

**MINUTES OF THE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF  
UPPER DEERFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, HELD ON  
THURSDAY MAY 2, 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 John Daddario.

**UPPER DEERFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT PRESENTATION**

Superintendent of Schools and Principal, Dr. Koza presented the Upper Deerfield Township Schools Pre-K Expansion Plan. The proposed building addition would consist of 18,841 sq. ft. of space to accommodate 12 Pre-K Classrooms. The proposed expansion has been approved with \$5,044,473 being funded by NJ DOE/SDA Pre-K Grant Funding on November 14, 2023, with a total cost of \$9,056,748. Larry Merighi, architect for the proposed project explained the educational planning studies that were required by the state to determine the number of classrooms that could be added. The Pre-K expansion would receive 55.7 state funding as opposed to the traditional state allotment of 16.1% under traditional classroom expansion funding by the state. With the addition of 12 Pre-K classrooms that will open up 12 existing classrooms for future school population growth. The school district has been in discussions with the CCIA to provide the bonding of the school district share of the project. The school district is still completing the details of the financial plans for the project. The Township Solicitor, school officials and the CCIA will continue discussions on the financial plans as they are developed.

At this time James Crilley, Chairman opened the meeting for public comment. Nancy Ridgeway of Irving Avenue asked if the CCIA will be the Project Manager for the proposed school addition. School officials stated that no contract has been agreed but they could serve in that capacity. Margrethe Jespersen of Northville Road asked if there are actually enough children in the Township to warrant an expansion of the school. School officials stated that they are currently nearing capacity, and an addition would be needed soon. By adding 12 Pre-K classrooms that will open up 12 additional classrooms for future growth.

There being no other public comments, James Crilley, Chairman called for the approval of minutes for the meeting of April 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 vote of 5-0.

James Crilley, Chairman called for a resolution Authorizing the Annual Report of Audit for the Year 2023. The Clerk read the resolution by title. Mayor Crilley thanked the staff for their efforts to continue to achieve no recommendations from the annual audit. On motion of Thomas Speranza, seconded by Joseph Spoltore, to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 5-0 on a voice vote.

## INSERT RESOLUTION

James Crilley, Chairman called for a resolution Authorizing Tax Payment to be Refunded. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Thomas Speranza, 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 for a resolution Authorizing Execution of Modified Operating Agreement Between Water Remediation Technology, LLC and the Township of Upper Deerfield. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Joseph Spoltore, seconded by Thomas Speranza 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 Payment of Bills in the amount of \$ 2,918,939.72. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Thomas Speranza, seconded by Scott Smith, to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 5-0 on a roll call vote with Joseph Spoltore abstaining from payment to Cumberland Regional.

## INSERT RESOLUTION

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

John Daddario did not have a report this evening.

Scott Smith did not have a report this evening.

Joseph Spoltore stated that Public Works and Historical Committee did a great job preparing for the successful Community Day. Mr. Spoltore and Mr. Crilley met with representatives from Hopewell Township. To discuss future plans for Bostwick Lake.

Thomas Speranza did not have a report this evening.

Mayor Crilley stated that Hopewell and Upper Deerfield will be requesting that the County look at taking ownership of Bostwick Lake for a County Park. Upper Deerfield Township celebrated its seventeenth annual Community Day on Saturday. Mayor Crilley thanked everyone involved to make it another great success.

## ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Roy Spoltore, Administrator stated that the spring newsletter is being printed and hopes to have it delivered next week. The annual recycling report was submitted to the state. At the Bostwick meeting, the dam inspection is due this year at a cost of \$2,650.00. The Committee unanimously approved this expenditure by the Bostwick Lake Commission. The Township Community Day's budgeted \$5,000.00 for expenses, but the actual cost \$3,427.00. On June 12<sup>th</sup>, Sika will hold its ceremonial event for the construction of the new manufacturing facility at 11:00 am. On June 5<sup>th</sup> a meeting municipalities and developers called 30 Mayors/30 Developers will be held at Rowan College. This event is for Mayors and municipal officials to meet with developers to discuss potential projects. Previously the Township purchased two lots at the corner of Old Deerfield Pike and Park Drive. The Committee agreed to have the Solicitor look into how the land could be subdivided or the Road ROW on Park Drive could be enlarged to allow for a T intersection with the Church parking lot in the event Big Oak Road Extension is constructed. The Committee would like to see additional information on the Taylor

property on Friesburg Road being considered for Farmland Preservation. Four vehicles, two mowers, one boat and one fire truck have been sold on Gov Deals.

#### ENGINEER'S REPORT

Brian Murphy, Township Engineer stated that the new water tower will have Upper Deerfield Township printed on two sides of the tank. The steel is scheduled to be delivered by the middle of May to begin construction with the hope that the Tower will be completed by August and put in service before the end of the year. Mr. Murphy received a quote in the amount of \$3,600 to test the cores of the four iron filters to determine if they need to have the media replaced. Plans are being prepared to get costs to redevelop Well #3 at Love Lane. Mr. Murphy is finalizing plans for the parking lot, walk paths and fencing at Sunset Lake Park.

#### SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Rocco Todesco, Township Solicitor did not have a report this evening.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,

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Janeen Rossi, Township Deputy Clerk

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Roy J. Spoltore, Township Clerk