

**MINUTES OF THE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
UPPER DEERFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, HELD ON
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 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; Chad Ott, Public Works Supervisor; Roy Spoltore, Township Administrator/Clerk; 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. Dean Hawk of Merritt Avenue asked if there was an update on the CCUA. Mayor Crilley explained that the monetization concept has been pulled and the Authority may be discussing the broadband study at their next meeting. There being no other public comments James Crilley, Chairman called for the approval of minutes for the meeting of September 16, 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 a public hearing on an ordinance entitled Amending Section 405-3 and Attachment 2 of the Code of the Township of Upper Deerfield. The Clerk read the proposed Ordinance by title and explained that the proposed ordinance will reduce the side yard and rear yard setbacks to 10 feet for an accessory structure. On motion of Bruce Peterson, 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. Nancy Ridgway of Irving Avenue noted that the garden sheds will not be able to be used as livable space. There being no other public comments, on motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by John O'Neill, to close the public hearing and unanimously carried. On motion of Scott Smith, seconded by John O'Neill, to approve and adopt proposed ordinance, with a recorded roll call vote of 5-0.

INSERT ORDINANCE

James Crilley, Chairman called for a resolution entitled Appointing Part Time Public Works Employee – Sammartino. 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 Governing Body Certification of Compliance with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's. 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 a Second Amendment to the Cellular Phone Facility Use Agreement Between the Township of Upper Deerfield and T-Mobile Northeast, LLC. 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 Payment of Bills in the amount of \$239,765.11. 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 did not have a report this evening.

Scott Smith did not have a report this evening.

Bruce Peterson did not have a report this evening.

John T. O'Neill, Sr. reported that everything is good at the utilities.

James Crilley reported that discussions will begin at next week's Historical Committee meeting regarding next year's 100th anniversary of Upper Deerfield Township being created. Bruce Peterson and Scott Smith will be the two Township Committee representatives to the group. Mayor Crilley thanked the police departments for their work on getting the four wheelers off the streets. There has been a number of violations issued to the ATV operators. Halloween Trick or Treat will be held on Sunday October 31st between 4 pm and 7 pm.

HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

Chad Ott updated the Township Committee on the Township portion of the County Hazard Mitigation Plan that is being prepared. All municipalities are updating their plan and the draft plan for the Township is located on the OEM page of the Township Website. He explained that a number of items from past reports have been eliminated from the plan as they have been repaired and that a couple of new problems have been added to the plan.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Roy Spoltore reported that the Township assessment ratio dropped from 98.96 in 2021 and will be 91.75 in 2022, which will increase the Township's total equalized county percentage of the assessed value. The Committee agreed to switch the election day holiday for employees to December 23rd. The JIF has had the employee handbook updated by human resource attorneys. The Committee reviewed the responses to the State's Best Practice program. The Township needed 15 points and the Township scored 21. Three proposals were received from the Auditor RFP advertisement. Ford Scott's proposal was \$34,500, Bowman and Company's proposal was \$37,500 and Holt McNally and Associates proposal was \$37,750. The Committee will interview Ford Scott and Bowman and Company. The Committee discussed the donation of

Block 1208, Lot 1.02. The Committee agreed to have a title search and phase 1 environmental study done of the property with a not to exceed amount of \$4,000 on a motion of John Daddario, seconded by Bruce Peterson, unanimously carried 5-0 on a roll call vote

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Brian Murphy reported that the Township received a draft permit from the CCUA for the nitrate treatment system to backwash into the sewer system. DEP stated that they hope to have the Nitrate removal system's technical review completed within a couple of weeks. The engineer intends to have the nitrate treatment building out for bid. The County is moving forward with the every other year inspection of the Silver lake Dam at a cost of \$1,900 since the Township did the last inspection. Mr. Murphy is working with NJEIT to get the approval to construct a new water tower in Seabrook. An original pump was replaced at the Love Lane water plant.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Rocco Tedesco reported that the draft CCUA permit was received, and that Brian and Ray Ferrera have discussed the details. Mr. Ferrera will reach out to the CCUA to review the connection fee charge as the amount originally discussed to be discharged would be the maximum amount in a day but does not represent the amount that can be discharged based on the Township's state approved water allocation. Mr. Tedesco also discussed the stormwater management plan and asked Mr. Murphy to get information from DEP regarding the responsibility of the municipalities with regard to residential drainage basins.

At this time James Crilley, Chairman opened the meeting for additional public comments. Dean Hawk of Merritt Avenue asked why there is a connection fee to the CCUA. Mr. Tedesco explained that this is the term that is used but if there is a modification to the discharge amount a fee can be assessed. Nancy Ridgway of Irving Avenue stated that the Township EMS and Fire Companies did a good job at a motor vehicle accident on Irving Avenue.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Warburton, Recording Secretary

Roy J. Spoltore, Township Clerk