

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

PUBLIC MEETING

MINUTES

JULY 13, 2020

1. ROLL CALL, INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE

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

Present: Councilmen Cicala, Maceri, Zichelli, Mayor Peterson

Also Present: Township Manager Tucci, Township Attorney Semeraro, Township Clerk Stutz

Absent: Deputy Mayor Tanella

The flag salute was led by Mayor Peterson.

Mayor Peterson 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 26, 2019, updated July 9, 2020, 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. EXTRAORDINARY BUSINESS

a) Ceremonial Administration of Oath to Councilmember

Kevin J. O'Toole, Esq. administered oath of office to Joseph Zichelli. Former Senator O'Toole described Councilman Zichelli as hardworking, life-long native of the Township, and wise beyond his years. Mr. O'Toole also commended the governing body's decision to appoint Joseph Zichelli to the Council vacancy. Councilman Zichelli thanked his family for their support. Councilman Zichelli also thanked Kevin O'Toole for providing tutorship and mentoring, Al Barlas for his guidance and friendship, and his high school and law school friends. Councilman Zichelli also thanked the governing body for his appointment and stated that his is honored to have the opportunity to serve with the current governing body and administration.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a) To consider approval of minutes of regular public meeting of June 1, 2020

Councilman Cicala moved approval of the minutes, seconded by Councilman Maceri, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmen Cicala, Maceri, Mayor Peterson

NO: None

ABSTAIN: Councilman Zichelli

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Tanella

b) To consider approval of minutes of special public meeting of June 15, 2020

Councilman Cicala moved approval of the minutes, seconded by Councilman Maceri, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmen Cicala, Maceri, Mayor Peterson

NO: None

ABSTAIN: Councilman Zichelli

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Tanella

4. PUBLIC HEARING

- a) To consider adoption of Pending Bond Ord. Ordinance #20-861 – Reconstruction of Ozone Ave.

The ordinance was read by title only as follows:

BOND ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE RECONSTRUCTION OF OZONE AVENUE IN AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF CEDAR GROVE, IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$275,000 THEREFORE AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$20,000 BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.

There being a lack of quorum for adoption, the public hearing and adoption was postponed until the next regular public meeting August 17, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

- b) To consider adoption of Pending Ord. #20-862 – 2020 Salary Grades and Ranges, Wages and Fees of Municipal Officers and Employees

The ordinance was read by title only as follows:

AN ORDINANCE FIXING SALARY GRADES AND RANGES, WAGES AND FEES OF THE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CEDAR GROVE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020.

Mayor Peterson opened the public hearing on this item. There being no one present wishing to be heard, Mayor Peterson closed the public hearing.

Councilman Cicala moved that the ordinance be adopted at second reading, published in the Verona-Cedar Grove Times as a passed ordinance to take effect as prescribed by law, seconded by Councilman Maceri, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmen Cicala, Maceri, Zichelli, Mayor Peterson

NO: None

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Tanella

- c) To consider adoption of Pending Ord. #20-863 – Amending Chapter 251 of the Township Code entitled “Vehicles and Traffic”

The ordinance was read by title only as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CEDAR GROVE, COUNTY OF ESSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTER 251 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED "SCHEDULE I: NO PARKING"

Mayor Peterson opened the public hearing on this item. There being no one present wishing to be heard, Mayor Peterson closed the public hearing.

Councilman Maceri moved that the ordinance be adopted at second reading, published in the Verona-Cedar Grove Times as a passed ordinance to take effect as prescribed by law, seconded by Councilman Cicala, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmen Cicala, Maceri, Zichelli, Mayor Peterson

NO: None

ABSTAIN: Deputy Mayor Tanella

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

Mayor Peterson 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 Peterson closed this portion of the meeting.

6. REPORTS OF TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

- a) Township Manager – The Manager noted an annual block party request for Upland Way, to which the governing body agreed. Mr. Tucci also congratulated Councilman Zichelli on his appointment.
- b) Township Clerk – The Clerk noted a resident request for resolution/proclamation for 100th anniversary of League of Women Voters, to which the governing body agreed.
- c) Township Attorney – No report
- d) Other Reports

Councilman Maceri requested status updates on construction of athletic field at LRP and Rt. 23 paving. Mr. Tucci advised that a meeting is scheduled for Thursday to determine construction dates. Mr. Tucci advised that the scheduled paving of Rt. 23 has been delayed until first week of August.

