

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

COUNCIL STAFF MEETING

MINUTES

APRIL 18, 2022

1. ROLL CALL – OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT BY MAYOR

Mayor Tanella 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: Councilmember Peterson, Skabich, Zichelli, Deputy Mayor Maceri, Mayor Tanella
Also Present: Township Manager Tucci, Attorney Giacobbe for Township Attorney Nabbie

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a) Executive Session – March 21, 2022 - Interview

Councilman Zichelli moved approval of the minutes as presented, seconded by Councilwoman Peterson, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmember Peterson, Skabich, Zichelli, Mayor Tanella

NO: None

ABSTAIN: Deputy Mayor Maceri

b) Staff Meeting – March 21, 2022

Councilman Zichelli moved approval of the minutes as presented, seconded by Councilwoman Skabich, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmember Peterson, Skabich, Zichelli, Mayor Tanella

NO: None

ABSTAIN: Deputy Mayor Maceri

c) Executive Session – March 21, 2022

Councilman Zichelli moved approval of the minutes as presented, seconded by Councilwoman Peterson, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmember Peterson, Skabich, Zichelli, Mayor Tanella

NO: NONE

ABSTAIN: Deputy Mayor Maceri

d) Executive Session – April 4, 2022

Councilwoman Peterson moved approval of the minutes as presented, seconded by Councilman Zichelli, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmember Peterson, Skabich, Zichelli, Deputy Mayor Maceri, Mayor Tanella

NO: None

3. TOWNSHIP MANAGER – The Manager advised annual Arbor Day event is scheduled for April 29th at Community Park at 4:00 p.m. The Manager announced Police Department promotions resulting from recommended re-organization. Mr. Tucci noted that he will be on vacation from 4/19-4/26 and Police Chief Kennedy will serve as Acting Manager.

4. TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY – No report

5. TOWNSHIP CLERK – No report

6. COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Zichelli noted upcoming Historical Society presentation on Farming in Cedar Grove on 4/27 at 7:0 p.m. at the Public Library. Councilman Zichelli requested an executive session to discuss a personnel matter, potential litigation, and contract negotiation.

Councilwoman Peterson noted that the Municipal Alliance Committee has scheduled an Opioids presentation at Community Church.

Councilwoman Skabich provided an update on proposed Community Garden.

Deputy Mayor Maceri noted that UNICO conducted an Easter Egg Hunt.

Mayor Tanella – Mayor Tanella requested an executive session to discuss a potential litigation matter.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a) To consider resolution concerning re-appointment of Municipal Judge

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove of Essex, New Jersey, that NICHOLAS BRINDISI be and is hereby re-appointed as the Municipal Court Judge of the Township of Cedar Grove, with all the powers and duties pertaining to said office, to serve for a three-year term, commencing September 22, 2021 and terminating September 22, 2024.

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

AYE: Councilmember Peterson, Skabich, Zichelli, Deputy Mayor Maceri, Mayor Tanella
 NO: None

- b) To consider resolution concerning approval of raffle applications – St Catherine of Siena Church

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:

<u>APPLICANT</u>	<u>EVENT, DATE, TIME, AND PLACE</u>
St. Catherine of Siena Church 339 Pompton Ave. Cedar Grove, NJ 07009	Non-Draw Wheels June 2, 3, 4, 2022 at 6:00 – 10:00 p.m. and June 4, 2022 at 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. at 339 Pompton Ave., Cedar Grove NJ
St. Catherine of Siena Church 339 Pompton Ave. Cedar Grove, NJ 07009	On-Premise 50/50 June 2, 3 4, 2022 at 6:00 – 10:00 p.m. and June 5 at 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. at 339 Pompton Ave., Cedar Grove NJ

WHEREAS the fees have been paid, the 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 applications.

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

AYE: Councilmember Peterson, Skabich, Zichelli, Mayor Tanella

NO: None

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Maceri

8. 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 \$ 5,182,451.69.

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

AYE: Councilmember Peterson, Skabich, Zichelli, Deputy Mayor Maceri, Mayor Tanella
NO: None

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Tanella opened this portion of the meeting to any one wishing to be heard.

Patrick Clough; 143 Little Falls Road – Mr. Clough expressed concern regarding the height of the riverbank restoration near the tennis courts which creates basins behind the courts.

There being no one else present 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 in the Executive Session of the Meeting of the Mayor and Council of April 18, 2022.
2. The general nature of the subject matters to be discussed are personnel, potential litigation, and contract negotiation.
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 Zichelli moved adoption of the resolution, seconded by Deputy Mayor Maceri, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmember Peterson, Skabich, Zichelli, Deputy Mayor Maceri, Mayor Tanella
NO: None

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being nothing further to discuss, the staff council meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m. by acclaim.