

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

PUBLIC MEETING

MINUTES

MAY 6, 2024

1. ROLL CALL, INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE

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

Present: Councilmember Maceri, Mega, Deputy Mayor Skabich, Mayor Peterson
Also Present: Township Manager Zichelli, Township Attorney Lagana, Township Clerk Forde
Absent: Councilman Zazzali

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 13, 2023, filed with the Township Clerk, and posted on the public bulletin board in the Municipal Building Lobby in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

2. EXTRAORDINARY BUSINESS OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

- a) Special Recognition of Township Resident

The Township Council presented Giant's Quarterback and Cedar Grove native, Thomas "Tommy" Devito, Jr., with a proclamation and the Key to the City.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) To consider approval of minutes of regular meeting of April 1, 2024.

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

AYE: Councilmember Maceri, Mega, Deputy Mayor Skabich, Mayor Peterson
NO: None
ABSENT: Councilman Zazzali

4. PUBLIC HEARING

- a) To consider adoption of Pending Ordinance #24-930 - An Ordinance Amending Chapter 259 of the Township of the Code of the Township of Cedar Grove Entitled Water.

The ordinance was read by title only as follows:

PASSED ORDINANCE NO. 24-930

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 259 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CEDAR GROVE ENTITLED WATER

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

Deputy Mayor Skabich 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: Councilmember Maceri, Mega, Deputy Mayor Skabich, Mayor Peterson
NO: None
ABSENT: Councilman Zazzali

- b) To consider adoption of Pending Ordinance #24-931 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 217 of the Code of the Township of Cedar Grove Entitled Sewers.

The ordinance was read by title only as follows:

PASSED ORDINANCE NO. 24-931

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 217 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CEDAR GROVE ENTITLED SEWERS

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 Deputy Mayor Skabich and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmember Maceri, Mega, Deputy Mayor Skabich, Mayor Peterson
NO: None
ABSENT: Councilman Zazzali

- c) To consider adoption of Pending Ordinance #24-932 Bond Ordinance Authorizing Various General Improvements in and for the Township of Cedar Grove, in the County of Essex, New Jersey Appropriating \$1,894,310 Therefore and Authorizing the Issuance of \$1,799,594 Bonds or Note to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof.

The ordinance was read by title only as follows:

PASSED BOND ORDINANCE NO. 24-932

BOND ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING VARIOUS GENERAL IMPROVEMENTS IN AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF CEDAR GROVE, IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$1,894,310 THEREFORE AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,799,594 BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

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

Councilwoman Mega 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: Councilmember Maceri, Mega, Deputy Mayor Skabich, Mayor Peterson

NO: None

ABSENT: Councilman Zazzali

- d) To consider adoption of Pending Bond Ordinance #24-933 - Bond Ordinance Authorizing Various Water Utility Improvements in and for the Township of Cedar Grove, in the County of Essex, New Jersey Appropriating \$1,100,000 Therefore and Authorizing the Issuance of \$1,045,000 Bonds or Note to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof.

The ordinance was read by title only as follows:

PASSED BOND ORDINANCE NO. 24-933

BOND ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING VARIOUS WATER UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS IN AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF CEDAR GROVE, IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$1,100,000 THEREFORE AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,045,000 BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.

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

Deputy Mayor Skabich 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 Councilwoman Mega and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmember Maceri, Mega, Deputy Mayor Skabich, Mayor Peterson

NO: None

ABSENT: Councilman Zazzali

- e) To consider adoption of Pending Bond Ordinance #24-934 - Bond Ordinance Authorizing Various Sewer Utility Improvements in and for the Township of Cedar Grove, in the County of Essex, New Jersey Appropriating \$200,000 Therefore and Authorizing the Issuance of \$200,000 Bonds or Note to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof.

The ordinance was read by title only as follows:

PASSED BOND ORDINANCE NO. 24-934

BOND ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING VARIOUS SEWER UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS IN AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF CEDAR GROVE, IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$200,000 THEREFORE AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$200,000 BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.