Councilman Cicala requested that business owners get notified of specific paving dates. The Manager advised that the State has been requested to adjust paving hours to minimize impact on business in downtown business area.

Councilman Zichelli commented on positive feedback regarding the fireworks display.

Mayor Peterson requested information regarding bench installation at Panther Park, which the Manager provided. Mayor Peterson commented on a resident's successful FaceBook solicitation of

donations for meals for police officers. Mayor Peterson also noted correspondence from a resident requesting lining of current tennis courts for pickleball. During discussion of the request, the Manager recommended that the Township pursue alternate location specific to pickleball.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

- a) To consider resolution concerning approval of raffle applications – Cedar Grove Elks

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

WHEREAS, applications for raffle licenses have been received from:

APPLICANTS

EVENTS, DATES TIMES & PLACE

Cedar Grove Elks Lodge #2237
405 Bowden Rd.
Cedar Grove NJ 07009

Instant Raffle for September 1, 2020
through August 31, 2021 to be held at
405 Bowden Rd., Cedar Grove NJ 07009

Cedar Grove Elks Lodge #2237
405 Bowden Rd.
Cedar Grove NJ 07009

Off-Premise 50/50 to be held on
September 12, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. at
405 Bowden Rd., Cedar Grove NJ 07009

WHEREAS, the fees have been paid, and the applications has been reviewed by the Township Clerk and found acceptable.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove that it does hereby approve said applications.

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

AYE: Councilmen Cicala, Maceri, Zichelli, Mayor Peterson

NO: None

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Tanella

- b) To consider resolution concerning approval of raffle license amendment – Parent Faculty Assoc. of Mt. St. Dominic Academy

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

WHEREAS, amendment applications for previously issued raffle licenses have been received from Parent Faculty Assoc. of Mount St. Dominic Academy to change the date of the raffles; and

WHEREAS, amendment applications are required to be approved in the same manner as initial application; and

WHEREAS, the amendment applications have been reviewed by the Township Clerk and found acceptable.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove that it does hereby approve said amendments.

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

AYE: Councilmen Cicala, Maceri, Zichelli, Deputy Mayor Tanella, Mayor Peterson

NO: None

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Tanella

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a) To consider resolution concerning submission/execution of 2021 NJDOT grant application/agreement

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

Approval to submit a grant application and execute a grant agreement with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Improvements to South Mountain Avenue project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, formally approves the grant application for the above stated project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as MA-2021-Cedar Grove Township-00581 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Township of Cedar Grove.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Township of Cedar Grove and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

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

AYE: Councilmen Cicala, Maceri, Zichelli, Mayor Peterson

NO: None

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Tanella

- b) To consider resolution concerning 2020 salaries of unrepresented employees

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

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove did adopt Ordinance No. 20-862 fixing salary grades and ranges, wages and fees of the officers and employees of the Township of Cedar Grove; and

WHEREAS, said ordinance provides that the Township Council shall, by resolution, fix the salary of each officer and employee within the salary ranges as set forth in Section One of the Salary Ordinance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove that the salaries as hereinafter enumerated shall constitute the salaries for Fiscal Year 2020 for the officer and employees covered under Section One, Group I, of the Salary Ordinance.

<u>GRADE</u>	<u>JOB CLASSIFICATION</u>	<u>MINIMUM</u>	<u>MAXIMUM</u>
1	Clerical Assistant Building Maintenance Worker	\$34,628.	\$43,448.
3	Accounting/Payroll Assistant Assistant to the Township Clerk Department Secretary Tax/Utility Accounting Assistant Recreation Coordinator	\$37,874.	\$55,130.
4	Recreation Maintenance Worker	\$39,771.	\$57,685.
5	Communications Officer Planning/Zoning Coordinator Deputy Court Administrator/Clerk Health/Sr. Transportation	\$42,782.	\$63,630.
8	Assistant Municipal Treasurer Building Inspector Senior Recreation/Pool Coordinator Records Clerk-Police	\$48,970.	\$70,973.
9	Municipal Court Administrator Deputy Municipal Tax Collector Assistant Recreation Director Administrative Secretary	\$55,167.	\$81,864.

