

**MINUTES OF THE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
UPPER DEERFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, HELD ON
THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 5, 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, Tax Collector/ 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. Margrethe Jespersen asked if the Township had any ordinances pertaining to support animals and how she could receive information on Township Ordinances. Roy Spoltore, Business Administrator stated the Township did not have any ordinances for support animals and state statutes would apply and suggested she email any questions on ordinances. Joe Hamlyn, spoke on behalf of Mr. Buono, an Upper Deerfield resident, explained the issues he is having with his neighbor and asked about the status of the neighbor's lawn maintenance violations. Thomas Speranza will look into the complaints that were filed with the State Police and the committee stated an ordinance is being introduced this evening dealing with landscaping in front yards in residential zones. Dana Dilks, an Upper Deerfield resident stated there are 17 signs located within a short distance on Friesburg Road and wondered if any could be removed. Thomas Speranza stated that it's a County Road and her complaint should be addressed to the County.

There being no other public comments, James Crilley, Chairman called for the approval of minutes for the meeting of August 15, 2024. John Daddario made a motion, second by Joseph Spoltore, to dispense with the reading of the minutes and to accept the minutes as received, unanimously approved, on a vote of 3-0 with Thomas Speranza and Scott Smith abstaining.

James Crilley, Chairman called for a discussion and introduction of an ordinance entitled, Ordinance Amending Chapter 234 of the Code of the Township of Upper Deerfield. The Clerk read the proposed Ordinance by title. Rocco Tedesco explained that the ordinance defines front yard and the plantings that can be permitted. 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 September 19, 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 Supplying and Delivering Voc-Compliant High Performance Cold Patch through a Cooperative Price Contract with the County of Cumberland. 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 Supplying and Laying Hot Mix Asphalt through a Cooperative Price Contract with the County of Cumberland. On motion of Thomas Speranza, 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 Approval of Change Order #1 Small Cities- Carr. 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 Imposing Lien on Block 915, Lot 9- 1804 Fourth Avenue- Dejesus. On motion of John Daddario, 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 Appointing Part Time Construction Office Clerical- Martinez. On motion of Thomas Speranza, 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 Amending Certification of Construction Office Salaries. 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 Awarding Bid to Ricky Slade Construction, Inc. for Phase V- Pathways at Seabrook Recreation Complex. On motion of Thomas Speranza, 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 for a resolution Authorizing Reduction of Performance Bond Prime Construction and Development LLC. 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 Authorizing Payment of Bills in the amount of \$335,215.99 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.

INSERT RESOLUTION

COMMITTEE REPORTS

John Daddario stated that speed limit signs will be put up on John's Way soon. Mr. Daddario asked when the roads will be paved at Button Mill Reserve. Brian Murphy, Township Engineer will contact the developer to see when the paving is scheduled. He added that the sub-base will also need to be repaired prior to final paving.

Scott Smith did not have a report this evening.

Joseph Spoltore stated that the Environmental Commission met yesterday, and they are completing the first phase of the pollinator garden and are developing a five-year plan for the Garden. The planning board will meet next Monday.

Thomas Speranza stated that the Sheriffs Department has been out patrolling roads for speeding especially now with Schools open. The city of Bridgeton had approved a 4 wheel/ATV event but got cancelled at the last minute.

Jame Crilley stated that the Sika and Ultra Clean construction projects are moving along nicely. Business visits are scheduled for Monday.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Roy Spoltore, Administrator stated that the State Health Benefits Commission met and stated that the health benefits will increase 16.3 % next year. The 4-H Club has applied for a Basket Raffle to be on November 7, 2024, on Old Burlington Road. On motion of Thomas Speranza, seconded by John Daddario to approve and adopt the On-Premises Raffle request, unanimously carried 5-0 on a roll call vote. Chad Ott, public works supervisor has requested that parking on McArthur Drive be limited to the west side only due to the width of the road. Mr. Speranza voiced his concern that parking on both sides of the street creates a hazard for Fire Truck and Ambulance access. The walk paths approved this evening will also create 8 pad sites for new ADA compliant bleachers that will cost approximately \$169,000 and be paid for by the Small Cities Grant. In the Committee's packets are the Annual JIF Report showing results from last year.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Bryan Murphy, Township Engineer stated that the Water Tower construction is complete, and the painting process will begin, which can take about two months. The contractor for the redevelopment of Well #3 is scheduled to begin shortly. The second phase of improvements at Sunset Lake Park has been completed and Ricky Slade did a very good job. Mr. Murphy stated that the State has provided all municipalities with a model ordinance pertaining to recently adopted state statutes for storm water management. It will be scheduled for introduction at the next meeting.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Rocco Tedesco, Solicitor reported that the Foreclosure Process has been held up by new state legislation that changed the Tax Sale Foreclosure procedure. Mr. Heck has requested the Tax Collector to update the redemption amounts for the liens which are the subject of the previously filed Complaint. Mr. Tedesco reported that Certified Service Animals are protected by the American with Disabilities Act, Emotional Support Animals are not. Mr. Tedesco suggested to the Committee that they do not adopt an Emotional Support Animal Ordinance. He felt this should be done by the State of New Jersey.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Nancy Ridgeway, an Upper Deerfield Resident attended the Environmental Commission Meeting stated that they had question as to whether hunting is allowed on the Munyon Property. Mr. Daddario replied that a

hunter needs written permission to hunt on any property and the Township does not approve hunting on any Township property.

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 contracts and matters requiring attorney client privilege. Mayor Crilley stated no action will be taken. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Joseph Spoltore, seconded by Scott Smith 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 John Daddario, seconded by Joseph Spoltore to adjourn the meeting, and unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Janeen Rossi, Township Deputy Clerk

Roy J. Spoltore, Township Clerk