

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

PUBLIC MEETING

MINUTES

JANUARY 9, 2023

1. ROLL CALL, INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Maceri called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Present: Councilmember Peterson, Skabich, Tanella, Mayor Maceri

Also Present: Acting Township Manager Palumbo, Township Attorney Nabbie, Deputy
Township Clerk Forde

Absent: Deputy Mayor Zichelli

The flag salute was led by Mayor Maceri.

Mayor Maceri 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 22, 2022, 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 minutes of regular meeting of December 5, 2022.

Councilman Tanella moved for the approval of the minutes, seconded by Councilwoman Peterson and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmember Peterson, Skabich, Tanella

NO: None

ABSTAIN: Mayor Maceri

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Zichelli

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

None

4. REPORTS OF TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

a) Acting Township Manager – No Report.

b) Township Clerk – The Deputy Township Clerk reported the 2023 Municipal Election was scheduled for May 9, 2023 for two expiring Councilman-at-Large seats. She reported candidate packet availability would be posted on the Township’s website and in the Verona-Cedar Grove Times and the deadline for filing nominating petitions in the Clerk’s Office was March 6, 2023 by 4:00 PM.

She reported that she was working with Bd. of Elections regarding the relocation of two polling sites. She reported District 2 would be moved to the O'Toole Community Ctr. at 199 Fairview due to the demolition and construction of North End Fire House. She reported District. 9 would be moved to the South End Fire House at 158 Pompton Ave permanently. She reported Governor Murphy signed legislation allowing minors between the ages of 16 and 18 to be employed as election workers between the hours of 5:30 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. on a day that an election is held and encouraged residents to get their children involved.

c) Township Attorney – No Report. The Township Attorney requested an Executive Session to discuss litigation and contracts.

d) Other Reports

Councilwoman Skabich – Councilwoman Skabich acknowledged the passing of C.A.T.V. Committee Member Thomas Grabas and requested a moment of silence.

Councilwoman Peterson – No report.

Councilman Tanella – No Report.

Mayor Maceri – Mayor Maceri reported the Township was in the process of posting and vetting RFPs for design and renovation of the basketball courts on Little Falls Road. Mayor Maceri reported they would be completely resurfaced and striped and backboards, basketball rims and lighting would be installed. He indicated weather permitting, it would be done before the summer. Mayor Maceri reported the Township would post and vet RFPs to design and completely reconstruct and renovate the field at Community Park to fit a 50/70 and 60/90 baseball field and other multipurpose field. Mayor Maceri indicated there were plans for a Community Center at the upper portion of the Park. Mayor Maceri reported the Township was moving forward with a community garden which should be up and running this year at Morgan's Farm. Mayor Maceri reported the Township intended on listing the VFW on Green Acres inventory to reduce any future affordable housing.

5. NEW BUSINESS

a) To consider resolution concerning 2023 Cash Management Plan.

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

CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, County of Essex, that for the year 2023, the following shall serve as the cash management plan of the Township of Cedar Grove.

1. Cash Management and Investment Objectives

The Township of Cedar Grove objectives in this area are:

- A. Preservation of capital.
- B. Adequate safekeeping of assets.
- C. Maintenance of liquidity to meet operating needs.
- D. Diversification of the Township's portfolio to minimize risks associated with individual investments.
- E. Investment of assets in accordance with State and Federal Laws and regulations.

2. Designation of Official Depositories

1. The following Government Unit Depository Protection Act approved banks are authorized depositories for deposit of funds:

PNC Bank	570 Pompton Avenue, Cedar Grove, N.J.
TD Bank	85 Pompton Avenue, Cedar Grove, N.J.
Bank of America	508 Pompton Avenue, Cedar Grove, N.J.
Santander	532 Pompton Avenue, Cedar Grove, N.J.
State of N.J. Cash Mgmt Fund	State Street Bank and Trust P.O. Box 5994, Boston MA 02206-5994
Valley	491 Pompton Avenue, Cedar Grove, N.J.
Investors Bank	310 Pompton Avenue, Cedar Grove, N.J.
Columbia Bank	1027 Pompton Avenue, Cedar Grove, NJ
Chase Bank	664 Pompton Avenue, Cedar Grove, NJ

2. Designated official depositories are required to submit to the Chief Financial Officer, a copy of the Governmental Unit Deposit Protection Act Notification of eligibility, which is filed semi-annually with the Department of Banking each June 30th and December 31st of each year.

