

**MINUTES OF THE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
UPPER DEERFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, HELD ON
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2022, AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 1325
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; Brian Murphy, Township Engineer and Amy Colaneri, CFO.

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 John Daddario. Mayor Crilley asked for a moment of silence for Historical Committee member Carol Kinkade.

At this time James Crilley, Chairman opened the meeting for public comment. Nancy Ridgway stated that it was a good paving job on Midway and Maple Avenue. Dallas Peterson asked what can be done to prevent people from disposes construction debris at the convenience center. The Committee explained that it is a problem they are trying to deal with and will work with the public works supervisor to see what else can be done. Signs stating that no construction debris will be added. Bruce Peterson added that disposal of brush is another problem at the center.

There being no further public comment, James Crilley, Chairman called for the approval of the minutes for the meeting of September 15, 2022. 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, An Ordinance Amending the Zoning Map of the Township of Upper Deerfield. The Clerk read the proposed Ordinance by title. On motion of John Daddario, seconded by Scott Smith 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. Roy Spoltore explained that this consolidates the recent previous zoning ordinance changes into a new zoning map. There being no public comments, on motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by Scott Smith to close the public hearing and unanimously carried. On motion of Thomas Speranza, seconded by Bruce Peterson to approve and adopt proposed ordinance, unanimously carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT ORDINANCE

James Crilley, Chairman called for a resolution entitled Amending Resolution 156 - Awarding Plenary Retail Distribution License to Qualified Highest Bidder. The Clerk read the resolution by title. Solicitor Tedesco explained that this resolution identifies the corporate entity that will be operating the distribution license. 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 Bids for Home Rehabilitation Contracts 2021-04 Through 2021-06. 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 Amending Contract to Ricky Slade Construction Inc. for the Reconstruction of Love Lane, Midway Avenue and Maple Avenue. 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 Engineering Contract and Certified Water Tower Inspection Services for the Replacement of the Seabrook Water Tower Contingent on Funding Through the NJEIT Fund Program. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Scott Smith, 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 Payment of Bills, in the amount of \$235,055.71. 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 REPORTS

John Daddario reported that public works did a good job at keeping the roads open during the recent rain accumulation over the past four days. Mr. Daddario added that there is new pride at CRHS.

Scott Smith added that public works did a good job during the storms and that the planning board has not had any meetings recently.

Bruce Peterson stated that we need to determine what items will be placed in the time capsule. He suggested adding items from the time period, menus, shopping bags, list of businesses. He asked that everyone think of other items to place in the capsule.

Thomas Speranza commented that the NJSP are still working on the car burglaries that have been occurring in South Jersey. They are close to issuing complaints.

Mayor Crilley stated that complaints were received about the accumulation of trash that was dropped off at the clothing containers at the two shopping centers on Cornwell Drive. Tony Lamanteer spoke with shopping center representatives and the two areas were cleaned up. Veterans Day will take place on November 5th at 10 am at the Veteran's monument. Mayor Crilley read a letter from a resident thanking the Committee for not raising taxes and noting the exceptional job that Roberto does at the convenience center.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Roy Spoltore, Administrator reported that the health benefits will go up by \$78,000 for 2023. He added that the township has qualified as an advanced municipality for cyber security under the JIF program and will not have any co-payment requirements for 2023 in the event of a need to use the insurance. The Township has 6.49 million of added assessment for 2023 and 1.13 million of five year tax abatements are coming off the books in 2023. The township's valuation ratio will drop from 91.75 in 2022 to 80.33 in 2023. Most municipalities in the county saw a 10% decrease in the valuation percentage. The committee was reminded that NJLM conference will be held November 15-17. The Committee agreed to pursue the shared service agreement with Millville for the use of their assessor and to see if Deerfield and Stow Creek want to continue their construction office shared service agreement. The committee requested the administrator to get additional information from Parker McKay regarding the possible litigation against the state for their movement of 101 municipalities from Tier B storm water management designation to Tier A.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Brian Murphy, Township Engineer reported that the nitrate removal system should be operational and in mid-November if everything goes well. The nitrates were tested on Tuesday and due to the fact that we did not receive any notice from the lab, it appears that Love Lane will not need to be tested again until January. The resolution for engineering and inspection services is supposedly the last document that NJEIT needs for the replacement of the water tower in Seabrook. Slade Construction is supposed to start the asphalt work at Mill Creek tomorrow. Bid proposals for the walk paths are due on the 12th. The CCUA has experienced an inflow of storm water when it rains from the Upper Deerfield line into their facility. Brian, John and Keith are reviewing potential locations of inflow and outside services may be needed to do additional testing.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Rocco Tedesco, Solicitor reported that he needed to discuss litigation and contracts in closed session.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sandy Acevedo of Old Burlington Road asked about the redevelopment zone. Mr. Tedesco explained that the area has been approved by the planning board and the township committee as an area in need of rehabilitation. The redevelopment plan provides for the permitted uses in this area and allows for the properties to be approved for a long-term Payment In Lieu Of Taxes by the municipal redevelopment entity that will primarily benefit the municipality.

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 discuss the Cohansey Soccer Club Litigation, contract for Bristol Ponds, potential contract for joint municipal litigation pertaining to the municipality being designated as Tier A storm water municipality and other matters requiring attorney client privileged confidential communications. The minutes will be made available upon conclusion of each matter. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by John Daddario 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 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 Thomas Speranza to adjourn the meeting, and unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Roy J. Spoltore, Township Clerk