EMPLOYEE	SALARY	GRADE		JOB TITLE
Besofsky, Laurie	\$42,586.	3	---	Asst. to Twp. Clerk
Cafarella, Joseph	45,748.	3	---	Accounting/Payroll Asst.
Conti, Marie	46,737.	3	---	Tax/Utility Acct., Asst.
Fabrazzo, John	48,141.	3	---	Recreation Co-ordinator
McCarthy, Karen	50,901.	3	---	Dept.Sec.,Public Works
Meding, Martina	51,814.	3	---	Dept. Sec.,Build Dept.
Stefanelli, Emil	48,483.	3	---	Bldg.Maint.Worker/Bus Dr.
Demarest, Courtney	\$50,319.	5	---	Deputy Court Admin.
Maddaloni, Jackie	59,715.	5	---	Planning/Zoning Co.
Riou, Debra	49,852.	5	---	Health/Sr.Trans.Adm.
Fields, Susan	72,646.	8	---	Asst.Mun.Treasurer
Perez Sasha	49,955.	8	---	Records Clerk-Police
LaCapra, Antoinette	71,226.	9	---	Adm. Secretary
Platvoet, Theresa	67,774.	9	---	Court Administrator
Verregia, Suzanne	56,270.	9	---	Asst. Rec. Director
Walsh, Nancy	75,381.	9	---	Dept.Mun,Tax Coltr.

DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS

<u>GRADE</u>	<u>JOB CLASSIFICATION</u>	<u>MINIMUM</u>	<u>MAXIMUM</u>	
10	Director of Assessments Director of Recreation Director of Com. Develp. Dir./ Construction Official	\$66,137.	\$98,255.	
11	Dir. Of Finance/Tax Collector/ CMFO Municipal Engineer	\$81,158.	\$148,610.	
		<u>SALARY</u>	<u>GRADE</u>	<u>JOB TITLE</u>
Hamilton, Richard	\$ 85,083.	10	---	Director of Assessments
Landolfi, Marisa	\$ 72,346.	10	---	Director of Recreation
D'Ascensio, John	\$ 95, 280.	10	---	Community Development/ Construction Official

Homa, William	\$148,610.	11	---	Director of Finance/Tax Collector/CMFO
Palumbo, Alex	\$135,506	11	---	Dir. of DPW/Eng.

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

<u>GRADE</u>	<u>JOB CLASSIFICATION</u>	<u>MINIUM</u>	<u>MAXIMUM</u>
L-2	Library Assistant	\$18,172.	\$46,155.
L-3	Technical Library Assistant	\$22,966.	\$49,913.
L-4	Senior Library Assistant	\$27,560.	\$55,031.
L-5	Principal Library Assistant Administrative Services	\$31,006.	\$60,152.
L-6	Supervising Library Assistant	\$33,303.	\$67,830.
L-7	Library Specialist	\$35,599.	\$72,919.
L-8	Children’s Librarian	\$40,193.	\$76,787.
L-9	Senior Children’s Librarian	\$43,638.	\$83,291.
L-10	Supervising Librarian	\$49,486.	\$90,968.
L-12	Library Director	\$64,308.	\$110,415.

	<u>SALARY</u>	<u>GRADE</u>		<u>JOB TITLE</u>
Wolverton, Catherine	\$95,696.	12	---	Library Director
Cheetham, Natalie	\$60,579.	8	---	Children’s Librarian
DeVingo, Patricia	\$53,058.	6	---	Supervising Lib. Asst.
Falcone, Francine	\$49,379.	5	---	Adm. Services
Longo, Ursula	\$44,108.	4	---	Sr. Lib. Asst.

Councilman Maceri moved adoption of the resolution, seconded by Councilman Zichelli, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmen Cicala, Maceri, Zichelli, Mayor Peterson

NO: None

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Tanella

9. 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 \$4,492,308.95

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

AYE: Councilmen Cicala, Maceri, Zichelli, Mayor Peterson

NO: None

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Tanella

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

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

Kate Hartwyk; Essex County Liaison – Ms. Hartwyk provided mobile COVID testing site information and County emergency food distribution information. Ms. Hartwyk also announced that Turtle Back Zoo will be holding its summer camps at a reduced capacity.

Jackie Palmieri; 69 Ozone Ave. – Ms. Palmieri commented that lining existing tennis courts for pickleball use seemed a cost effective way to provide pickleball courts.

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

11. ADJOURNMENT

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

AYE: Councilmen Cicala, Maceri, Zichelli, Mayor Peterson

NO: None

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Tanella

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

KERRY PETERSON MAYOR

ATTEST:

KATHLEEN R. STUTZ MUNICIPAL CLERK