3. CASH MANAGEMENT

1. All funds shall be deposited within 48 hours of receipt in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-15.

2. The Chief Financial Officer shall minimize the possibility of idle cash accumulating in accounts by assuring that the amounts in excess of negotiated compensating balances are kept in interest bearing accounts or promptly swept into the investment portfolio.

3. The method of calculating banking fees and compensating balances shall be reviewed on a monthly basis.

4. Investment decisions shall be guided by the cash flow projections prepared by the Chief Financial Officer.

4. PERMISSIBLE INVESTMENTS

1. Bonds or other obligations of the United States of America or obligations guaranteed the United States of America.

- 2. Government money market mutual funds.
 - 3. Any federal agency or instrumentality obligation authorized by Congress that matures within 397 days from the date of purchase, and has a fixed rate of interest not dependent on any index or external factors.
 - 4. Bonds or other obligations of the local unit or school districts of which the local unit is a part.
 - 5. Any other obligations with maturities not exceeding 397 days, as permitted by the Division of Investments.
 - 6. Local Government investment pools.
 - 7. New Jersey Cash Management Fund
 - 8. Repurchase agreements of fully collateralized securities.
5. AUTHORITY FOR INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

1. The Chief Financial Officer is authorized and directed to make investments on behalf of the Township. All investment decisions shall be consistent with this plan and all appropriate regulatory constraints.

6. SAFEKEEPING

1. Securities purchased on behalf of the Township shall be delivered electronically or physically to the Township's custodial bank, which shall maintain custodial and/or safekeeping accounts for such securities on behalf of the Township.

7. AUDIT

1. The Cash Management Plan shall be subject to annual audit conducted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14.

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

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

- b) To consider resolution concerning 2022 Petty Cash Funds.

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 hereby authorizes the establishment of a petty cash fund for the following departments in the amounts set forth effective January 1, 2023.

Finance Department	\$120.00
Engineering Department	\$100.00
Police Department	\$100.00
Library	\$100.00
Recreation	\$ 60.00

WHEREAS, a check will be drawn by the Treasurer of the Township of Cedar Grove establishing a petty cash fund, which will not be charged to a budget appropriation, but will create an asset on the Current Fund Balance Sheet known as “Cash-Petty Cash Fund”.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, Essex County, New Jersey, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-21 that petty cash funds be established in the aggregate of \$480.00.

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

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

- c) To consider resolution concerning approval of raffle application – Justine Time Foundation.

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

WHEREAS, an application for raffle license has been received from:

APPLICANTS

EVENTS, DATES TIMES & PLACE

Justine Time Foundation
 1 Lafayette Drive
 Cedar Grove NJ 07009

Off-Premise Merchandise Raffle to be held
 March 31, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at
 1 Lafayette Drive, Cedar Grove, NJ 07009

WHEREAS, the fees have been paid, and the application 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 application.

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

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

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Zichelli

- d) To consider resolution concerning approval of raffle application – CGHS Lacrosse Booster Club.

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

WHEREAS, an application for raffle license has been received from:

APPLICANTS

EVENTS, DATES TIMES & PLACE

CGHS Lacrosse Booster Club
90 Rugby Rd
Cedar Grove NJ 07009

Off-Premise 50/50 Raffle to be held
May 2, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. at
90 Rugby Rd, Cedar Grove, NJ 07009

WHEREAS, the fees have been paid, and the application 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 application.

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

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

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a) To consider introduction of Pending Ordinance #23-903 – An Ordinance Amending Chapter 52 Of the Code of The Township of Cedar Grove, Entitled “Personnel” In Order to Revise Official Holidays Observed By The Township Of Cedar Grove.

The ordinance was read by title only as follows:

PENDING ORDINANCE #23-903

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 52 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CEDAR GROVE, ENTITLED “PERSONNEL” IN ORDER TO REVISE OFFICIAL HOLIDAYS OBSERVED BY THE TOWNSHIP OF CEDAR GROVE

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

Section 1.

The Code of the Township of Cedar Grove, Chapter 52-34, entitled "Official Holidays" is hereby deleted in its entirety and the following is adopted in its place and stead:

- (1) The following Official Holidays with pay shall be observed by the Township for actively working employees: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Juneteenth, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day.
- (2) In addition to the above the Township shall observe six (6) floating holidays which shall be designated each year by the Township.
Section 2.

