

**MINUTES OF THE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF  
UPPER DEERFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, HELD ON  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2022, AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING,  
HIGHWAY 77, SEABROOK, NEW JERSEY, PURSUANT TO NOTICE**

Present were James Crilley, John Daddario, Bruce Peterson, Thomas Speranza and Scott Smith all being members of the Township Committee. Also present were Rocco Tedesco, Solicitor; Roy Spoltore, Township Administrator/Clerk; Amy Colaneri, CFO; and Teresa Warburton, Recording Secretary.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman 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 Scott Smith.

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

There being no public comments James Crilley, Chairman called for the approval of minutes for the Meeting of February 3, 2022. On a motion of John Daddario, seconded by Scott Smith to dispense with the reading of the minutes, and to accept the minutes as received, unanimously approved, 5-0 on a voice vote.

James Crilley, Chairman called for a resolution entitled Abatement for Improvement, Conversion or Construction of Property – 608-610 Mullica Hill Road, LLC. 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 Authorizing the Tax Collector to Adjust Taxes for a Wartime Service-Connected 100% Disability - Mercado. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by Thomas Speranza, 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 Thomas Speranza, 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 Amending the 2022 Temporary Budget of the Township of Upper Deerfield - 1. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of John Daddario, 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 Authorizing Increase in Construction Office Change Fund. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by Thomas Speranza 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 \$1,259,164.65. On motion of Thomas Speranza, 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 reported that there are only 50 Upper Deerfield children registered out of around 400 children for Cumberland Soccer. Robbi Ford has good ideas on getting the local kids involved in sporting activities. Clarence Jones would also like to help get the youth involved. Recreation (All of the Leagues) will have a table at Community Day to try and get more Upper Deerfield Kids involved. This past Sunday Mayor Crilley and I met with individuals from the Mill Creek Development. It was a good meeting, there are two street lights out, and a need to have an additional light installed on MacArthur Drive. The committee gave the ok for the Township Engineer to meet with Atlantic City Electric representatives.

Scott Smith did not have a report this evening.

Bruce Peterson stated the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration plans are going well. They are working on a time capsule container. The next meeting is set for March 8th.

Thomas Speranza reported that there was a home invasion in Hopewell Township, an arrest is close to happening. He reminded everyone to be cautious, be aware of your surroundings in the neighborhood.

James Crilley asked for continuing education classes for Patty Turkali, and Marion Higbee to attend a court class for a total of \$110.00, and for Dan Sutton to attend a Fire Inspection conference at a cost of \$771.00. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by Scott Smith unanimously the CEU classes were approved 5-0 on a roll call vote. The mayor suggested that the Senior Center be opened on Tuesdays and Wednesdays beginning on March 8<sup>th</sup> as we move forward to a new normal. The Senior Center Director has been talking with the participants and they are eager to return. The director has been surveying the members and asking other centers how they are handling the issues of masks and vaccinations requirements. The Committee agreed to a March 8<sup>th</sup>

re-opening. The mayor suggested that the fire marshal and deputy fire marshal step-up their enforcement of no parking in the fire lanes. The New Jersey State Police and Sheriff's Department should help out as well. The Mill Creek development meeting that Rev. Clarence Jones organized was a good meeting and there was a lot of good discussion.

#### ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Roy Spoltore informed the Committee that there will be five on-line elected officials training sessions by the JIF this year. They will need to register. A review of the draft budget will be at the next meeting. The Cumberland County Health Department said it is too late to host a rabies clinic this year, but they will add the Township as a host for next year. The newsletter will be going out shortly if anyone would like to add anything. It appears that the County will not be adding any additional voting machines, so the committee will need to determine if they want to change any of the polling places before April 1<sup>st</sup>. January departmental reports are contained in this evening's packet.

#### SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Rocco Tedesco, Solicitor stated that he is working with Brian Murphy to respond to Land Partners attorney pertaining to the open items on the performance bond for the Seabrook East development. Vineland passed an ordinance prohibiting gas stations from filling up unregistered ATV's and 4 wheelers who drive up to the station. there are 3 items paving, damaged curbing and maintenance of basin. After reviewing the discussion on the permitted uses in the AB zone, Mr. Tedesco recommended that the clerk send a letter to the Planning Board along with the resolution adopted at the last meeting asking the Planning Board to only review the zoning for the redevelopment areas designated as AB and EI. Any project in these zones will likely be a redevelopment project that will create jobs and ratables consistent with the purpose of a PILOT. The project would start with the Township redevelopment entity and end with the redevelopment entity. Currently working with Affordable Housing Consultants pertaining to the Bristol Ponds redevelopment agreement. The solicitor had a contract issue to discuss with the Committee in closed session.

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

Nancy Ridgway of Irving Avenue asked who the Redevelopment Attorney was that was assisting the Township. Rocco Tedesco replied that it is Joseph Ragno. Ms. Ridgway stated that there is proposed state legislation that would allow people to register the day of elections and be allowed to vote the same day.

Helen Elwell of Martin Drive stated she has been involved in the soccer for 40 years and the atmosphere from youth to high school has changed. The programs are making it impossible for a normal kid to come out and play unless they are an Elite performer.

Joe Spoltore of John's Way stated that Upper Deerfield kids are going to Pittsgrove to play in the developmental program as Cohansey Soccer is all about the travel teams.

Dallas Peterson of Shadow Brook commented that the fire lanes have been abused for a long time and emergency signage should be put up listing the fines for parking in a fire zone. The Committee informed Mr. Peterson that signs have been provided to the businesses to place in their windows.

Dean Hawk of Merritt Avenue asked if the township could hire someone to write tickets for parking in the fire lane. The committee replied that the fire marshal and deputy fire marshal can write tickets for fire lane violations as well as any enforcement entity.

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 for a resolution Authorizing Closed Session to update the Committee on Contracts, and other matters requiring attorney client privileged confidential communications. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by Thomas Speranza to approve and adopt resolution, unanimously carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

#### INSERT RESOLUTION

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

There being no comments or further business to come before the Committee, on motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by Scott Smith to adjourn, unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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Teresa L. Warburton  
Recording Secretary

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Roy J. Spoltore  
Township Clerk