

**MINUTES OF THE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
UPPER DEERFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, HELD ON
THURSDAY DECMEBER 19, 2024 AT 6:00 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; 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 Scott Smith.

At this time Mayor Crilley, chairman opened the meeting for a presentation of Affordable Housing Round 4. Rocco Tedesco, Township Solicitor introduced Brian Slaugh from Clark Caton Hintz. Mr. Tedesco stated that Mr. Slaugh has successfully guided the Township Committee through the third round of approvals. Mr. Slaugh thanked the Committee and continued explaining the fourth round of housing obligation to be submitted to the State by July 1, 2025. Mr. Slaugh explained the process for Round 4. The state has developed a suggested number of new affordable units for each municipality for 2025 to 2035. The municipality may use the state number or submit a different number if the municipality believes the criteria used was not appropriately applied. The Township will need to declare in a resolution the Present Need for low income households and the Prospective Need for New Construction by January 31st. During the month of February, the proposed number of units may be challenged. In March the affordable housing judges will determine the actual number for the municipality and the housing plan needs to be completed by June 30, 2025. The state has established a number of 118 new units, Clark Caton Hintz has calculated a need of 67 to 75 units and the Institute of Local Governing Attorneys has calculated 41 units.

At this time James Crilley, Chairman opened the meeting for public comment. Sandy Acevedo, Upper Deerfield Resident asked why there is a municipal bond guaranty for a leasing agreement for the School Bond Ordinance. Mr. Tedesco stated that the School District is utilizing a new state statute that became effective in January 2024. This provides for the CCIA to bond the pre-school expansion through a 20-year lease agreement with the CCIA. Roberta Johnson stated that vehicles are now being parked on Township Property near Chiari Lane. Roy Spoltore, Township Administrator, said the individuals are parking on the complexes property as the retention basin is owned by Countryside, not the Township.

There being no other public comments, James Crilley, Chairman called for the approval of minutes and closed minutes for the meeting of December 5, 2024. Thomas Speranza 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 5-0.

James Crilley, Chairman called for a public hearing on an ordinance entitled, Fixing Salaries of Certain Officials of the Township of Upper Deerfield in the county of Cumberland, Providing the Terms of Payment Thereof and Repealing Ordinance Inconsistent Therewith. The Clerk read the proposed Ordinance by title. On motion of John Daddario, seconded by Scott Smith 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 Joseph Spoltore, seconded by Scott Smith, 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 public hearing on 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 Any Notes Issued in Anticipation Thereof in an 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. The Clerk read the proposed Ordinance by title. On motion of Thomas Speranza, seconded by Joseph Spoltore 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 Thomas Speranza, seconded by Joseph Spoltore, to close the public hearing and unanimously carried. On motion of Joseph Spoltore, seconded by Scott Smith, to approve and adopt proposed ordinance, with a recorded roll call vote of 5-0.

INSERT ORDINANCE

James Crilley, Chairman called for a resolution canceling Certain Outstanding checks for Cumberland Salem Regional Municipal Court Bail Account. The Clerk read the resolution by title. 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 Canceling Certain Outstanding checks for Cumberland Salem Regional Municipal Court. The Clerk read the resolution by title. 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 Charging 2024 Budget Line Items and Turning Them Over to the General Capital Account. The Clerk read the resolution by title. 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 cancelling Appropriations for Ordinance Number 845. 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

James Crilley, Chairman called for a resolution Authorizing Payment of Bills in the amount of \$ 166,923.26. 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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

John Daddario stated that the Fire Companies do their best to have Santa reach every location in the Township and we are grateful for all the volunteers. Residents need to realize that these are volunteers who are taking time away from their own families to provide this activity. Mr. Daddario wished everyone a Happy Holiday.

Scott Smith wished everyone a Happy Holiday.

Joseph Spoltore thanked public works for removing the profanity on the playground at the park. Mr. Spoltore also wished everyone a Happy Holiday.

Thomas Speranza stated that all the Fire Departments did an excellent job dealing with the most recent house fire. Mr. Speranza stated that the Sheriff's Department will be meeting with the FBI to address recent concerns about multiple drone sightings. Mr. Speranza wished everyone a Happy Holiday.

Mayor Crilley stated that the Senior Center had their annual Holiday Party and everyone that attended had a very nice time. The Re-Organization Meeting is Jan 2, 2024, at 7:00 pm. Mr. Crilley added that he and Roy Spoltore discussed Upper Deerfield Township on WVLT Monday night. Mayor Crilley wished everyone a Happy and Safe Holiday.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Roy Spoltore, Administrator stated that he had a discussion with Lark Urban Renewal LLC. They are working on both the redevelopment and financial agreements and are anticipating starting construction in January 2025. The media in the iron filters at Love Lane Water Facility were core tested and the preliminary results appear to be good. Lassonde Pappas has reviewed their water demands for the new plant facility and they will be able to meet their peak water demands. A 12" water line extension from the Seabrook plant to the new water tower will need to be constructed in 2025 at a projected cost of around \$370,000. The Committee agreed to close the Convenience Center at 2 pm on Christmas Eve. Dunkin Donuts will have a Grand Re-opening on Saturday January 11th. The Departmental and Treasurer reports for November 2024 are included in this evening's packet.

On a motion of Thomas Speranza, seconded by Joseph Spoltore and unanimously approved, the Township Committee meeting was temporarily adjourned for the meeting of the Upper Deerfield Township Redevelopment Entity. On a motion of Thomas Speranza, seconded by Joseph Spoltore and unanimously approved, the Township Committee meeting was re-opened.

Mayor Crilley presented Committeeman Scott Smith who did not run for Committeeman this past election with a Proclamation for his 15 years of public service. Each of the committeemen thanked Scott for his dedication and commitment to the Township.

SOLICITORS REPORT

Rocco Tedesco reported that all of the parties for the Bench property foreclosure have been served and no one has contested anything. Hopefully this will be concluded soon.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sandy Acevedo, Township resident stated that Fox Road is being used as a dumping ground for trash. Chad Ott, Public Works supervisor stated he will have Public Works pick the trash up first thing in the morning. She also noted that a resident on Fox Road appears to be burning trash in their fire pit.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Janeen Rossi, Township Deputy Clerk

Roy J. Spoltore, Township Clerk