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

Underline denotes addition.

Councilman Tanella moved that the ordinance be passed on first reading, published in the Verona-Cedar Grove Times as a pending ordinance with a public hearing of February 6, 2023, seconded by Councilwoman Skabich, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmember Peterson, Skabich, Tanella, Mayor Maceri

NO: None

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Zichelli

- b) To consider resolution concerning refund of tax overpayment – 2 Yorkshire Dr.

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

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector of Township of Cedar Grove has received a request to refund the overpayment, and

WHEREAS, a homeowner/entity has overpaid his property taxes in 2022 on the property tax account; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector would like to Issue a tax refund to the owner / entity acting on behalf of the owner requesting the refund.

Location	Block	Lot	Overpayment
2 Yorkshire Drive	49	60	\$38.83

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove that the tax Collector is hereby authorized to refund the overpayment in the amount of \$38.83.

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

AYE: Councilmember Peterson, Skabich, Tanella, Mayor Maceri

NO: None

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Zichelli

- c) To consider resolution concerning refund of tax overpayment – 97 Bowden Rd.

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

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector of Township of Cedar Grove has received a request to refund the overpayment, and

WHEREAS, a homeowner has overpaid his property taxes in 2022 on the property tax account; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector would like to Issue a tax refund to the owner / entity acting on behalf of the owner requesting the refund.

Location	Block	Lot	Overpayment
97 Bowden Road	223	11	\$3,085.49

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove that the tax Collector is hereby authorized to refund the overpayment in the amount of \$3,085.49.

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

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

- d) To consider resolution concerning refund of tax overpayment – 473 Fairview Ave.

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

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector of Township of Cedar Grove has received a request to refund the overpayment, and

WHEREAS, a homeowner/entity has overpaid his property taxes in 2022 on the property tax account; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector would like to Issue a tax refund to the owner / entity acting on behalf of the owner requesting the refund.

Location	Block	Lot	Overpayment
473 Fairview Avenue	192	5	\$1,038.51

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove that the tax Collector is hereby authorized to refund the overpayment in the amount of \$1,038.51.

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

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

- e) To consider resolution concerning refund of tax overpayment – 50-12 W. Lindsley Rd.

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

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector of Township of Cedar Grove has received a request to refund the overpayment, and

WHEREAS, a homeowner has overpaid his property taxes in 2022 on the property tax account; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector would like to Issue a tax refund to the owner / entity acting on behalf of the owner requesting the refund.

Location	Block	Lot	Overpayment
50-12 West Lindsley Road	340	178	\$1,668.54

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove that the tax Collector is hereby authorized to refund the overpayment in the amount of \$1,668.54.

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

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

- f) To consider resolution concerning refund of tax overpayment – 36 Mountain Way.

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

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector of Township of Cedar Grove has received a request to refund the overpayment, and

WHEREAS, a homeowner/entity has overpaid his property taxes in 2022 on the property tax account; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector would like to Issue a tax refund to the owner / entity acting on behalf of the owner requesting the refund.

Location	Block	Lot	Overpayment
36 Mountain Way	145	18	\$359.86

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove that the tax Collector is hereby authorized to refund the overpayment in the amount of \$359.83.

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

AYE: Councilmember Peterson, Skabich, Tanella, Mayor Maceri

NO: None

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Zichelli

- g) To consider resolution concerning interest for delinquent payment of taxes.

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

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:4-67 regulates the due dates for the payment of taxes and authorizes the rate of interest for delinquent payment of taxes, and authorizes a grace period not exceeding ten (10) days;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to allow a period of ten (10) days grace from the quarterly tax due date before charging interest; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the rate of interest to be charged for the payment of taxes, assessments, and property maintenance when they become delinquent shall be at the rate of eight percent (8%) per annum on the first \$1,500.00 of the delinquency, eighteen percent (18%) per annum of any amount in excess of \$1,500.00, and an additional six percent (6%) penalty for a delinquency over \$10,000.00 if not paid prior to the end of the calendar year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution will take effect January 1, 2023.

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

AYE: Councilmember Peterson, Skabich, Tanella, Mayor Maceri

NO: None

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Zichelli

- h) To consider resolution concerning fee for tax sale redemption calculation.

