

**MINUTES OF THE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF  
UPPER DEERFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, HELD ON  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 2025, AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING,  
HIGHWAY 77, SEABROOK, NEW JERSEY, PURSUANT TO NOTICE**

Present were James Crilley, John Daddario, Thomas Speranza, Joseph Spoltore and Newly Appointed Committeeman William Whelan 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 Committeeman James Crilley and he read the following public meeting announcement.

"In compliance with the "Open Public Meetings Act", written advance notice of the time, date and place of the meeting, has been given at least forty-eight (48) hours before the meeting by mailing same to the News of Cumberland County and The Press, Cumberland County Edition, by posting the notice in the Municipal Building at Seabrook, New Jersey, and by filing such notice with the Township Clerk, in compliance with said Act." In compliance with State Fire Safety Statutes, Mr. Crilley instructed those present how to exit the room in an emergency.

Invocation was given by Father Matthew Weber and the flag salute was led by Joseph Spoltore.

Roy J. Spoltore, Township Clerk presented Thomas Speranza to be sworn in by Rocco Tedesco, as a member of the Township Committee for a term of three years to expire December 31, 2027. Thomas Speranza takes the oath of office and assumes his position as member of the Township Committee.

Roy J. Spoltore, Township Clerk presented William Whelan to be sworn in by Rocco Tedesco, as a member of the Township Committee for a term of three years to expire December 31, 2027. William Whelan takes the oath of office and assumes his position as member of the Township Committee.

On a motion by Mr. Whelan, seconded by Mr. Speranza and unanimously carried that Roy Spoltore, Clerk will serve as Temporary Chairman for the purpose of electing a Chairman of the Township Committee.

Roy J. Spoltore, Township Clerk assumes position as Temporary Chairman and requests nominations for permanent Chairman. Mr. Crilley moves and Mr. Whelan seconds a motion that John Daddario be elected as Chairman of the Township Committee of Upper Deerfield Township during the year 2025. With no other nominations, John Daddario was selected as Chairperson for 2025 on a roll call vote of 5-0.

Mr. Daddario assumes the Chair, calls for nominations for Vice Chairman. On a motion of Thomas Speranza, seconded by Joseph Spoltore, that James Crilley be nominated to serve as Vice-Chairperson of the Township Committee and serve as Acting Chairperson for the year 2025 during the absence or disability of the Chairperson. With no other nominations, James Crilley was selected as Vice-Chairperson for 2025 on a roll call vote of 5-0.

Chairman Daddario called for Resolutions 1 through 55 to be combined as a consent agenda and voted upon as one item. William Whelan made the motion, seconded by James Crilley, to adopt Resolutions 1 to 55 as a Consent Agenda, and was unanimously carried. The Clerk read the resolutions by title. On a motion by James Crilley, seconded by Joseph Spoltore, Resolutions 1-55 were unanimously approved by a roll call vote of 5-0, with Joseph Spoltore abstaining on Resolutions 25-4, 25-8, 25-10, and 25-43 and William Whelan abstaining on Resolution 25-12.

**Resolution 24-1** – Appointing Township Solicitor – Rocco Tedesco, Esq.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-2** - Adopting a Temporary Budget – Township.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-3** - Adopting a Temporary Dedicated Sewer & Water Utility Budget.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-4** - Appointing Township Officials.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-5** - Appointing Municipal Engineer & Utilities Engineer – Brian J. Murphy, PE.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-6** – Appointing Township Auditor – Ford Scott Associates, LLC

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-7** - Appointing Attorney for Tax Appeals & Tax Foreclosures – Todd Heck, Esq

