

**MINUTES OF THE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
UPPER DEERFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, HELD ON
THURSDAY NOVEMBER 7, 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; 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 Thomas Speranza.

At this time James Crilley, Chairman opened the meeting for public comment. Jeff Morgan, a representative for the Cumberland County Bullies, a semi-professional football team, stated they are in need of a home field. The team approached the Recreation Committee asking for permission to utilize Upper Deerfield's football facilities. Mr. Tedesco stated that the Recreation Committee will need to give approval after the application has been reviewed. The team is requesting to utilize the field Feb 1- June 30. A license to use the facilities would be on a year-to-year basis and need to be renewed annually.

There being no other public comments, James Crilley, Chairman called for the approval of minutes for the regular meeting of October 17, 2024. Thomas Speranza made a motion, second by John Daddario, to dispense with the reading of the minutes and to accept the minutes as received, unanimously approved, on a vote of 4-0 with Joseph Spoltore abstaining.

James Crilley, Chairman called for a public hearing on an ordinance Granting renewal of Municipal consent to Comcast of South Jersey, LLC to construct, connect, Operate and Maintain a Cable Television and Communications system in the Municipality of Upper Deerfield, Cumberland County, NJ. The Clerk read the proposed Ordinance by title. On motion of Joseph Spoltore, seconded by Thomas Speranza 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 John Daddario, seconded by Thomas Speranza, to close the public hearing and unanimously carried. On motion of Thomas Speranza, seconded by Joseph Spoltore, to approve and adopt proposed ordinance, with a recorded roll call vote of 5-0.

INSERT ORDINANCE

James Crilley, Chairman called for a discussion and introduction of an ordinance entitled, Guaranty Ordinance of the Township of Upper Deerfield, in the County of Cumberland, State of

New Jersey Fully, Unconditionally and Irrevocably Securing the Payment of the Principal of and Interest on those certain Township Guaranteed Lease Revenue Bonds (Upper Deerfield Board of Education Project), Series 2025 and Anu Notes Issued in anticipation Thereof in the Amount Not to Exceed \$4,000,000 to be Issued by the Cumberland County Improvement Authority for the Purpose of Providing Additional Security therefor and Determining Certain other Matters in Connection Therewith. Rocco Tedesco explained that this ordinance provides for the Township to guarantee the lease payments from the Township School District to the Cumberland County Improvement Authority for the construction of Pre-k twelve room expansion project. On motion of Scott Smith, seconded by Joseph Spoltore to approve and adopt proposed ordinance on the first reading and setting the date for public hearing on December 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 Granting Final Approval of the Barber Farm Application to Sell Development Easement. On motion of John Daddario, 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 Granting Final Approval of the Taylor farm Application to Sell Development Easement. 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 Awarding Professional Service Contract to Mark Blauer- DBA/Blauer Associates. On motion of Joseph Spoltore, 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 Resolution Authorizing release of Performance Bond Prime Construction and Development LLC. 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 Resolution Providing for the Insertion of a Special Item of Revenue in the Budget Pursuant to NJSA 40A:4-87- Small Cities Home rehabilitation Lead Remediation Grant Amendment. On motion of John Daddario, 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 #3 for the Contract to TKT Construction Inc. to Construct the replacement of the Seabrook Water Tower- Project No. 0613004-002 Through funding Provided by the New Jersey Water Bank. 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 Appointing Part Time Public Works Employee- Jason Alicea. 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 resolution Authorizing Payment of Bills in the amount of \$2,624,303.37 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 to Cumberland Regional.

INSERT RESOLUTION

COMMITTEE REPORTS

John Daddario reported that leaf collection is going well. Mr. Daddario added that the Sheriff's Department was going through the neighborhoods during Halloween, and it was appreciated.

Scott Smith did not have a report this evening.

Joseph Spoltore reported there are Board positions open for North Cumberland Little League, Dante Rieti is stepping down from Recreation and Lynn Maun is stepping down from Environmental. He added that Environmental asked if the Township had any water restrictions in place and if the Jack's Crossing development had landscaping to be completed.

Thomas Speranza stated that car thefts have been increasing and it's fair to assume that it may get worse closer to the holidays. He advised everyone to do their due diligence and be aware of their surroundings.

Mayor Crilley stated that the Township had a good Election Day with minor issues. Mr. Crilley congratulated Thomas Speranza and William Whelan on being elected to the Township Committee. On November 16, 2024, at 10 am. the annual Veterans Day Ceremony will take place. The SECC museum had their volunteer dinner.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Roy Spoltore, Administrator stated that the bid opening on Dawson, Oakhill, Acorn and Colonial Terrace will be on November 19th. The Local Recreation Improvement Grant for 2025 was just announced. The committee authorized finalizing the repair to the North Cumberland Little League dugouts, as well as purchasing picnic tables and replacing the old chain link fence. There was only one entrance for District 3 and 4 at the polling location which caused a back-up if the poll workers were not moving the individuals along. The Union representative for public works submitted their proposal for 2025 to 2027. The Township has drafted a counter proposal to be submitted to the union. Once an agreement is reached a resolution for acceptance will be placed

on the agenda for a Township Meeting. The Committee agreed not to solicit Professional Request for Proposals for 2025 and to change the employee holiday for Election Day to Christmas Eve. Brian Slaugh from Clark Cation Hintz will be at the December 19th meeting to review and discuss Round 4 Affordable Housing numbers. Rocco Tedesco, Solicitor stated that the NJ Institute of Local Government Attorneys has prepared an amendment to the Affordable Housing Act. Our legislators need to be contacted. Departmental Reports for October are included in this evening's packet.

Thomas Speranza left the meeting at 8 pm.

ENIGINEER REPORT

Brian Murphy, Township Engineer, stated that the Seabrook Water Tower is being disinfected next week and should be operational soon after that process. The re-development of Well # 3 is moving along, there was no damage to the casing but there will be other items to repair and replace. There is a problem with the three-way valve at the Sunset Lift Station that needs to be replaced. Mr. Murphy is writing a letter to Lassonde Pappas to have them review their water demands as there are two different scenarios that are at two different levels of need. The engineer will be uploading information for a Loan/Grant to NJEIT about painting the Love Lane Water Tower and making minor repairs and upgrades. He is also finalizing plans for the infrastructure upgrades at the Hildreth Tract. A tour of the new Sika facility will be scheduled for next week.

SOLICITOR REPORT

Rocco Tedesco, Solicitor stated that. Lassonde Pappas is revising their concept plans and needs to comply with the new state storm water regulations. Mr. Tedesco has spoken with their attorney and informed him the Township will accommodate their timeline as best as possible. A letter was received by the Township showing that a proposal was submitted to DEP to remediate the Deerfield Organics site with a gasification from waste facility. The Township was never approached by the developer about the concept and whether the Township would approve such a facility. The Committee authorized the solicitor to contact DEP and the developer to let them know that the Township is not interested in having this facility in the Township. The proposal would require an amendment to the County Solid Waste Plan which would not be approved if the Township is opposed to the project. Todd Heck is continuing the foreclosure on three properties under the new regulations.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,

Janeen Rossi, Township Deputy Clerk

Roy J. Spoltore, Township Clerk