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

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:5-54 provides that the Tax Collector shall provide to any party entitled to redeem a Tax Sale Certificate two calculations of the amount

required for redemption within a calendar year at no cost. For each subsequent calculation requested from the Tax Collector there shall be a fee of \$50.00; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:5-97.1 provides that the Tax Collector shall charge a lienholder of a Tax Sale Certificate a fee of \$50.00 for the calculation of the amount due to redeem the Tax Sale Certificate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to provide to any party entitled to redeem a Tax Sale Certificate two calculations of the amount required for redemption within a calendar year at no cost. For each subsequent calculation requested from the Tax Collector there shall be a fee of \$50.00. The Tax Collector is hereby authorized to charge a lienholder of a Tax Sale Certificate a fee of \$50.00 for the calculation of the amount due to redeem the Tax Sale Certificate.

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

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

- i) To consider resolution concerning the 2023 Temporary Budget.

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

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-19 the Township of Cedar Grove is authorized to make temporary appropriations sufficient to cover commitments made during the period January 1, 2023 to the date of the adoption of annual budget; and

WHEREAS, the total of such temporary appropriations, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-19 shall not exceed twenty-six and one-quarter per centum (26.25) of the total of the 2022 annual budget, less certain appropriations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of Cedar Grove, County of Essex, New Jersey, that the following shall constitute the Temporary Budget for the Township of Cedar Grove for fiscal year 2023.

2023 TEMPORARY MUNICIPAL BUDGET

<u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>	<u>ACCOUNT NUMBER</u>	<u>SALARIES & WAGES</u>	<u>OTHER EXPENSES</u>
CURRENT FUND			
<u>General Government</u>			

Township Council	1-105		3,017.00
Township Manager	1-106	49,965.00	1,759.00
Township Clerk	1-107	37,070.00	5,942.00
Elections	1-110		1,925.00
Treasurer-Controller	1-115	67,226.00	6,855.00
Assessment of Taxes	1-120	27,856.00	6,540.00
Collection of Taxes	1-130	19,374.00	3,373.00
Legal Services	1-140		52,576.00
Municipal Court	1-145	48,536.00	33,205.00
Municipal Prosecutor	1-150		5,776.00
Public Defender	1-151		1,567.00
Annual Audit	1-154		3,316.00
Engineering Services	1-155	1,635.00	2,204.00
Public Bldgs. & Grounds	1-160		30,091.00
Planning Board	1-165	7,949.00	1,882.00
Zoning Board	1-170	7,949.00	1,146.00
Shade Trees	1-175		9,230.00
Environmental Comm.	1-180		182.00
Historical Society	1-185		650.00
Ins.-Surety Bond Prem.	1-190		2,071.00
Ins.-Group Insurance	1-190		426,275.00
Ins.-Workman's Comp.	1-190		37,972.00
Ins.-Other Premiums	1-190		57,073.00
<u>Public Safety</u>			
Fire			53,978.00
Municipal Alliance Grant	1-1212	500.00	1,000.00
First Aid Organization	1-215		10,000.00
Police		2,000,000.00	73,111.00
Emergency Mgmt.	1-220	2,600.00	538.00
Inspection of Bldgs.	1-255	38,056.00	29,585.00
Inspection of Plumbing	1-256	5,949.00	978.00
Electric Sub-Code	1-259	5,949.00	978.00
<u>Streets & Roads</u>			
Road Repair & Maintenance	1-305	87,106.00	7,301.00
Equip. Repair & Maintenance	1-310	23,054.00	2,950.00

Snow Removal	1-315	23,417.00	43,915.00
Vehicle Maintenance	1-650		20,000.00
Utility Exp. & Bulk Purchases	1-820		180,980.00
<u>Health and Welfare</u>			
Board of Health	1-510	13,610.00	22,745.00
Sr. Citizen Trans.	1-516	3,802.00	5,568.00
Animal Control	1-511	390.00	9,527.00
<u>Recreation & Education</u>			
Library	1-601	70,000.00	164,868.00
Parks & Playgrounds	1-605	54,563.00	6,774.00
Celebration of Public Events	1-610		5,857.00
Recreation	1-615	37,756.00	24,636.00
Salary & Wage Adjustment	1-620	23,927.00	
Maintenance of Vehicle	1-650		26,572.00
<u>Miscellaneous</u>			
Contingency	1-701		2,600.00
<u>Statutory Expenditures</u>			485,047.00
<u>Debt Service</u>			1,197,700.00
TOTAL CURRENT FUND		2,658,239.00	3,071,835.00