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-8** - Appointing a Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner to the Atlantic County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund. – Roy Spoltore and Amy Colaneri.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-9** - Appointing Township Treasurer – Amy Colaneri.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-10** - Appointing Public Agency Compliance Officer – Roy J. Spoltore.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-11** - Cash Management Plan.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-12** - Designating Depository for Municipal Funds – Ocean First Bank.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-13** - Authorizing Signing of Checks for General and Sewer & Water Utility Accounts.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-14** - Authorizing the Clerk's Office to Maintain a Petty Cash Fund in the amount of \$50.00.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-15** – Authorizing Change Funds.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-16** - Newspapers to receive Notice of Meetings.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-17** - Designating Official Newspaper –Daily Journal.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-18** - Setting Interest and Penalty on Property Taxes.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-19** - Setting Interest and Penalty on Sewer & Water Utility Charges and Rents.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-20** - Authorizing Mayor and Engineer to Sign NJDEP forms.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-21** - Designating Meeting Dates.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-22** - Authorizing Cancellation of Property Tax Refund or Delinquency of Less than \$10.00.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-23** - Authorizing Animal Shelter Contract – South Jersey Regional Animal Shelter.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-24** - Authorizing Contract for Animal Control Services with Shore Animal Control.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-25** - Authorizing Tax Assessor the Authority to File Tax Appeals and Tax Complaints.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-26** - Authorizing Professional Service Agreement with Ambulance Billing Company.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-27** - Authorizing Contract with Cumberland Development Corporation.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-28** - Setting Forth Regulations Regarding Convenience Center Stickers.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-29** - Appointing Staff for CS Regional Municipal Court.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-30** - Authorizing Contractual Services for CS Regional Municipal Court.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-31** - Appointing Prosecutor and Conflict Prosecutor for CS Regional Municipal Court.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-32** - Appointing Public Defender & Conflict Public Defenders for CS Regional Municipal Court.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-33** - Appointing Planning Board Solicitor – Matthew Ritter, Esq. & Theodore Ritter, Esq.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-34** - Appointing Planning Board Planner – Randall Scheule.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-35** - Appointing Planning Board Engineer – Fralinger Engineering, PA.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-36** - Appointing Part Time Construction Office Inspectors

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-37** - Appointing Bond Counsel – John Cantalupo, Esq.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-38** - Appointing Redevelopment Legal Counsel – Joseph Ragno, Esq.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-39** - Appointing Fire Safety Code Official – Chris Williams

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-40** – Appointing Municipal Housing Liaison – Roy J. Spoltore.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-41** – Appointing Tax Collector – Janeen Rossi

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-42** - Authorizing Purchase of Materials, Supplies or Equipment under State Contract.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-43** - Authorizing the Execution of the Contract with Seabrook Educational and Cultural Center to Provide for the Support and Maintenance of the Seabrook Educational and Cultural Center Exhibit and Museum.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-44** - Appointing Surveyor for Tax Map Maintenance – Fralinger Engineering, PA.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-45** - Appointing Conflict Engineer – Thomas J. Tedesco, Jr.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-46** – Authorizing Shared Service Agreement with Lawrence Township – Zoning/Housing Office.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-47** – Certifying Salaries for Shared Service Agreements.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-48** –Appointing Judge and Conflict Judge for CS Regional Court-Lauren Van Embden, Esq

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-49** – Appointing Traffic Consultant – Horner & Canter Associates

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-50** – Appointing Township Physician – Dr. Michael Hong

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-51** – Authorizing Shared Service Agreement with Pittsgrove Township – CFO

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-52** – Appointing Township Zoning & Code Enforcement Officer– Anthony Lamanteer, Jr.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-53** – Appointing Township Housing Officer – Anthony Lamanteer, Jr.

INSERT RESOLUTION

**Resolution 24-54** – Governing Body Certification of Compliance with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

INSERT RESOLUTION

John Daddario, Chairman called for a resolution for Payment of Bills in the amount of 1,252,461.54. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Mr. Crilley, seconded by Mr. Speranza, to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 5-0 on a roll call vote, with Joseph Spoltore abstaining on payment to CRHS.

INSERT RESOLUTION

Mayor Daddario Called for Appointment of Members of the Township Committee to Serve as Committeemen-in-Charge of Various Subcommittees and Divisions of Municipal Government for the Year 2025.

INSERT COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Daddario called for appointments to the various Boards, Commissions and Committees with consent of the Committee.

