

**MINUTES OF THE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
UPPER DEERFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, HELD ON
THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2022, AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 1325
HIGHWAY 77, SEABROOK, NEW JERSEY, PURSUANT TO NOTICE**

Present were James Crilley, Bruce Peterson, Thomas Speranza, Scott Smith, and John Daddario all being members of the Township Committee. Also present were Rocco Tedesco, Solicitor; Roy Spoltore, Township Administrator/Clerk; Chad Ott, Chief of EMS, Brian Murphy, Township Engineer, 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 Thomas Speranza.

Mayor Crilley provided an overview of the Township's position on providing recreational activities. The statement consisted of Upper Deerfield Township offering recreational athletic facilities for the purpose of providing the greatest opportunity for Upper Deerfield youth to participate in recreational athletic activities. The Township's facilities should be made available to all children of any skill level to enjoy the experience and camaraderie of group sports. In order to fulfill that objective, all children should be given the opportunity to participate and not risk exclusion because of skill levels or economic factors. Due to the philosophical difference in providing an affordable recreational experience for any child, any skill level, the Township Recreation Commission, with the support of the Township Committee, has determined that the proposed new organization, the South Jersey Futbol Club pending receipt of its non-profit status, better serves the purposes intended by the Township for providing recreational soccer.

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

Nancy Ridgway of Irving Avenue stated that the Township's 2022 budget appropriates over \$100,000 for recreation. She added that the Township is spending her tax money on sports facilities she doesn't use. She agreed with the Township's position.

Michael Cintron of Mallard Lane is the coach for the Cohansey Flyers and will be serving as the President of the South Jersey Futbol Club and running it as a community club. The goal will be having soccer available to all skill levels, with games for all participants and being affordable.

Will Kemp of Pittsgrove Township stated that there is recreational soccer at Cohansey. Mr. Kemp reviewed a letter from Cohansey Club President Torpey, dated May 2nd, that states that Cohansey does not provide for an internal recreational league, with scheduled weekly games on the weekend. Mr. Kemp stated that with the reduction in registrations the club adjusted age groups and developed players, new trainers have been used. Solicitor Tedesco asked questions about the corporate filings with the State. Mr. Kemp said he had no knowledge.

Tiffany Arrowwood of Millville has a daughter who plays for Cohansey Boom. She asked who the Board of Directors would be for the new league as she is concerned that someone is under

investigation. Rocco Tedesco asked who receives her registration payments? Ms. Arrowwood replied that her payments are made to Cohansey Soccer Club and she has been given the ability to make time payments. She stated that Cohansey pays trainers and Pittsgrove also pays trainers.

Albert Davenport of Upper Deerfield Township stated that he was a former, player, coach, trustee and President of Cohansey soccer club. He expressed his concern that Cohansey Soccer has lost kids and he thanked the Township Committee for giving the new organization a chance to make changes and bring back soccer for all.

Bianca Pierce of Upper Deerfield Township stated that her daughters have played since 2016. She asked how did the Committee determine that things are not affordable for residents and if other organizations fees were reviewed? Mr. Tedesco asked who received her registration fees? She stated Cohansey Soccer.

Mr. Daddario stated that the township provides funds each year for the various recreational leagues. Mayor Crilley added that the leagues needs to be affordable for all kids to have the opportunity to play games and be instructed.

Dr. Lewis Amberths of Vineland has a son that plays soccer. He stated he came to Cohansey because it had one of the best organized programs and for the coaches. The Cohansey Cobra program builds strong young players.

Christina Stanker of Old Burlington Road has been Secretary of the Cohansey Soccer Club since 2016. Her children have played Recreational to Elite (Premier). The Premier League was supposed to be separate from Cohansey Soccer Club, they would have all levels with breakdown was prior to covid. The Board of Directors has not met since COVID. Rocco Tedesco, Solicitor asked if she was aware that Cohansey Soccer Club had not filed a corporate registration with the state since 2006 and which organization receives the registration payments? She did not know the answers.

Keith Myers of Deerfield Township is the coach of a travel team and asked what is the timeline for the new organization and how will parents be notified?

Steve Orwell of Upper Pittsgrove stated that Cohansey Soccer is known everywhere, asked what the issues are? Mayor Crilley responded that the governing body is responsible to the taxpayers and the Committee wants to ensure that all kids of any skill level are given an affordable opportunity to play recreational soccer.

