

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

REORGANIZATION MEETING

MINUTES

JULY 2, 2018

1. ROLL CALL AND FLAG SALUTE

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

Present: Councilmember Peterson, Vargo, Deputy Mayor Cicala, Mayor Tanella

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

Absent: Councilman Kumburis

The flag salute was led by Deputy 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 28, 2017, 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 OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

(a) To consider resolution designating the Mayor

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, Essex County, New Jersey that Joseph Cicala be and is hereby chosen to preside at all meetings of the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, and that he be and is hereby appointed the Mayor of the Township of Cedar Grove for a one-year term, effective July 1, 2018 and terminating July 1, 2019.

Councilman Vargo moved adoption of the resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Peterson, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmember Cicala, Peterson, Vargo, Mayor Tanella

ABSENT: Councilman Kumburis

Judge John Zunic, Esq. administered the oath of office to Mayor Cicala.

(b) To consider resolution designating the Deputy Mayor

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, Essex County, New Jersey, that Robbie Vargo be and is hereby chosen in the absence of the Mayor of the Township of Cedar Grove to preside in his place and stead at all meetings of the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, and that he is hereby designated the Deputy Mayor of the Township of Cedar Grove for a one-year term effective July 1, 2018 and terminating July 1, 2019.

Councilwoman Peterson moved adoption of the resolution, seconded by Councilman Tanella, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmember Peterson, Tanella, Vargo, Mayor Cicala

NO: None

ABSENT: Councilman Kumburis

Councilwoman Peterson administered the oath of office to Deputy Mayor Vargo.

(c) Presentation to Outgoing Mayor

Mayor Cicala presented outgoing Mayor Tanella with a plaque and commended him for his service to the community.

(d) Comments from Councilmembers

Mayor Cicala thanked his family, friends, and residents for their support and noted that he is in his ninth year of elected public service. Mayor Cicala commented that he considers it an honor and privilege to serve. Mayor Cicala especially thanked former Mayor Tanella for his support, leadership and guidance during Mayor Cicala's tenure on the governing body. Mayor Cicala also thanked the Township Manager for his professional leadership and unwavering loyalty to the Township and its residents. Mayor Cicala further thanked the Police Department, municipal employees, Fire Department and Ambulance & Rescue Squad volunteers for their service to the Township. Mayor Cicala acknowledged the presence of District 40 legislative representatives, Senator Kristen Corrado, Assemblyman Kevin Rooney, and Christopher DePhillips. Mayor Cicala thanked Judge John Zunic for administering his oath and the Judge's past service to the Township as Councilman, Deputy Mayor, and Mayor. Mayor Cicala cited several highlights realized in the past year, infrastructure improvements on Cedar Street, road overlay on numerous North End roadways, opening of dialogue with City of Newark regarding purchase of 40 acres of Newark-owned watershed property, hiring of two new police officers, launching of youtube channel for viewing Council meetings, Downtown Advisory Committee hosted its first event, and a joint meeting with the Board of Education and Township Council. Mayor Cicala further noted that the Township has one of the lowest local tax rate in Essex County for the sixth year. Mayor Cicala that during his term he will focus on communication with residents, and stated commented on upcoming projects, including demolition of existing South End Firehouse and reconstruction of a new firehouse, installation of new emergency communication system, co-ordinating with the Board of Education to construct a new turf athletic field behind LRP school. Mayor Cicala stated that the Township faces challenges, particularly regarding COAH. Mayor Cicala further pledged to meet all upcoming challenges with transparency, integrity and unity.

Deputy Mayor Vargo thanked fellow councilmembers for their support in selecting him to serve as Deputy Mayor. Deputy Mayor Vargo congratulated Mayor Cicala and stated that he looks forward to serving alongside of the new Mayor. Deputy Mayor Vargo thanked Councilman Tanella

for his service, not only to the Township, but fellow councilmembers as a mentor and teacher. Deputy Mayor Vargo thanked the entire Council, particularly Councilwoman Peterson, his family; wife and three sons for allowing him to serve. Deputy Mayor Vargo also commented that there are hard decisions coming up for Township and has confidence that the current Council is up to the tasks.

Councilwoman Peterson offered congratulations to both the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and thanked Councilman Tanella for his mentorship.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

- (a) To consider resolution appointing Class I member to the Planning Board

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, Essex County, New Jersey that Joseph Cicala is hereby appointed as the Council Class I Member to the Planning Board of Cedar Grove effective immediately and terminating July 1, 2019.

Deputy Mayor Vargo moved adoption of the resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Peterson, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmember Peterson, Tanella, Deputy Mayor Vargo, Mayor Cicala

NO: None

ABSENT: Councilman Kumburis

- (b) To consider resolution appointing Council Liaison member to the Board of Education

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, Essex County, New Jersey, that Joseph Cicala be hereby re-appointed to serve as the Council Liaison Member to the Board of Education for a one-year term, effective immediately and terminating July 1, 2019.

