

**MINUTES OF THE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
UPPER DEERFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, HELD ON
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2023 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING,
HIGHWAY 77, SEABROOK, NEW JERSEY, PURSUANT TO NOTICE**

Present were James Crilley, John Daddario, Scott Smith, and Joseph Spoltore, all being members of the Township Committee. Also present were Rocco Tedesco, Solicitor; Roy Spoltore, Township Administrator/Clerk; Janeen Rossi, Deputy Clerk; Amy Colaneri, CFO; Brian Murphy, Township Engineer and Chad Ott, Public Works Supervisor. Thomas Speranza was unable to attend.

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 Joseph Spoltore.

At this time James Crilley, Chairman opened the meeting for public comment. Mike Everly, of Tunbridge Drive asked if the Committee could review the creation of a food truck ordinance. Mayor Crilley stated he will be assigning a sub-committee to review the issue.

There being no other public comments, James Crilley, Chairman called for the approval of minutes for the Meeting of September 7, 2023. Joseph Spoltore made a motion, second by John Daddario, to dispense with the reading of the minutes and to accept the minutes as received, unanimously carried 3-0 on a roll call vote with Scott Smith abstaining.

James Crilley, Chairman called for a resolution Appointing Clerical Employee for Cumberland Salem Regional Municipal Court- Jimenez. John Daddario made the motion, seconded by Joseph Spoltore, to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 4-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

James Crilley, Chairman called for a resolution Approval of Change Order #1 Small Cities- Fogle. Joseph Spoltore made a motion, seconded by Scott Smith, to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 4-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

James Crilley, Chairman called for a resolution Approval of Change Order #1 Small Cities- Bowen. Joseph Spoltore made a motion, seconded by John Daddario, to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 4-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

James Crilley, Chairman called for a resolution Awarding Bids for Home Rehabilitation Contract 2022-5. John Daddario made a motion, second by Joseph Spoltore, to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 4-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

James Crilley, Chairman called for a resolution Denying Petition for Referendum to Approve or Reject Ordinance 856 Adopted August 17, 2023, Amending Chapter 28 of the Township Code Designating Fire Companies 31 and 33 as the Volunteer Fire Companies Authorized to Provide Firefighting Services Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:14-68. Rocco Tedesco, Solicitor explained that the petition requesting a referendum on the closing of Seabrook Fire Hall presented to the clerk was submitted under state statutes for a municipality in New Jersey created under as a Faulkner Act municipality. Upper Deerfield Township was created as a Township form of government in 1922 by the State Legislature. NJ state statutes do not provide for a referendum under the Township form of government (NJSA-40A:63-1). John Daddario made a motion, seconded by Joseph Spoltore, to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 4-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

James Crilley, Chairman called for a resolution Payment of Bills in the amount of \$ 1,460,524.03 The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of John Daddario, seconded by Joseph Spoltore, to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 4-0 on a roll call vote with Joseph Spoltore abstaining on the CRHS payment.

INSERT RESOLUTION

COMMITTEE REPORTS

John Daddario reported that the Sunset Lake Park is completed. The bathroom prep work is nearing completion and the bathrooms at the municipal recreation complex will be installed soon.

Scott Smith did not have a report this evening.

Joseph Spoltore did not have a report this evening.

Mayor Crilley reported he spoke with residents using the Sunset Lake Park and they were appreciative of the new facility with many kids utilizing the new playground. Mayor Crilley and Tax Collector/ Deputy Clerk, Janeen Rossi visited Active Day facility on Highway 77. Township professionals provided a program and met with Active Day Care participants and staff. The facility provides many programs.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Roy Spoltore, Administrator did not have a report this evening.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Brian Murphy, Township Engineer stated that the playground construction should begin within the next week at the municipal recreation complex. The plumbing for the two new restrooms is being installed. It has been very challenging working with the NJ Environmental Trust Fund for the Water Tower replacement. All the paperwork has been submitted; we are waiting for approval from the state agency. Mr. Murphy received a 30-day extension of the bid price from the contractor for the water tower due to the delays from NJEIT. Mr. Murphy has been working with the Sika engineers for the sewer tie in for their proposed facility. Brian Murphy complemented Amy Colaneri, CFO/ Deputy Administrator for a great job in completing the Hildreth Tract income survey. Mayor Crilley and the Committee also recognized she did a great job.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Rocco Tedesco did not have a report this evening.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Melinda Quigley of Big Oak Road asked why the petition was denied. Rocco Tedesco explained that the referendum in the petition is only for local governments created as a Faulkner municipality. Ross Bear of Eisenhower Drive stated aspects of the 1st amendment. Sandy Acevedo of Old Burlington Road stated that the Township Committee is weaponizing by not having the referendum.

With no other public comments and no further business to come before the Committee, on a motion by Joseph Spoltore, seconded by John Daddario to adjourn the meeting, and unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Janeen Rossi, Township Deputy Clerk

Roy J. Spoltore, Township Clerk