

**TOWNSHIP OF CEDAR GROVE
ESSEX COUNTY NEW JERSEY**

PUBLIC MEETING

MINUTES

OCTOBER 3, 2016

1. ROLL CALL, INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Tanella called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Councilman Cicala, Kumburis, Longo, Deputy Mayor Maffucci, Mayor Tanella

Also Present: Township Manager Tucci, Township Attorney Zielinski, and Township Clerk Stutz

The flag salute was led by Mayor Tanella.

Mayor Tanella made the required announcement concerning the Open Public Meetings Act as follows: Adequate notice of this meeting was duly provided to the Verona-Cedar Grove Times and the Star Ledger on December 31, 2015 filed with the Township Clerk, and posted on the public bulletin board in the Municipal Building Lobby in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

(a) To consider approval of regular public meeting minutes of September 12, 2016

Deputy Mayor Maffucci moved approval of the minutes as presented, seconded by Councilman Kumburis, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilman Cicala, Kumburis, Deputy Mayor Maffucci, Mayor Tanella

NO: None

ABSTAIN: Councilman Longo

3. MEETING OPEN TO RESIDENTS OF THE TOWNSHIP WISHING TO BE HEARD ON ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Mayor Tanella opened this portion of the meeting to anyone wishing to be heard on any item on the agenda. There being no one present wishing to be heard, Mayor Tanella closed this portion of the meeting.

4. REPORTS OF TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

(a) Township Manager – The Manager provided a memo from the Director of Community Development regarding proposed changes to the State UCC (Uniform Construction Code). The Manager explained that certain proposed changes may pose safety concerns if approved. Mr. Tucci recommended further discussion at the next staff meeting, to which the governing body agreed. The Manager also provided a memo from the Director of Community Development requesting that the governing body consider adopting an ordinance pertaining to

abandoned properties. The governing body concurred with Mr. Tucci’s suggestion for further discussion at the next staff meeting.

(b) Township Clerk – The Clerk announced that the last date to register to vote for the upcoming November 8th General/Municipal Election is Tuesday, October 18th. Ms. Stutz advised that the Clerk’s Office will be open until 9:00 p.m. on the 18th for voter registration purposes.

(c) Township Attorney – Attorney Zielinski requested an executive session to discuss a litigation matter filed by the Coptic Church.

(d) Other Reports

Councilman Cicala announced the upcoming movie night on Saturday, October 15th at Morgan’s Farm.

Mayor Tanella noted that several residents had contacted him with safety concerns regarding the intersection of the West Essex Bike Path and Bowden Road.

5. NEW BUSINESS

(a) To consider introduction of Pending Ordinance #16-800 Amending Chapter 251 of the Township Code entitled “Vehicles and Traffic”

The clerk read the Ordinance by title only:

PENDING ORDINANCE NO. 16-800

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 251 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CEDAR GROVE, ENTITLED “VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC.”

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, as follows:

The Code of the Township of Cedar Grove, Chapter 251 entitled, “VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC”, Section 42, entitled Schedule IX: Stop Intersections is hereby amended to add the following:

STOP SIGN ON

AT INTERSECTION OF

Woodstone Drive

Forest Hills Way

Forest Hills Way

Westview Court

This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage, adoption, and publication in the manner prescribed by law.

Councilman Cicala moved that Pending Ordinance #16-800 be passed at first reading, published in the Verona-Cedar Grove Times as a pending ordinance with a public hearing of November 7, 2016, seconded by Deputy Mayor Maffucci, and passed by the following vote:
AYE: Councilman Cicala, Kumburis, Longo, Deputy Mayor Maffucci, Mayor Tanella
NO: None

- (b) To consider resolution concerning purchase of radio communication equipment and accessories through State Contract No. A83898

The following resolution had been posted on the bulletin board, and a brief synopsis was given by the Township Clerk:

WHEREAS, the Township of Cedar Grove has availed itself of the right to purchase radio communication equipment and accessories entered into on behalf of the State of New Jersey by the Division of Purchase and Property in the Department of Treasury pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable from time to time to purchase radio communication equipment and accessories under contracts entered into on behalf of the State by the said Division without the necessity of advertising for bids, or in cases where no bids have been received; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable to purchase radio communication equipment and accessories under such contracts enter into on behalf of the State of New Jersey by said Division during the year 2016;

WHEREAS, funds for the purchase of radio communication equipment and accessories are available in Bond Ordinance No.16-796.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, that the purchase of radio communication equipment and accessories be awarded to Northeast Communications, Inc., through State Contract No. A83898.

Deputy Mayor Maffucci moved adoption of the resolution, seconded by Councilman Kumburis, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilman Cicala, Kumburis, Longo, Deputy Mayor Maffucci, Mayor Tanella
NO: None

6. APPROVAL OF BILLS

The Bill Resolution was read by title and amount as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, County of Essex, New Jersey, that the attached summary of bills having been duly audited and found correct be and they are thereby ordered paid and that warrants be drawn on the Treasurer in the aggregate amount of \$377,314.49

Councilman Longo moved adoption of the resolution, seconded by Deputy Mayor Maffucci, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilman Cicala, Kumburis, Longo, Deputy Mayor Maffucci, Mayor Tanella
NO: None

7. MEETING OPEN TO RESIDENTS OF THE TOWNSHIP WISHING TO BE HEARD ON ANY ITEM ON OR OFF THE AGENDA CONCERNING TOWNSHIP BUSINESS

The following residents submitted a petition to request the repaving of the municipal roads off Montclair Ave. in the north end of the Township (Oak Drive, Cole Road, Vanderberg Place, John Place, Pine Drive, Ring Place, Donato Drive, and walkway from Oak Drive to Lindsley Road) and addressed the governing body:

Paula Marino; 72 Oak Drive
Hazim Escheik; 5 Vanderberg Place
Arlen Vanderberg Zimmerman; 92 Oak Drive
George Rizzo; 16 Vanderberg Place

Robert Kievit; 43 Forest Hills Way – Mr. Kievit requested an update on municipal officials' inspection of the Coptic Church property. The Township Attorney recommended that the governing body refrain from comment pertaining to the property because of pending litigation.

Ron Mega; 82 Hillsdale Rd. – Mr. Mega questioned the fees incurred for investigation of former Mayor and Councilman. Mr. Mega commented on amount of litter left strewn about at Panther Park despite ample receptacles.

Robert O'Toole; 3 Old Orchard Court – Mr. O'Toole noted that September was prostate cancer awareness month and October is breast cancer awareness month.

Michael Picardi; 23 Ridge Court – Mr. Picardi raised concern regarding the condition of the pedestrian footbridge to the Public Library and timeframe for replacement.

There being no one else wishing to be heard, Mayor Tanella closed this portion of the meeting.

AUTHORIZATION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings' Act (N.J.S.A.10:4-12 (b) (1-9) permits the exclusion of the public from a Meeting of the Mayor and Council in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Township of Cedar Grove are of the opinion that such circumstances exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, County of Essex, State of New Jersey that:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of any action on the Executive Session of the Meeting of the Mayor and Council of October 3, 2016.
2. The general nature of the subject matters to be discussed is a litigation matter regarding Coptic Church.
3. It is anticipated at this time that the above stated subject matter will be made public as soon thereafter as it is deemed in the public interest to do so.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Councilman Longo moved adoption of the resolution, seconded by Councilman Cicala, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilman Cicala, Kumburis, Longo, Deputy Mayor Maffucci, Mayor Tanella

NO: None

8. ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Cicala moved adjournment of the public council meeting, seconded by Councilman Kumburis, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilman Cicala, Kumburis, Longo, Deputy Mayor Maffucci, Mayor Tanella

NO: None

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

PETER H. TANELLA MAYOR

ATTEST:

KATHLEEN R. STUTZ MUNICIPAL CLERK