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 Councilwoman Mega and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmember Maceri, Mega, Deputy Mayor Skabich, Mayor Peterson
NO: None
ABSENT: Councilman Zazzali

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 Township Manager reported that the Township received aqueduct shoring calculations for North End Firehouse. He said he hoped to continue the project over the next week. The Township Manager reported the Little Falls Basketball Court was nearly finished. He reported the only project left to do was painting and striping. The Township Manager thanked and commended the First Responders for their due diligence when the tractor trailer crashed into the Medicine Shop. The Township Manager announced Junior Firefighter Day was scheduled for May 19th at Community Park, the Memorial Day Service was scheduled for 10 AM outside of Town Hall with the Barbecue starting at 11 AM at Community Park and the Clean Sweep Project was scheduled for June 1st at 10 AM outside of Town Hall.
- b) Township Clerk – The Township Clerk reported that her office will be open for late night voter registration on May 14 until 9PM. The Township Clerk reported the Girl Scout Troop 20278 were going to assist her while learning about the voter registration process and earn their voter registration badge.
- c) Township Attorney – No Report.
- d) Other Reports

Mayor Peterson – Mayor Peterson reported the accident with the tractor trailer occurred at the top of her street. Mayor Peterson reported the family who owned the business donated Narcan to the Rescue Squad and were a vital part of the community. She mentioned there is normally a long line outside of the Shop and that she was grateful the accident was not much worse than it could have been. Mayor Peterson said she was grateful no one was injured. Mayor Peterson commended all of the First Responders and the Township Manager for the way he handled it. Mayor Peterson reported the Township honored longtime resident, Ronald SanFillipo, on Arbor Day. She shared that Mr. SanFillipo was a former Mayor and former President of the Board of Education. Mayor Peterson reported that various organizations donated trees to the Township.

Mayor Peterson commended the Boys and Girls Scouts and DPW for planting six trees along the street. Mayor Peterson reported the Township Clerk received the President’s Award of Excellence from the Municipal Clerks’ Association of New Jersey. Mayor Peterson and Members of Council congratulated the Township Clerk.

Councilman Maceri – Councilman Maceri congratulate Mr. Devito and commended Mayor Peterson for putting the event together. Councilman Maceri said Mr. Devito’s being a Cedar Grove resident, graduation from Don Bosco, heritage and success hugely impacted the children and the community. Councilman Maceri asked for volunteers and students to take participate in the Town’s 33rd Annual Clean Sweep Project. Councilman Maceri encouraged the public to share in this great opportunity. Councilman Maceri thanked the Township Manager for keeping the Council well-informed about the accident immediately and throughout the day. Councilman Maceri asked the status of the PSEG project. The Township Manager responded that the project was near completion and the Township was entering into contract with MCCPC for paving of streets.

Councilwoman Mega – Councilwoman Mega thanked the First Responders, DPW and Township Manager for how they conducted the accident at the Medicine Shop. Councilwoman Mega said it was nice how the town came together for the owners of the business. She said the Town’s residents coming together were what made Cedar Grove a great town. Councilwoman Mega reported the Arbor Day event honor Mr. SanFillipo was very nice. Councilwoman Mega commended the Scouts, DPW and community did a great job. Councilwoman Mega thanked Justin of March Development LLC for the donation and Arbor Day Coordinator Tomi Immersi for coordinating the event. Councilwoman Mega reported she enjoyed two community events; Autism Acceptance Day and the Craft Fair at United Presbyterian Church. Councilwoman Mega thanked the Police and Fire Departments and the residents for supporting these events. Councilwoman Mega encouraged resident to view the Historical Society’s website to stay updated on its events.

Deputy Mayor Skabich – Deputy Mayor Skabich reported there were two other accidents that occurred the same day the tractor trailer crashed into the Medicine Shop. Deputy Mayor Skabich commended the Township Manager for the open communication and keeping the Council well-informed. Deputy Mayor Skabich commended and thanked Gary Gray and other residents who worked on the community garden.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

- a) To consider resolution concerning approval of raffle application – Lion’s Club of Cedar Grove.

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

Lions Club of Cedar Grove
P.O. Box 283
Cedar Grove NJ 07009

Off-Premise 50/50 Raffle to be held
September 4, 2024 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at
557 Pompton Ave., 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 Mega moved adoption of the resolution, seconded by Councilman Maceri, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmember Maceri, Mega, Deputy Mayor Skabich, Mayor Peterson
NO: None
ABSENT: Councilman Zazzali

- b) To consider resolution concerning approval of raffle application – Cooperman Barnabas Medical Center.

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

Cooperman Barnabas Medical Center
94 Old Short Hills Road
Livingston NJ 07052

On-Premise Merchandise Raffle to be held
October 23, 2024 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at
691 Pompton Ave., 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 Mega moved adoption of the resolution, seconded by Deputy Mayor Skabich, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmember Maceri, Mega, Deputy Mayor Skabich, Mayor Peterson
NO: None
ABSENT: Councilman Zazzali

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a) To consider resolution authorizing award of the 2024 Road Overlay Program through the MCCPC Contract #6 to Riverview Paving, Inc, in an amount not to exceed \$320,000.

