

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

COUNCIL STAFF MEETING

**MINUTES
7:00 P.M.**

OCTOBER 26, 2015

1. ROLL CALL – OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT BY MAYOR

Mayor Chiusolo called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and 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, filed with the Township Clerk, and posted on the public bulletin board in the Municipal Building's lobby in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Present: Councilman Kumburis, Longo, Maffucci, Deputy Mayor Tanella, Mayor Chiusolo
Also Present: Township Manager Tucci, Township Attorney Zielinski, Township Clerk Stutz

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a) Executive Session – September 21, 2015

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

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

NO: None

b) Staff Meeting – September 21, 2015

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

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

NO: None

3. TOWNSHIP MANAGER

a) Added Assessments – The Manager provided information from the Tax Assessor regarding added assessments, which provides an additional \$152,823.14 in revenue. Councilman Longo commended the efforts of the Tax Assessor.

b) Francisco Ave. Pump Station Design – The Manager noted the Municipal Engineer's recommendation for award of contract for engineering design services to Hatch Mott McDonald, to which the governing body concurred.

The Manager also noted a request from the Elks Club for waiver of the annual amusement device fee. Deputy Mayor Tanella moved to waive the fee, seconded by Councilman Longo, and agreed to unanimously.

4. TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY – No report

- 5. TOWNSHIP CLERK –** The Clerk provided the proposed 2016 municipal holidays and Council meeting schedule, to which the governing body approved. The Clerk also provided the annual ordinance to revise the maximum allowable rent increase for 2016 for placement on the upcoming meeting agenda.

6. COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Chiusolo requested an executive session to discuss two issues; PBA negotiations and personnel matter regarding the Municipal Judge. Mayor Chiusolo requested an update on status of any proposed development plans for the reservoir property owned by the City of Newark. Following the Manager's response that the Township has not received and proposed development plans, Mayor Chiusolo suggested that the Township take a proactive approach and initiate contact with the City of Newark to ascertain the City's current/future plans for the property, to which the governing body agreed. Mayor Chiusolo also suggested that the Township consider means to protect the property from development. Councilman Kumburis commented that the Mayors of Woodland Park and Little Falls have discussed reservoir issues and intend to seek support from the Township. Deputy Mayor Tanella stated that he would like to be part of any discussions regarding reservoir property. Mayor Chiusolo referenced a senior citizen watch/look out program utilized in Bayonne to identify and connect seniors with necessary service providers, and raised the possibility of a similar program in the Township.

Deputy Mayor Tanella initiated a brief discussion on the status of the proposed County community center on the Hilltop property. Mayor Chiusolo suggested that the Manager contact the County Executive, to which the governing body agreed.

Councilman Kumburis voiced support for Mayor Chiusolo's suggestion to consider implementation of a senior citizen outreach assistance program.

Councilman Longo noted the passing of long-time resident and Historical Society member Ren Chandler.

Councilman Maffucci initiated discussion regarding the procedure to impose a moratorium on new development until completion of the comprehensive review of the Master Plan. Deputy Mayor Tanella expressed concern regarding impact of several zoning applications and decisions. Deputy Mayor Tanella further suggested that the governing body meet with the Zoning Board Chair. At Mayor Chiusolo's request, Attorney Zielinski addressed both Councilman Maffucci and Deputy Mayor Tanella's suggestions. Following discussion, there was consensus to request the Zoning Board to provide its annual report of zoning applications and decisions as set forth under the MLUL to the governing body and the Township Attorney to provide written guidance for the governing body concerning Master Plan review procedure and zoning code revisions.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a) To consider resolution concerning purchase through National Joint Powers Alliance

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 utilizes the National Intergovernmental Purchasing Alliance for the purchase of Caterpillar equipment, parts and accessories; and

WHEREAS, the contract amount for the purchase of Caterpillar equipment, parts and accessories will not exceed \$28,355.00; and

WHEREAS, the funds are available to satisfy our obligations under this contract through Bond Ordinance No. 12-752.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove authorizes the Township of Cedar Grove to purchase from the National Intergovernmental Purchasing Alliance the purchase of Caterpillar generator from Foley, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$28,355.00.

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

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

NO: None

- b) To consider resolution concerning award of contract for professional engineering design services for replacement of pedestrian footbridge at Public Library

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

WHEREAS, The Township has a need for professional engineering design services for the Pedestrian Footbridge at Public Library project; and

WHEREAS, two proposals were received by the Municipal Engineer as follows; and

<u>PROPOSER</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Keller & Kirkpatrick	\$ 16,500
Petry Engineering	\$ 26,200

WHEREAS, the Municipal Engineer and the Township Manager have recommended that a contract for the above referenced professional services be awarded to Keller & Kirkpatrick; and

WHEREAS, funds are now available for this purpose in Bond Ordinance No. 15-783.

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, Essex County, New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Township Manager is hereby authorized and directed to execute an agreement with Keller & Kirkpatrick of Morris Plains, New Jersey, for an amount not to exceed \$ 16,500.00 in accordance with the proposal dated August 24, 2015.

2. This agreement is awarded as a “Professional Service” in accordance with 40A:11-5(1)(a) of the Local Public Contracts Law because of the technical nature of the professional services required for this project; and
3. A notice of this agreement shall be published in the Verona-Cedar Grove Times as required by law.

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

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

NO: None

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Chiusolo opened this portion of the meeting to anyone wishing to be heard.

George Stafford; 16 Kitchell Ave., Wharton, Outreach Director for New Jersey Highlands Coalition – Mr. Stafford requested the governing body consider a resolution of support of the goals, policies and objectives of the 2004 Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act and Highlands Regional Master Plan.

There being no one else present wishing to be heard, Mayor Chiusolo 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 26, 2015.
2. The general nature of the subject matters to be discussed is PBA negotiations and personnel regarding Municipal Judge.
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.

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

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

NO: None

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being nothing further to discuss, the staff council meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m. by acclaim.