Deputy Mayor Vargo moved adoption of the resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Peterson, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmember Peterson, Tanella, Deputy Mayor Vargo, Mayor Cicala

NO: None

ABSENT: Councilman Kumburis

- (c) To consider resolution re-appointing Council Liaison member to the Historical Society

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, Essex County, New Jersey that Joseph Cicala is hereby re-appointed as the Council Liaison member to the Cedar Grove Historical Society effective immediately and terminating July 1, 2019.

Deputy Mayor Vargo moved adoption of the resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Peterson, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmember Peterson, Tanella, Deputy Mayor Vargo, Mayor Cicala

NO: None

ABSENT: Councilman Kumburis

- (d) To consider resolution re-appointing Council Liaison member to Cedar Ridge Senior Citizens

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, Essex County, New Jersey, that Robbie Vargo is hereby appointed to serve as the Council Liaison Member to the Cedar Ridge Senior Citizens, effective immediately and terminating July 1, 2019.

Deputy Mayor Vargo moved adoption of the resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Peterson, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmember Peterson, Tanella, Deputy Mayor Vargo, Mayor Cicala

NO: None

ABSENT: Councilman Kumburis

- (e) To consider resolution re-appointing Council Liaison member to the Advisory Health Council

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, Essex County, New Jersey, that Kerry Peterson be hereby appointed to serve as the Council Liaison member to the Advisory Health Council for a one-year term effective immediately and terminating July 1, 2019.

Deputy Mayor Vargo moved adoption of the resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Peterson, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmember Peterson, Tanella, Deputy Mayor Vargo, Mayor Cicala

NO: None

ABSENT: Councilman Kumburis

- (f) To consider resolution re-appointing Council Liaison member to the Municipal Alliance Committee

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, Essex County, New Jersey, that Kerry Peterson be hereby re-appointed to serve as the Council Member on the Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention Committee for a one-year term, effective immediately and terminating July 1, 2019.

Deputy Mayor Vargo moved adoption of the resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Peterson, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmember Peterson, Tanella, Deputy Mayor Vargo, Mayor Cicala

NO: None

ABSENT: Councilman Kumburis

(g) To consider resolution re-appointing Council Liaison member to Library Board of Trustees

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, Essex County, New Jersey, that Kerry Peterson be hereby appointed to serve as the Council Liaison member to the Library Board of Trustees for a one-year term effective immediately and terminating July 1, 2019.

Deputy Mayor Vargo moved adoption of the resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Peterson, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmember Peterson, Tanella, Deputy Mayor Vargo, Mayor Cicala

NO: None

ABSENT: Councilman Kumburis

(h) To consider resolution appointing Class III member to the Planning Board

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, Essex County, New Jersey, that Peter Tanella is hereby appointed to serve as the Class III member to the Planning Board of Cedar Grove effective immediately and terminating July 1, 2019.

Deputy Mayor Vargo moved adoption of the resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Peterson, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmember Peterson, Tanella, Deputy Mayor Vargo, Mayor Cicala

NO: None

ABSENT: Councilman Kumburis

(i) To consider resolution re-appointment of Council Liaison member to Recreation Advisory Board

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

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, Essex County, New Jersey that Peter Tanella be hereby re-appointed to serve as the Council Liaison Member on the Recreation Advisory Board, effective immediately and terminating July 1, 2019.

Deputy Mayor Vargo moved adoption of the resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Peterson, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmember Peterson, Tanella, Deputy Mayor Vargo, Mayor Cicala

NO: None

ABSENT: Councilman Kumburis

(j) To consider resolution concerning appointment of Emergency Management Council

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, Essex County, New Jersey, that it does hereby appoint/re-appoint the following individuals to Cedar Grove’s Emergency Management Council effective immediately through July 1, 2010:

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Joseph Cicala | Mayor |
| Thomas J. Tucci, Jr. | Township Manager |
| John D’Ascensio | Construction Official |
| Sue Portuese | Health Official |
| Joseph Cirasa | Police Chief |
| John Bannon | Fire Chief |
| Samdy Huber | Ambulance & Rescue Squad |
| Jerry Vitiello | Supt. of Public Works |
| Alex Palumbo | Municipal Engineer |

Deputy Mayor Vargo moved adoption of the resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Peterson, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmember Peterson, Tanella, Deputy Mayor Vargo, Mayor Cicala

NO: None

ABSENT: Councilman Kumburis

4. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

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

Mayor Cicala opened this portion of the meeting to anyone wishing to be heard. There being no one present wishing to be heard, Mayor Cicala closed this portion of the meeting.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Councilwoman Peterson moved adjournment of the public council meeting, seconded by Councilman Tanella, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmember Peterson, Tanella, Deputy Mayor Vargo, Mayor Cicala

NO: None

The public meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

JOSEPH CICALA

MAYOR

ATTEST:

KATHLEEN R. STUTZ MUNICIPAL CLERK