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

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF THE 2024 ROAD OVERLAY PROGRAM THROUGH THE MCCPC CONTRACT #6 TO RIVERVIEW PAVING INC., IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$320,000.00

WHEREAS, the Township of Cedar Grove wishes to proceed with the 2024 Road Overlay Program through the MCCPC, Contract #6, awarded to Riverview Paving Inc. of Hackettstown, New Jersey, 07840; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer certifies that funds for said contract are available in General Capital in the amount of \$320,000.00;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, that a contract be awarded to Riverview Paving, Inc. for the 2024 Road Overlay Program, for the total amount not to exceed \$320,000.00.

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

- AYE: Councilmember Maceri, Mega, Deputy Mayor Skabich, Mayor Peterson
- NO: None
- ABSENT: Councilman Zazzali

- b) To consider introduction of Pending Ordinance No. 24-935- An Ordinance to Amend Capital Ordinance No. 23-909 Providing Funding for Various Improvements for the Township of Cedar Grove and Appropriating \$1,307,205.58 For Such Purpose.

The ordinance was read by title only as follows:

PENDING ORDINANCE NO. 24-935

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CAPITAL ORDINANCE NO. 23-909 PROVIDING FUNDING FOR VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF CEDAR GROVE AND APPROPRIATING \$1,307,205.58 FOR SUCH PURPOSE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CEDAR GROVE, IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ORDINANCE NO 23-909 IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 23-909 was adopted on May 1, 2023 and Section 1 was adopted as shown below:

Section 1. The Township of Cedar Grove, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, authorizes various improvements, including but not limited to improvements to the Water/Sewer/Public Works Storage Building, replacement of Sewer Utility EQ Tank, replacement of Little Falls Road Basketball Courts, Center Company Fire House upgrades and North End Fire House Reconstruction, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto, all as shown on and in accordance with the plans and

specifications therefor on file in the Office of the Clerk., for the Township of Cedar Grove to be funded from the sources specified in Section 2 of the Ordinance.

WHEREAS, Section 1 of the ordinance is now amended as follow:

Section 1.The Township of Cedar Grove, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, authorizes various improvements, including but not limited to improvements to the water main replacement for Rutgers Avenue, the water main replacement for Briarhill Road, replacement of Little Falls Road Basketball Courts, Center Company Fire House upgrades and North End Fire House Reconstruction, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto, all as shown on and in accordance with the plans and specifications therefor on file in the Office of the Clerk., for the Township of Cedar Grove to be funded from the sources specified in Section 2 of the Ordinance.

The Township Manager reported that the Township did not create any debt.

Councilman Maceri 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 June 3, 2024, seconded by Councilwoman Mega, and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Councilmember Maceri, Mega, Deputy Mayor Skabich, Mayor Peterson
NO: None
ABSENT: Councilman Zazzali

- c) To consider resolution concerning estimated tax bills.

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

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF CEDAR GROVE TO PREPARE AND MAIL ESTIMATED TAX BILLS IN ACCORDANCE WITH P.L. 1994, c. 72.

WHEREAS, the Township of Cedar Grove introduced the municipal budget on April 1, 2024 and the Essex County Board of Taxation is unable to certify the Township of Cedar Grove’s tax rate at this time; and

WHEREAS, Tax Collector will therefore be unable to mail the Township’s final 2024 tax bill on a timely basis; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cedar Grove’s Chief Financial Officer and Township Manager have consulted to compute an estimated tax levy in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54: 4-66.3, and have signed a certification showing the tax levies for the previous year, the tax rates, and the range of permitted estimated tax levies for the current year.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, that:

1. The Township of Cedar Grove shall prepare and issue estimated tax bills for the third installment of 2024 taxes at an estimated tax rate of 2.667.
2. The entire estimated tax levy for 2024 is hereby set at \$60,307,737.81.
3. In accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey, the third installment of 2024 taxes shall not be subject to interest until the later of August 10 or the twenty-fifth (25th)

calendar day after the date the estimated tax bills were mailed. The estimated tax bills shall contain a notice specifying the date on which interest may begin to accrue.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be provided to the Chief Financial Officer and Auditor.

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

AYE: Councilmember Maceri, Mega, Deputy Mayor Skabich, Mayor Peterson

NO: None

ABSENT: Councilman Zazzali

- d. To consider resolution requesting permission for the dedication by rider for the Township of Cedar Grove for a Tree Replacement Fee in Lieu of Tree Replacement on Personal Property for the Purpose of Planting New Trees within the Township.

