

**MINUTES OF THE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
UPPER DEERFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, HELD ON
THURSDAY APRIL 4, 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 Scott Smith.

At this time James Crilley, Chairman opened the meeting for public comment. Nancy Ridgway of Irving Avenue stated she doesn't want to give up an inch as it relates to any fence ordinance.

There being no other public comments, James Crilley, Chairman called for the approval of minutes for the meeting of March 21, 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 roll call vote of 4-0-1 with Thomas Speranza abstaining.

James Crilley, Chairman called for a resolution Authorizing the Tax Collector to Adjust Taxes for a Wartime Service-Connected 100% Disability-Vazquez. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Thomas Speranza, second 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 Authorizing Tax Payments to be Refunded. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Scott Smith, seconded by Joseph Spoltore, to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

James Crilley, Chairman called for a resolution Authorizing Office Supplies Through a Cooperative Price Contract with the County of Cumberland. 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 Payment of Bills in the amount of \$ 148,061.27. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Scott Smith, seconded by Thomas Speranza, to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

COMMITTEE REPORTS

John Daddario reported a resident has made several complaints regarding a private landowner on Centerton Road allowing vehicles to drive through their property to access Woodruff Road. The Solicitor stated that this is a private matter between the two property owners.

Scott Smith stated that Public Works does a great job keeping the streets clear and maintained during storms.

Joseph Spoltore stated that the next Environmental Commission meeting will be held May 1st and they will continue working on their pollinator project on the Munyon property.

Thomas Speranza stated that Public Works does a great job maintaining the Township roads and recreation areas.

Mayor Crilley reported that the Cumberland County Health Department held a Rabies Clinic on Saturday March 30th at Fire Company #3. It was a success, and 86 dogs were vaccinated and registered. Community Day is Saturday April 27, 2024 – 10 am to 4 pm with a rain date for Sunday April 28th from noon to 5 pm. Michael Asada will be given a proclamation at a ceremony on Saturday for leading the Seabrook Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League as President and serving as Interim Executive Director of the Seabrook Educational and Cultural Center. Countryside Village will be holding a night out celebration in July. The Senior Center will be hosting a pinochle tournament at the end of the month.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Roy Spoltore, Administrator stated Sika will be coming to the April 18th meeting to review their proposed modifications to their site plan for a determination to see if the plan is still consistent with the master plan. The financial disclosures are now available to complete on the state website. The link for the JIF's Elected Officials Training will be emailed tomorrow. A list of newsletter stories is contained in this evening's packet. A peddler's license for Stephon Slaughter from Trinity Solar was unanimously approved by the committee. The Planning Board meeting on April 8th has been cancelled. A meeting with Hopewell Township representatives to talk about Bostwick lake will be established in the near future.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Brian Murphy, Township Engineer stated the construction of the 400,000- gallon Water Tower on Parsonage Road is on its way. The water tower colors, and font will need to be decided as soon as possible. The Committee has agreed to have the tower be identified as "Upper Deerfield" on the tower. The loan from IBANK is scheduled to close tomorrow. Mr. Murphy added that he has requested a price to core the iron filters at Love Lane, will be requesting prices for the redevelopment of Well 3 at Love Lane and is talking with WRT about extending the radionuclide contract.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Rocco Tedesco, Township Solicitor presented an overview of the items that should be addressed in the proposed amendment to the fence ordinance. Mr. Tedesco explained that the fence ordinance should include a distinction between residential and commercial fences, the need for knock boxes, height of fence, definition of side yard, setbacks for ROW's and sidewalks. If there are no other suggestions from the committee the solicitor recommended sending the draft of an amended fence ordinance back to the Planning Board for further review and consideration. Mr. Tedesco explained he has been in communication with Comcast officials to renew the contract. It will require an ordinance and a 45-day period from introduction of the ordinance to holding a public hearing. Questions that need to be answered include how the internet and phone service fit into the contract since

they were not around when the original contract was approved in 1996. Rocco Tedesco reported that the time to appeal Superior Court Judge Telsey's opinion for the merging of the fire companies has passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Margrethe Jespersen, Northville Road asked if the Township Noise Ordinance could be enforced against the noise of vehicles where they are having an issue on Centerton Road. Mr. Tedesco, stated it probably would not be useable. Dallas Peterson of Shadow Brook Drive stated he is not a fan of Comcast and wanted to know how the nitrate removal process works. Brian Murphy explained that the media in the tanks pulls the nitrates out and are then backwashed out of the system.

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