<u>Water Utility Fund</u>			
Administration	3-3050	64,864.00	
Operating Appropriations	3-3100	99,716.00	452,772.00
Statutory Expenditures	3-3220		35,977.00
Debt Service	3-3210		136,475.00
TOTAL WATER UTILITY		164,580.00	625,224.00

<u>Sewer Utility Fund</u>			
Administration	4-4050	87,557.00	
Maintenance	4-4060	38,499.00	
Operating Appropriations	4-4100	79,904.00	267,232.00
Statutory Expenditures	4-4220		56,433.00
Debt Service	4-4210		258,325.00

TOTAL SEWER UTILITY		205,960.00	581,990.00

Swimming Pool Utility Fund			
Administration	5-5050	31,086.00	
Operating Appropriations	5-5100	37,849.00	41,768.00
Statutory Expenditures	5-5220		5,401.00
Debt Service	5-5210		106,925.00
TOTAL SWIMMING POOL UTILITY		68,935.00	154,094.00

Solid Waste Collection District			
Operating Appropriations	9-9950	37,297.78	582,304.00
Statutory Expenditures	9-9220		3,800.00
TOTAL SOLID WASTE COLL. DISTRICT		37,298.00	586,104.00

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

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

- j) To consider resolution concerning convenience fee for electronic payment.

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 is currently offering online payment services for Property Taxes, Water/Sewage Bills, and for the PILOT Program (payment in lieu of taxes) and the Township council recognize this service, and will help all residents, specifically senior citizens, who may now pay their bills from the convenience of their residence and;

WHEREAS, The Township of Cedar Grove charges convenience and merchant fees for electronic municipal government services to cover its administrative cost and the cost of merchant services and;

WHEREAS, there will be a convenience fee charged upon remission through electronic check (ACH) in the total amount of \$1 only and;

WHEREAS, to remit via credit card a nominal 2.95% fee of the transaction will be applied to cover the cost of Merchant Services and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, be it further resolved by the Township of Cedar Grove that the convenience fee and merchant fees are established and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution will take effect January 1, 2023.

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

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

- k) To consider resolution concerning appointment of Township Clerk.

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

RESOLUTION APPOINTING DALE A. FORDE AS TOWNSHIP CLERK

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A.40A:9-133 every municipality in the State of New Jersey is required to have a Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, Dale A. Forde is currently employed by the Township of Cedar Grove as the Deputy Township Clerk and holds current required Registered Municipal Clerk and Certified Municipal Clerk Certificates; and

WHEREAS, The Township Council has determined that Dale A. Forde possesses the qualifications and experience to hold the position and perform the duties of Municipal Clerk; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove that Dale A. Forde is hereby appointed Township Clerk for a three-year term commencing January 1, 2023 and continuing through until December 31, 2026.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution shall be submitted to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs.

Mayor Maceri shared the Township had the pleasure of Ms. Forde serving as Deputy Clerk for the past few months. He thanked her for doing a great job and said the Council looked forward to her continuing in that role.

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

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

- l) To consider resolution concerning amending 2023 Police Department Employee Salaries.

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

RESOLUTION AMENDING 2023 POLICE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE SALARIES

WHEREAS, The Township of Cedar Grove did adopt Ordinance No. 18-836, fixing salary grades and ranges, wages and fees of the officers of the Cedar Grove Police Department of the Township of Cedar Grove; and

WHEREAS, said ordinance provides that the Township Council shall, by resolution, fix the salary of each officer 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 corrected salaries for the Fiscal Year 2023 which shall become effective January 1, 2023 for officers of the Cedar Grove Police Department covered under Section One of the Salary Ordinance.

