

**MINUTES OF THE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
UPPER DEERFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, HELD ON
THURSDAY MARCH 21, 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, 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; and Amy Colaneri, CFO. 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. With no public comments, James Crilley, Chairman called for the approval of minutes for the meeting of March 7, 2024. John Daddario made a motion, second by Scott Smith, to dispense with the reading of the minutes and to accept the minutes as received, were unanimously approved by a voice vote.

James Crilley, Chairman called for a public hearing on an ordinance entitled Deleting Sections 405-65 Through Section 405-68 and Replacing in its Entirety with a New 405-65 and 405-66 of the Code 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. Rocco Tedesco explained that this ordinance complies with recent changes made by state statutes pertaining to Performance Bond requirements and escrow fees. There being no public comments on the motion of Joseph Spoltore, seconded by Scott Smith, to close the public hearing and unanimously carried. On motion of Scott Smith, seconded by Joseph Spoltore, to approve and adopt proposed ordinance, with a recorded roll call vote of 4-0.

INSERT ORDINANCE

James Crilley, Chairman called for a public hearing on an ordinance entitled To Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14) The Clerk read the proposed Ordinance by title. On motion of Joseph Spoltore, 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. There being no public comments on the motion of Joseph Spoltore, seconded by John Daddario, to close the public hearing and unanimously carried. On motion of Joseph Spoltore, seconded by Scott Smith, to approve and adopt proposed ordinance, with a recorded roll call vote of 4-0.

INSERT ORDINANCE

James Crilley, Chairman called for a discussion and possible introduction of an ordinance entitled, Amending Chapter 405-24 of the Code of the Township. The Clerk read the proposed Ordinance by title. After initial discussion by the Committee, the ordinance to amend the fence regulations was tabled until such time that the Township Solicitor has the opportunity to review various aspects of the code relating to fences.

James Crilley, Chairman called for a resolution introduction of 2024 Municipal Budget and 2024 Utility Budget. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Joseph Spoltore, 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 for the Contract to South State Inc. for the Reconstruction of Hoover Road and Veterans Drive. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Scott Smith, 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 Authorizing the Tax Collector to Adjust Taxes for a Wartime Service- Connected 100% Disability- Luciano. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Joseph Spoltore, 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 Authorizing Tax Payments to be Refunded. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Scott Smith 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 Amending the 2024 Temporary Budget of the Township of Upper Deerfield-3. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Joseph Spoltore 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 Payment of Bills in the amount of \$ 1,583,687.53 The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of John Daddario seconded by Scott Smith, to approve and adopt said resolution, 4-0 on a roll call vote with Joseph Spoltore abstaining from payment to Cumberland Regional.

INSERT RESOLUTION

COMMITTEE REPORTS

John Daddario reported that over 300 tickets have been issued for parking in the Fire Lanes since February, some drivers are repeat offenders.

Scott Smith did not have a report this evening.

Joseph Spoltore stated he attended the open house for Big Brother Big Sister and they did a good job renovating the building.

Mayor Crilley reported he also attended the ribbon cutting for the new Big Brother Big Sisters of Cumberland and Salem Counties location on Landis Avenue. Mayor Crilley attended the premier showing of "The Paradox of Seabrook Farms," at the Levoy Theater in Millville. The movie is a history of Seabrook Farms and the diverse community of refugees and immigrants that lived and worked there. Mayor Crilley stated that the showing was sold out and people were being turned away at the box office. Educational credits for Patty Turkali

and Marion Higbee at a cost of \$80 for registration plus mileage were approved on a motion of Joseph Spoltore, seconded by Scott Smith and unanimously approved on a roll call vote of 4-0.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Roy Spoltore, Township Administrator stated the Rabies Clinic will be held March 30th at Fire Company #3 between 9 and 11 am. Closing on the construction loan for the new water tower is scheduled for April 3rd. The pilings for the new water tower are in place and the foundation was poured on Wednesday. One tax appeal has been filed so far, with a deadline of April 1st to submit. The two new recreation bathrooms have been put online and tested. A pre-construction meeting with Bristol Ponds representatives will be held on Tuesday. It appears the County tax rate will decline by 3 cents for Upper Deerfield and the local school will increase by 6 tenths of a cent. Inlets have been replaced on Hoover Road prior to the paving of the road. The Committee reviewed the polling places for 2024 and unanimously agreed to utilize the Senior Center for District 2 and keep the other locations the same. Departmental reports for February and the Treasurer's report are in tonight's packet.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Rocco Tedesco, Township Solicitor reported that he spoke with Detective Capoferri regarding dog complaints and the new initiatives the State Police are looking to put in place. The Solicitor suggested the Township refer all animal complaints directly to the State Police and the State Police will determine if Shore Animal Control needs to be contacted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Nancy Ridgeway of Irving Avenue recommended the fence ordinance keep the fence 30 inches off the property line. William Whelan of Park Drive stated that he and his two neighbors have agreed to install a fence that has been agreed upon. Mr. Whelan who serves as chair of the CCUA, reported that the CCUA is looking at funding through the IBANK to upgrade the sewage treatment facilities with forgivable grants and low interest long term bonds.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Janeen Rossi, Township Deputy Clerk

Roy J. Spoltore, Township Clerk