

**MINUTES OF THE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
UPPER DEERFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, HELD ON
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 1, 2024 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, Thomas Speranza 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.

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. There being no public comments, James Crilley, Chairman called for the approval of minutes for the meeting of January 18, 2024. Scott Smith made a motion, second by, Thomas Speranza to dispense with the reading of the minutes and to accept the minutes as received, were unanimously approved by a roll call vote of 5-0.

James Crilley, Chairman called for a discussion and introduction of an ordinance entitled, Ordinance Amending Chapter 218-6 of the Code of the Township of Upper Deerfield. The Clerk read the proposed Ordinance by title. John Daddario stated that this is a safety issue with people walking out between illegally parked cars and the need to have the fire zones clear in the event a fire truck or ambulance needs to respond to a call. Mayor Crilley noted that he witnessed a near accident when a stroller nearly was hit as it emerged between two illegally parked cars. On motion of John Daddario, seconded by Joseph Spoltore to approve and adopt proposed ordinance on the first reading and setting the date for public hearing on February 15, 2024, 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, Ordinance Amending Chapter 396-40 of the Code of the Township of Upper Deerfield. The Clerk read the proposed Ordinance by title. On motion of Joseph Spoltore, seconded by Thomas Speranza to approve and adopt proposed ordinance on the first reading and setting the date for public hearing on February 15, 2024, 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, Bond Ordinance Providing for the Purchase of a Ladder Fire Truck and Equipment in and by the Township of Upper Deerfield, in the County of Cumberland, New Jersey, Appropriating \$1,300,000.00 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$1,235,000.00 Bonds or Notes of the Township for Financing the Cost Thereof. The Clerk read the proposed Ordinance by title. John Daddario stated that this purchase continues the commitment of the

Township Committee to fire and public safety. On motion of Thomas Speranza, seconded by John Daddario to approve and adopt proposed ordinance on the first reading and setting the date for public hearing on February 15, 2024, 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 Awarding Contract to Modern Power Systems to Purchase Generac Industrial Generator. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Joseph Spoltore, 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 Amending the 2024 Temporary Budget of the Township of Upper Deerfield. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of John Daddario, 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 Payment of Bills in the amount of \$ 2,762,919.13. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Thomas Speranza, seconded by Joseph Spoltore, to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 5-0 on a roll call vote with Joseph Spoltore abstaining from payment to Cumberland Regional High School.

INSERT RESOLUTION

COMMITTEE REPORTS

John Daddario reported that heavy winds from the recent storm damaged dugouts at the Little League fields. Chad Ott and the Public Works crew are working on immediate repairs and volunteers will be used to complete the dugouts in need of repair.

Scott Smith did not have a report this evening.

Joseph Spoltore did not have a report this evening.

Thomas Speranza did not have a report this evening.

Mayor Crilley stated that a sink hole was reported to him late one afternoon. Public Works was able to replace the entire length of storm pipe that was collapsing and repaired the road the next morning.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Roy Spoltore, Administrator stated that Community Day will be held on Saturday April 27, 2024. Beth Scofield will be providing an exercise class at the senior center. She is contracting directly with the participants and has provided a certificate of insurance for the program. On Tuesday, there was a meeting with representatives from Stanker & Galetto to discuss the potential sewer needs for the Hildreth Track project and Galetto's future commercial development requiring sewer tie-ins. The relocation of the paper street on Block 1205 to line up with the proposed right-of-way off on Block 901 off Finley Station Road was also discussed.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Brian Murphy, Township Engineer stated that the meeting with Stanker & Galetto also discussed dealing with the railroad and constructing sewer lines under the rail. The contractor will begin foundation work for the new water tower. There will be 48 pilings that will be sixty-five feet deep. Mr. Murphy added that he continues to try and work with Verizon to remove their wires from the triangle property that are no longer in service.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Rocco Tedesco, Solicitor stated he has been working closely with the Bristol Ponds attorney on a redraft of the licensing agreement to construct a water line under the rail line. Mr. Tedesco had a litigation matter to be discussed in closed session.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dallas Peterson of Shadow Brooke Drive asked if the ladder truck could be a shared service or can the Township rent a truck from a neighboring municipality. Thomas Speranza insisted that all options have been reviewed and the municipality that has a ladder truck would be available on mutual aid as long as it is not needed for their own coverage. Mr. Peterson also stated that he thought the cost to replace the transmission on an emergency vehicle was too high.

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 discuss personnel appointments to the boards and committees. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of John Daddario, seconded by Thomas Speranza to approve and adopt resolution, and unanimously carried.

INSERT RESOLUTION

The Committee reopened the public portion of the meeting on a motion by John Daddario, seconded by Scott Smith and unanimously carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Janeen Rossi, Township Deputy Clerk

Roy J. Spoltore, Township Clerk