EMPLOYEE

NAME	Salary	Longevity	Holiday Pay
Grawehr, Connor	\$102,600	-	\$4,735

Chief

NAME	Salary	Longevity	Holiday Pay
Kennedy, John	\$197,862	\$19,786	\$10,045

*Proposed 2023 POLICE DEPARTMENT – PATROLMAN GRADE P-1
Effective 1/1/23

PROBATIONARY

1	2	3	4	5	6	MAX
\$46,671	\$60,655	\$74,635	\$88,617	\$102,600	\$116,583	\$130,567

	2023		
NAME	Salary	Longevity	Holiday Pay
Buscio, Dominick	\$130,567	\$7,834	\$6,388
Cardona, Anthony	\$130,567	\$2,611	\$6,147
Cirasa, Daniel	\$60,655	-	\$2,799
Grawehr, Connor	\$102,600	-	\$4,735
Grigolo, Anthony	\$116,583	\$2,332	\$5,488
Heck, Christopher	\$130,567	\$2,611	\$6,147
Hectus, Robert	\$130,567	\$13,057	\$6,629
Johnson, Joseph	\$130,567	\$2,611	\$6,147
Hoyt, Nicole	\$130,567	\$5,223	\$6,267
Ligas, Joseph	\$146,234	\$2,925	\$6,884
Lynch, Carolyn	\$130,567	\$10,445	\$6,508

m) To consider resolution concerning appointment of Township Manager.

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

RESOLUTION APPOINTING JOSEPH ZICHELLI, ESQ. AS TOWNSHIP MANAGER

WHEREAS, the Township of Cedar Grove published notice regarding the open Township Manager position and received submissions from interested/qualified candidates; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cedar Grove conducted interviews of candidates interested in applying for the position of Township Manager for the Township of Cedar Grove; and

WHEREAS, after conducting all interviews of interested/qualified candidates and considering the resumes, experience and qualifications of the candidates, the Township has determined that Joseph Zichelli, Esq. is the most qualified candidate and that he possesses the necessary qualifications and he is hereby appointed Township Manager effective January 17, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Township has determined to enter into the Employment Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit “A” appointing Mr. Zichelli as Township Manager.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of Cedar Grove Mayor and Council that Joseph Zichelli, Esq. is hereby appointed as the Township Manager of the Township of Cedar Grove effective January 17, 2023, with all the powers and duties pertaining to said office; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a notice of this appointment shall be published once in a newspaper of general circulation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to: (1) Joseph Zichelli, Esq.; (2) Township Attorney; (3) Cedar Grove Clerk; and any other necessary parties.

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

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

Councilman Tanella congratulated Joseph Zichelli on becoming the new township Manager. He shared it was impossible to fill Thomas Tucci’s shoes; however, he was excited about the next chapter in Cedar Grove with Joe Zichelli leading as the manager. He said the Township was looking for its next franchise quarterback and felt they found him in Joe Zichelli.

Councilwoman Skabich congratulated Joseph Zichelli and shared that she was confident the Township had the right person for the job.

Councilwoman Peterson echoed the sentiments of her colleagues.

Mayor Maceri explained that during his year as Mayor, the Township Manager, Township CFO and Township Clerk retired. He reported that there were a lot of meetings and reviews, but he was confident in Deputy Mayor Zichelli doing a great job.

7. EXTRAORDINARY BUSINESS OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

Mayor Maceri administered the Oath of Office to Township Clerk Dale A. Forde.

Township Clerk Forde thanked Almighty God, the Honorable LeRoy J. Jones, Jr., Members of Council, former Township Manager Thomas Tucci, Acting Township Manager Alex Palumbo, predecessor Kathleen Stutz, residents, family and friends for their encouragement and support. Township Clerk Forde also congratulated newly appointed Manager, Deputy Mayor Joseph Zichelli.

Mayor Maceri thanked Acting Township Manager Alex Palumbo for his service during the past five months. He thanked Mr. Palumbo for doing a great, putting the residents and Cedar Grove first.

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 \$473,905.88.

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

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

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

Kate Hartwyk: Essex County Liaison: Ms. Hartwyk congratulated Township Clerk Forde and Township Manager Zichelli on their appointments. She shared that she looked forward to working with them. She reported the 2023 Deer Management Program would begin this week after a two-year hiatus. She reported it was a six-week program at South Mountain and Hilltop Reservations. Ms. Hartwyk reported Hilltop Reservation would be closed to the public on Thursdays for safety reasons and in the event of inclement weather, an additional two weeks would be added as make-up days.

Rita Butts: Ms. Butts congratulated Township Clerk Forde. She commended Clerk Forde for her intelligence and competence. She expressed that Clerk Forde was deeply missed at her previous place of employment.

There being no one else present wishing to be heard Mayor Maceri 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 January 9, 2023.
2. The general nature of the subject matters to be discussed are litigation and contracts.
4. 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.
5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

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

10. ADJOURNMENT

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 PM.

JOSEPH MACERI MAYOR

ATTEST:

DALE A. FORDE MUNICIPAL CLERK