Recreation Commission  
Planning Board  
Industrial Commission/Economic Development Committee  
Historical Commission  
Environmental Commission  
Agricultural Advisory Committee  
Senior Center Advisory Committee

Chairman Daddario asked for a Motion to approve appointments to Commissions, Boards & Committees, on motion by Mr. Speranza, seconded by Mr. Crilley the appointments were unanimously approved 5-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT APPOINTMENTS

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Mayor Daddario thanked his family for all their support along his journey and is honored to be elected as Mayor. Mayor Daddario Congratulated Mr. Sprenaza and Mr. Whelan on their re-election and election to the Township Committee. He thanked Mr. Tedesco for his legal obligations and support to the Township. He thanked Mr. Crilley for preparing him for the position of Mayor. Mayor Daddario thanked Mr. Spoltore for his diligent work ethic and thanked Mr. Speranza for bringing a renewed sense of safety to the Township. Mayor Daddario said none of this would be possible without the support of the community and the employees of the Township.

William Whelan congratulated Mr. Speranza on his re-election and congratulated newly elected Mayor Daddario and Deputy Mayor Crilley on their appointments. He thanked his family and Father Weber and hopes to have a new year of productive discussion on the many issues that the Township continually facesw.

Deputy Mayor Crilley thanked his family and congratulated Mr. Speranza and Mr. Whelan on their re-election and election to the Township Committee. Mr. Crilley congratulated Mr. Daddario on being appointed Mayor. Mr. Crilley stated that the Township Committee works together for the betterment of the residents, there

are no personal agendas. He added that the Township has great employees, volunteers and residents that make Upper Deerfield the best Township.

Jospeh Spoltore congratulated Mr. Speranza and Mr. Whelen on their re-election and election to the Township Committee. Mr. Spoltore congratulated Mr. Daddario and Mr. Crilley on their appointments to Mayor and Deputy Mayor of the 2025 Committee. He added that the Township has great employees, volunteers and members of all the boards and committees who contribute to making this community great.

Thomas Speranza Congratulated Mr. Whelen on his election to the Township Committee. Mr. Speranza Congratulated Mr. Daddario and Mr. Crilley on their appointments to Mayor and Deputy Mayor. He thanked his family and added there is a lot of work to do in the coming year. Mr. Speranza concluded by saying this is the best Township in Cumberland County.

Chairman Daddario stated that the Committee continues to face economic budgetary challenges forcing the Committee to make difficult and hard decisions. Mayor Daddario added that the Township has a reputation for conducting business in a professional manner and attributed that to the work of the Committee, Professionals, Staff and Volunteers. Mayor Daddario briefly shared a few highlights from 2024.

The highlights for 2024 begin with grants. Received a grant from NJDOT in the amount of \$240,000 in 2022 for the paving of Hoover Road and Veteran's Drive completed last spring. The Township also received \$158,100 in 2023 and \$198,611 in 2024 for the paving of West Dawson, Acorn, Oak Hill and Colonial Terrace this spring.

Township was awarded \$195,551 in 2023 and \$200,000 in 2024 for the Small Cities home rehab program. The Township has applied for an additional \$200,000 for 2025. The Township also received \$400,000 for the removal of lead in homes. The five phase Small Cities ADA compliant grants constructed over 2.5 miles of walk paths through the 100-acre municipal recreation complex connecting the Senior Center, Municipal Building, Little League, Soccer and Football complexes, and installation of four ADA bathrooms, constructed a new playground and pavilions and purchase of new bleachers. A new playground and pavilion were constructed at Sunset Lake Park. The Township received approval a grant of \$400,000 for a Small Cities Grant to initiate Phase 1 of a 4-phase project to install water and sewer lines in the Hildreth Tract development. This project will take up to four funding cycles to complete. The Township has applied for a \$400,000 Phase-2 grant for 2025.

The Township remains involved in various shared service agreements that provide savings for all participants, including the CS Regional Court which has ten participating municipalities; there are seven municipalities utilizing the Township's Construction Code offices; the Township is one of 39 municipalities in a joint insurance fund, sharing our CFO with Pittsgrove, utilizing Millville's Tax Assessor plus many other shared service agreements with a municipality or governmental entity.

