

**MINUTES OF THE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
UPPER DEERFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, HELD ON
THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 2021, 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, John T. O'Neill, Sr. and Scott Smith all being members of the Township Committee. Also present were: Rocco Tedesco, Township Solicitor; Brian Murphy, Township Engineer; Amy Colaneri, CFO; Roy Spoltore, Township Administrator/Clerk; and Chad Ott, Public Works Supervisor.

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 John O'Neill.

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 18, 2021. On a motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by Scott Smith 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, Authorizing the Expenditure of Capital Reserve Funds for Purchase of Public Works Vehicle. The Clerk read the proposed Ordinance by title. On motion of by John Daddario, seconded by John O'Neill 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 other public comments, on motion of Scott Smith, seconded John Daddario, to close the public hearing and unanimously carried. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by John Daddario, to approve and adopt proposed ordinance, with a recorded roll call vote of 5-0.

INSERT ORDINANCE

James Crilley, Chairman called for a discussion and introduction of an ordinance entitled, Repealing Chapter 405-21 of the Upper Deerfield Township Code Entitled – "Conversion of Dwellings". The Clerk read the proposed Ordinance by title. Roy Spoltore explained that this would repeal the ordinance section that permits conversion of dwellings. He added that the Planning Board deemed this proposed ordinance to be consistent with the master plan at their February 17th meeting. On motion of Scott Smith, seconded by Bruce Peterson to approve and adopt proposed ordinance on first reading and setting the date for public hearing on March 18, 2021 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 discussion and introduction of an ordinance entitled, Amending Chapter 405-109 of the Upper Deerfield Township Code Entitled – “Zoning Permits”. The Clerk read the proposed Ordinance by title. Roy Spoltore explained that this would clarify the language and procedures needed in order to obtain a zoning permit. He added that the Planning Board deemed this proposed ordinance to be consistent with the master plan at their February 17th meeting. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by Scott Smith to approve and adopt proposed ordinance on first reading and setting the date for public hearing on March 18, 2021 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 Authorizing Sale of Township Property – Public Auction for Neighboring Property Owners. 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 Amending the 2021 Temporary Budget of the Township of Upper Deerfield - 1. 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 Amending the 2021 Temporary Utility Budget of the Township of Upper Deerfield - 1. On motion of John Daddario, 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 Appointing Part Time Emergency Medical Technicians – Henderson & DiVito. 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 Payment of Bills in the amount of \$146,700.84. 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 stated that he has received complaints about the trash along Shop Rite Drive that exits onto Cornwell Drive. The Mayor and Bruce Peterson have met with Jim Bottino and he stated that they would work cleaning the area and having the individual removed from the property. Mr. Daddario added that we need them to clean up the area.

Scott Smith did not have a report this evening.

Bruce Peterson stated that there is a need to have enforcement of wind blown litter going to the convenience center. Mr. Peterson presented two hardship requests for stickers to the convenience center. Don English vehicles are registered to his farming operation in Elmer but he lives in the Township. Ty Davis does not own a vehicle and his mother has transported his waste with her vehicle. Both requests were approved for a 1-year sticker with the understanding that only Upper Deerfield waste may be transported to the center. Mr. Peterson requested that the no parking ordinance for Victory, Fern and Liberty Roads be introduced at the next meeting. He added that he would like to see a Shredder Day be established on a Saturday at the convenience center and the date be advertised in the Township newsletter.

John T. O'Neill, Sr. stated that everything is good at the utility facilities.

James Crilley reported that township officials met with the new state police commander, county officials and Sheriff department representatives. Topics discussed included ATV's, speeding and the court.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

The Planning Board needs to have a traffic consultant review the Bristol Ponds traffic study. Shropshire Associates presented a proposal in the amount of \$3,800 to review the study and the fee would be charged to the escrow account. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by Scott Smith to approve the proposal from Shropshire Associates and unanimously approved. Mr. Spoltore presented an overview of the draft 2021 budget. The O/E and S/W increased by less than 1 % over last year's budget and the capital improvements increased by \$30,000. The Utility budget is increasing by \$10,000 from last year's budget. Mr. Spoltore reported that the NJLM foundation will be awarding a \$10,000 connectivity grant to the Township, Township School and Cumberland Regional to create hotspots at the municipal building and Township School for internet access. He added that the ACMJIF has established an Elected Officials program to view online for the credits this year. The NJLM has submitted an overview of the new cannabis legislation and an ordinance template to opt out while the municipality is reviewing the state legislation.

The Tax Collector's annual report was provided to the Committee for their review.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Brian Murphy reported that the specifications for the nitrate removal system are out and proposals are due on March 30th. Mr. Murphy added that he has submitted a monthly update to DEP on the status of the nitrate removal process. He is applying for a DEP permit for the treatment system and he is still working with NJEIT officials to move the water tower project along.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Rocco Tedesco updated the Committee on the status of the discussions with the CCUA. There is a new solicitor for the CCUA, so he has to get up to speed on where things got left off and there also had been a health issue at the treatment facility that slowed the process. Mr. Baker has been asking for a status from the CCUA. Ray Ferrera previously provided information regarding

the regenerant waste to the CCUA and he provided them with same information again with additional comments. The Township is waiting for the CCUA. Mr. Tedesco explained that there is a group of ten homes on Big Oak Road that township officials have not been able to inspect for a CO due to the pandemic. The current owner of the property and Mr. Tedesco have been discussing the parameters to allow for a pandemic TCO until such time that the properties can be inspected. The buyer will be acknowledging the conditions and accepts the properties as is and may have to make improvements to receive a CO when everyone feels safe to have an inspection done. James Crilley, Chairman called for a resolution entitled _____ . On motion of Scott Smith, seconded by John Daddario to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

Mr. Tedesco reviewed the status of the Bristol Ponds Redevelopment Plan. He stated that we are getting to the point where the PILOT discussion will be on the table. The Township may need to bring in an attorney that is an expert in this area as the developer is discussing various concepts that may require someone who specializes in this area.

At this time James Crilley, Chairman opened the meeting for additional public comments. Nancy Ridgway of Irving Avenue stated that Mr. Tedesco is doing an excellent job and she was concerned that the Bristol Ponds development would allow vehicles to utilize the perimeter road to get onto Pearl Street and avoiding the light at Carlls Corner.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Roy J. Spoltore, Township Clerk