required by law and copies to be made available upon request.

INSERT ORDINANCE

James Crilley, Chairman called for a resolution entitled Amending Certification of Certain Employee Salary. 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 Tax Payment to be Refunded. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by John Daddario 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 Cancel Unexpended Fund Balance Remaining in Ordinance 706. 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. Cancel Balance of Funds Remaining in Ordinance Numbers 731 & 766. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by John O'Neill 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 Payment of Bills in the amount of \$2,401,143.37. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded John Daddario, to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

#### INSERT RESOLUTION

#### COMMITTEE COMMENTS

John Daddario reported that the Convenience Center is very busy with people home cleaning their houses. There is a need to have someone at the gate confirming that the users are registered to use the facility. The Convenience Center Committee will meet with public works and the administrator. Little League hopes to start their season in the summer if COVID-19 restrictions allow.

Scott Smith reported that there are complaints about 4 wheelers and dirt bikes around Love Lane and Button Mill.

Bruce Peterson stated he was opposed to extending the grace period as the state did not extend the time the municipalities had to pay the county and the schools.

John T. O'Neill, Sr. added that we need to do the best we can with the resources available.

Chairman Crilley stated that he; Bruce Peterson, John O'Neill and Roy Spoltore have been included in the County coronavirus teleconferences every Tuesday and Friday. Mr. Crilley asked about the status of the demolition of the Centerton Avenue project. He was informed that the demo is complete and just needs a couple of loads of fill to complete project. Chairman Crilley added that the CCUA has not been cooperating as hoped regarding the discussion of the backwash from a proposed ion exchange system.

#### ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Roy Spoltore reported that: the census completion rate is 63.8% for Upper Deerfield, third highest in the county, Courts will begin virtual municipal courts in June, newsletters were mailed and the annual recycling report to the state has been extended till July 1. Omni Trax has requested that the Seabrook Rail Line be leased to the company – a copy of the proposed lease has been forwarded to the JIF for their review. The schools have submitted their annual forms for taxes for the following school year, it appears the Regional school will increase taxes 3.5 to 5 cents this year. The committee agreed to submit Love Lane from the railroad track to highway 77 and the roads around Wawa for this year's transportation grant. The annual information for the planning incentive grants for farmland preservation was sent to the state. A request from the county for a 20 acre parcel off of Friesburg Road to be accepted into the farmland preservation program was discussed. The parcel is located in an R-1 zone, was located in the PIG area but not listed as a parcel to be preserved in the farmland preservation plan. The committee wants to discuss changing the zoning to Agriculture with the applicant as this is the only way they would consider approving the project to the county. John Daddario abstained from the discussion. The Committee discussed a proposed ordinance that would allow existing substandard lots in an agricultural zone to be issued a zoning permit as long as they met the R-1 requirements. The Committee asked that the planner review the size of the existing vacant lots. Mr. Spoltore reported that the Township is about \$400,000 behind in its tax collections as of May 7<sup>th</sup> from last year.

#### ENGINEER'S REPORT

Brian Murphy stated that the renewal application for the radionuclide treatment has been submitted to the State. Mr. Murphy laid out the ADA pathways through the soccer area for the grant. He will send the solicitor the close out items that are still needed to be completed for the Thoroughbred Court development, so the solicitor can contact the bank. WRT's pilot program for biological treatment at Love Lane showed that the cost of a full scale operation would be prohibitive. Two prices were received to replace the roof at the Love Lane Treatment Center, one was from Bracaliello Builders at a cost of \$9,850.00 and the other proposal was from Archer Exterior Renovations at \$9,990.00. On a motion by Bruce Peterson, seconded by Scott Smith the committee approved the proposal from Bracaliello Builders at a cost of 9,850.00 and unanimously approved on a roll call vote.

#### SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Rocco Tedesco reported that the title work for the Terrigno property came back clear. The appraisal came in a little under the selling price. Marathon completed a phase 1 environmental and recommended that a Geophysical study be conducted to determine if there are any underground tanks on the property. The cost of the study is \$2,800, on a motion by Bruce Peterson, seconded by John O'Neill and unanimously approved on a roll call vote. The last discussion Ray Ferrara and Pennoni had was around April 17<sup>th</sup>, there has been no reply to Mr. Ferrara's correspondence on that date. There does not appear to be a two way exchange of ideas. The committee may need to discuss this matter in executive session at a future meeting.

At this time James Crilley, Chairman opened the meeting for additional public comments. Nancy Ridgway asked if the former director of the CCUA has been contacted to discuss the backwash. Ms. Ridgway also asked the status of Bostwick Lake and who is responsible for the dam. Hopewell and Upper Deerfield have asked the Stewart Estate to take back the lake, but currently the two municipalities are responsible for the dam inspections. Chad Ott asked about the opening of the parks. The Committee agreed to open the walk paths only at this time.

With no further public comments and no further business to come before the Committee James Crilley, Chairman called for a motion to adjourn. Bruce Peterson made the motion, seconded by John O'Neill to adjourn, and unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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Roy J. Spoltore  
Township Clerk