Christine Horwell of Woodstown-Daretown Road, has been the Registrar of Cohansey Soccer Club since 2012. A discussion over the number of Upper Deerfield Township residents participating in soccer took place. Mr. Tedesco asked about the structure of Cohansey Premier and if she knew of the corporate status of Cohansey Soccer Club. She did not know about either question. She stated the Club had asked the Township to use the Clubs funding to pay for Township resident's registrations. The committee stated that the budgeted funds are to be used to upgrade the facilities.

Asa Anderson of Washington Township has 2 boys playing and he will be part of the new organization. He stated that all kids will be welcomed and will have the opportunity to play. Current players can stay and play, everyone is welcome to participate in the South Jersey Futbol Club.

Nancy Ridgway of Irving Avenue stated that the Township Committee meets two times a month and she has been hearing about soccer and football for the last 5 ½ years and no one has come to any of these meetings.

Bianca Pierce of Centerton Road asked if Asa's wife will provide training for the organization and asked who will be the board members of the new organization? She expressed concern about a potential conflict going forward. Mr. Anderson stated his wife will not provide training. Mr. Tedesco stated she should contact either of the two individuals who spoke this evening as they stated they will be part of the new organization.

There being no further public comment, James Crilley, Chairman called for the approval of the minutes for the meeting of April 21, 2022. On a motion of John Daddario, seconded by Scott Smith to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept the minutes as received, unanimously approved 5-0.

James Crilley, Chairman called for a resolution entitled Tax Payments to be Refunded. 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 Authorizing the Advertising for Public Bid of One Plenary Retail Consumption Alcoholic Beverage License and One Plenary Distribution Alcoholic Beverage License. The Clerk read the resolution by title. 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 Providing for Insertion of a Special Item of Revenue in the Budget Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87. 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 \$2,419,123.65. On motion of Thomas Speranza, seconded by John Daddario, to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

COMMITTEE REPORTS

John Daddario reported that the North Cumberland Little League Chicken BBQ is this weekend.

Scott Smith thanked everyone who helped and attended the 100th Anniversary Celebration.

Bruce Peterson appreciated all of the work the volunteers did to help make the 100th Anniversary a great event. The fireworks were excellent. He thanked everyone.

Thomas Speranza spoke with Lt. Kennedy at the State Police Barracks and things have been quiet in the Township. There is a new class of troopers on the streets.

Mayor Crilley appreciated the presence of troopers and sheriff officers at Community Day. It was a great 100th year anniversary celebration. He reported that the State of New Jersey passed a law that allows for the impoundment of certain vehicles, snow mobiles, ATV's, etc. for operating on public streets. The penalty shall be impounded for up to 7 days on the 1st offense with a \$500.00 fine to the township. The 2nd offense can require up to a 14-day impoundment and a \$750.00 fine to the township.

The vehicle will only be released to the registered owner of the vehicle. Mr. Tedesco suggested seeing if the NJLM had a template ordinance for ATV's. The Mayor will have CDC review an ordinance that prohibits ATV's and dirt bikes from driving in and filling up at gas stations. Mayor Crilley asked if the sponsors for trees could be put up on the website?

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Roy Spoltore, Administrator reported that all of the required financial disclosures have been filed with the state. The new voting equipment cabinets were displayed at the recent County Clerks Association meeting. The units contained two voting stations. Election Board will use the amount of time to vote at the primary election to determine if changes will be needed for the general election. The county needs poll workers. The recycling tonnage grant was filed, it will be amended once the last business submits their information. The 100th anniversary celebration community day had costs of \$42,000, fifteen thousand was contained within the 2022 budget and the balance of the funds was raised. The township has a new DCA representative, and the Recreational ADA compliant Phase 3 project is approved to go out for bid for the playground and walk paths from soccer to football. The Phase 4 project will provide two ADA compliant bathrooms for the Township Park and a new playground for the Sunset Lake Tot Lot.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Brian Murphy reported that Quad Construction is beginning construction on the nitrate removal building for the Love Lane Water Treatment facility. WRT is planning to deliver their tanks for the facility by the end of the month. If everything goes well, the plant should be completed by end of July. The nitrate testing has been below 10 for 3 years now.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Rocco Tedesco, Solicitor reported that the Bristol Ponds revised redevelopment agreement and financial agreement has been submitted to the developer. There are still outstanding planning board approval items that need to be addressed.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN & PUBLIC COMMENT - Chad Ott provided an overview of the new County Hazard Mitigation Plan. The primary identified issue in the Township is the flooding that occurs on Highway 77 and Grier's Lane. Tomorrow is the last day for public comments. The final report should be completed in about three months and a Resolution from the committee will be required. Nancy Ridgway commented that Indian Fields Branch off of Irving Avenue has had issues since the County repaired a bridge on Burlington Road.

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