

**MINUTES OF THE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
UPPER DEERFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, HELD ON
THURSDAY NOVEMBER 21, 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, 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. Thomas Speranza was unable to attend.

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.

At this time James Crilley, Chairman opened the meeting for public comment. Margareth Jespersen resident, asked if the ordinance requiring property owners with less than one acre of land in a residential zone be permitted to have chickens will be amended to one half acre. Mayor Crilley stated that he has had discussions with members of the planning board and Township committee and there is not an interest in reducing the acreage to own chickens. The Township has had issues with chickens and neighbors on lots with 1 acre or more and reducing the lot size would only increase the number of complaints. John Daddario added that it will cause bigger problems in neighborhoods.

There being no other public comments, James Crilley, Chairman called for the approval of minutes for the meeting of November 7, 2024. Scott Smith 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 4-0.

James Crilley, Chairman called for a Resolution 2024 Budget Transfer. On motion of Joseph Spoltore, seconded by Scott Smith, to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 4-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

James Crilley, Chairman called for a Resolution 2024 Utility Budget Transfer. On motion of Scott Smith, seconded by John Daddario, to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 4-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

James Crilley, Chairman called for a Resolution Authorizing an Agreement Between Amalgamated Local #2327 UAW and the Township of Upper Deerfield to Enter into a Three (3) Year Contract from January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2027. On motion of Scott Smith, seconded by Joseph Spoltore, to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 4-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

James Crilley, Chairman called for a Resolution Authorizing Release of Performance Bond, Site Safety and Stabilization Guarantee and Landscaping Bond for Love Lane 1 LLC. On motion of Scott Smith, seconded by John Daddario, to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 4-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

James Crilley, Chairman called for a Resolution Awarding Bid to Paving Plus LLC for the Reconstruction of Colonial Terrace and Oak Hill Drive. On motion of Joseph Spoltore, seconded by Scott Smith, to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 4-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

James Crilley, Chairman called for a Resolution Awarding Bid to Paving Plus LLC for the Reconstruction of West Dawson drive and Acorn Drive. On motion of John Daddario, seconded by Scott Smith, to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 4-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

James Crilley, Chairman called for a Resolution Authorizing and/ or Consenting to the Making of an Application to the Local Finance Board Pursuant to N.J.S.A 40A:5A-6 and N.J.S.A 40: 37A-80 by the Cumberland County Improvement Authority and certain Other Matters in Connection with the Issuance by the Cumberland County Improvement Authority of its Township Guaranteed Lease Revenue Bond (Upper Deerfield Board of Education Project), Series 2025. On motion of Joseph Spoltore, seconded by Scott Smith, to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 4-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

James Crilley, Chairman called for a Resolution Appointing Building subcode Official- Paul Bauman. On motion of Scott Smith seconded by John Daddario , to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 4-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

James Crilley, Chairman called for a resolution Authorizing Payment of Bills in the amount of \$ 1,120,979.28 The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Scott Smith, seconded by Joseph Spoltore to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 4-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

COMMITTEE REPORTS

John Daddario stated that the Veterans Day Ceremony was a great celebration to honor our military veterans. He added that it was great to see the number of kids using the playground. The tour of the Sika building was amazing, this will be a good development for the Township.

Scott Smith did not have a report this evening.

Joseph Spoltore stated he was approached by residents to explore the option for constructing pickle ball courts. The Upper Deerfield Environmental Commission (UDEEC) has cleared trails and begun seeding “the Munyon Property,” for pollinator gardens. They are planting native plants and wildflowers to support pollinators and other wildlife near the ADA walking trail, which meanders along throughout the Recreational Complex.

Mayor Crilley stated that Veterans Day is a day to remember the contribution of all Veterans and encouraged all residents to take every opportunity to honor those who have served and the sacrifice of those individuals. He added that the Ceremony was well attended by our elected officials and the children from the school put on a great performance. Mayor Crilley thanked Public Works for their preparation work for the Ceremony. The mayor added that the Sika building is larger than it looks from the street. Mayor Crilley wished everyone a safe and Happy Thanksgiving.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Roy Spoltore, Administrator, stated that the Seabrook Water Tower has been disinfected and is operational. DRK received approval for a two-year extension on their use variance from the Planning Board. The Township received a Transportation Trust Grant in the amount of \$ 279,910 for the Quail Ridge Road reconstruction project with an estimated cost of \$550,000 which will be included in next year’s Township Budget. There is no increase in the South Jersey Animal Shelter’s Contract for 2025. Departmental and Treasurer’s Reports for October are included in this evening’s packet.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Rocco Tedesco, Solicitor stated that Lassonde Pappas is continuing to revise their concept plan for their expansion. The revised plans need to demonstrate drainage for their proposed three phase development. The request for water allocation was more than ten times their current water usage. The Township does not have the capacity to provide that amount of water. This concern has been communicated to the Lassonde Pappas engineer. The State of New Jersey has instituted a suit for remediation against Deerfield Organics which has involved a new independent potential developer to remediate the site and develop it as a waste to gasification site. The committee reviewed the concept and informed the state and developer, that they were not interested in this type of development. Mr. Tedesco attended a few sessions at the NJLM convention. He had a few concepts he wants to discuss with Brian Slaugh, the township affordable consultant after attending an Affordable Housing Session.

PUBLIC COMMENT

With no 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