The Township continues to provide funds to help offset expenses for recreational leagues, maintains the grounds of the 100-acre park. Public Works continues to repair and reconstruct drainage inlets on Township roads. Leaf Collection will end January 10th. The Love Lane water facility has continued to meet the safe drinking standards since July 2019. The Township has constructed a nitrate removal system at Love Lane which will ensure further safe drinking standards. EMS handled over 2,100 calls in 2024. A new ambulance was ordered at a cost of \$440,000, the last ambulance received three years ago cost \$235,000. A new fire truck was ordered at a cost of \$1,250,000. The Township continues to utilize Clean Community funding to be used to clean up roadsides in Upper Deerfield. The Environmental Commission maintains the Rain Garden by the Senior Center and received a grant to construct pollinators near the football complex. The Senior Center continues to provide activities and programs under the direction of Sherrie Dixon, Director and the senior advisory committee. The township Master Plan continues to serve as a basis to provide residents a great place to live balancing the need to plan for growth in areas where infrastructure is located while proposing conservation and preservation measures for other areas of the Township.

New projects in the Township will help keep the taxes low. Sika Corporation is constructing a 250,000 sq. ft. manufacturing and distribution center known as their Northeast Anchor facility. The facility is anticipated to be operational in September of 2025. Ultra Clean completed a 25,000 sq. ft. addition to their existing facility. Lark Urban Development will begin constructing an 80,000 sq. ft. cold storage facility in the beginning of 2025 for Cumberland Dairy to occupy. Lassonde Pappas has approved an investment of approximately \$200 million to construct a 95,000 sq. ft warehouse and construct a 200,000 sq ft beverage manufacturing facility

Express Liquor in the Carlls Corner Shopping Center and Chipotle restaurant on Centerton Road opened. Wingstop will be opening the first part of 2025. Planet Fitness should be opening in the Carlls Corner Shopping Center in early 2025 and Candi's Nail & Spa opened in 2024. AT&T and Puff and Passion opened in Upper Deerfield Plaza.

The Township continues to be prudent and operates the local government services with approximately 5.65% of the tax dollars collected. The tax dollars are distributed as follows for every \$100 dollars paid: the County Government receives \$37.24, Upper Deerfield Schools receive \$37.09, Cumberland Regional receives \$20.02, and the Township receives \$5.65 to operate the local government.

The Mayor concluded by stating that the Township has the best staff and group of dedicated volunteers. and wished everyone a healthy and Happy New Year.

Mayor Daddario asked all the newly appointed officials present to come forward and be sworn in by the Township Solicitor, Rocco Tedesco. At this time, Solicitor Rocco Tedesco swore in the 2025 appointments to the various Commissions, Boards & Committees.

Mayor Daddario asked if there were any comments from the public. Father Matthew Weber thanked the Committee for allowing him to be part of the meeting. Michael Donato, Cumberland County Sheriff, congratulated Mr. Speranza and Mr. Whelan on their election and stated the Sheriff office is committed to helping the municipalities. Ken Mecouch, Congratulated Mr. Speranza, Mr. Whelan and Mayor Daddario. Doug Albrect, County Commissioner, enjoys working with the Township and serves as a model for other municipalities. Bruce Peterson, former Committeeman, stated that the staff and volunteers really make things work. He added he has worked in the public service for over 30 years and serving on the Township committee were his best years as each individual on the committee has the best interests of the Community. He Congratulated Mr. Speranza and Mr. Whelen on their re-election and election to the Township Committee. Mr. Peterson Congratulated Mr. Daddario and Mr. Crilley on their appointments to Mayor and Deputy Mayor. With no other public comments, Chairman Daddario invited everyone to join the Committee for refreshments and fellowship at the Senior Center.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, on motion of Thomas Speranza, seconded by Joseph Spoltore, to adjourn, unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Janeen Rossi, Deputy Township Clerk

---

Roy J. Spoltore, Township Clerk