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

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING PERMISSION FOR THE DEDICATION BY RIDER FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF CEDAR GROVE FOR A TREE REPLACEMENT FEE IN LIEU OF TREE REPLACEMENT ON PERSONAL PROPERTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PLANTING NEW TREES WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP

WHEREAS, permission is required of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for approval for a dedication by rider of revenues received by a municipality when the revenue is not subject to reasonably accurate estimates in advance, and;

WHEREAS, the Code of the Township of Cedar Grove provides for receipt of tree replacement fees in lieu of tree replacement by the municipality to provide for the operating costs to administer this act, and;

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-39 provides the dedicated revenues anticipated from the Township of Cedar Grove Tree Replacement Trust Fund are hereby anticipated as revenue and are hereby appropriated for the purpose to which said revenue is dedicated by statute or other legal requirement, and;

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

1. The Governing Body does hereby request permission of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to pay expenditures of the Cedar Grove Tree Replacement Trust Fund with the fees collected in lieu of tree replacement on personal property within the Township.
2. This resolution will be submitted to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for approval through NJ FAST.

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

AYE: Councilmember Maceri, Mega, Deputy Mayor Skabich, Mayor Peterson
NO: None
ABSENT: Councilman Zazzali

- e) To consider resolution amending the introduced and approved 2024 Water Utility Budget.

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

RESOLUTION AMENDING THE INTRODUCED AND APPROVED 2024 WATER UTILITY BUDGET FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF CEDAR GROVE, COUNTY OF ESSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, the local budget for the year 2024 was introduced and approved by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove on the 1st Day of April, 2024, and;

WHEREAS, the public hearing on said budget is scheduled for the 6th of May, 2024 as advertised; and

WHEREAS, the Township desires to amend said introduced and approved budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, County of Essex, State of New Jersey that the following amendments to the introduced and approved budget of 2024 be made:

<u>2024 WATER UTILITY BUDGET</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>CHANGE</u>
Payment on Bond Principal	\$105,000.00	\$110,000.00	\$5,000.00
Salary & Wages	\$605,074.00	\$600,704.00	\$5,000.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that two (2) certified copies of this resolution shall be filed with the Office of the Director of Local Government Services for certification of the local municipal budget as so amended.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is hereby certified that this is a true copy of a resolution amending the 2024 budget, adopted at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, held on Monday, May 6, 2024.

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

AYE: Councilmember Maceri, Mega, Deputy Mayor Skabich, Mayor Peterson
NO: None
ABSENT: Councilman Zazzali

- f) To consider resolution amending the introduced and approved 2024 Capital Budget.

RESOLUTION AMENDING THE INTRODUCED AND APPROVED 2024 CAPITAL BUDGET FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF CEDAR GROVE, COUNTY OF ESSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, the local budget for the year 2024 was introduced and approved by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove on the 1st Day of April, 2024, and;

WHEREAS, the public hearing on said budget is scheduled for the 6th of May, 2024 as advertised; and

WHEREAS, the Township desires to amend said introduced and approved budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, County of Essex, State of New Jersey that the following amendments to the introduced and approved budget of 2024 be made:

<u>2024 CAPITAL BUDGET</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>CHANGE</u>
Briarhill Road Improvements, Equipment & Soft Costs	\$0.00	\$1,100,000.00	\$1,100,000.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that two (2) certified copies of this resolution shall be filed with the Office of the Director of Local Government Services for certification of the local municipal budget as so amended.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is hereby certified that this is a true copy of a resolution amending the 2024 budget, adopted at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Township of Cedar Grove, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, held on Monday, May 6, 2024.

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

AYE: Councilmember Maceri, Mega, Deputy Mayor Skabich, Mayor Peterson
 NO: None
 ABSENT: Councilman Zazzali

9. PUBLIC HEARING OF THE 2024 BUDGETS

a) To consider adoption of 2024 Municipal Budget.

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

2024 MUNICIPAL BUDGET RESOLUTION TO READ BUDGET BY TITLE

WHEREAS, The Township Clerk has certified that the provisions set forth in N.J.S.A. 40:4-8(1)(a) & (b) have been satisfied,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove does hereby determine that the 2024 Municipal Budget shall be read by

its title and declare that the conditions set forth in N.J.S.A. 40A:4-8 subsections 1a and 1b have been met.

The Township Clerk reported that as per N.J.S.A. 40A:8 sections 1a and 1b, the budget summary was published in the April 25, 2024 issues of the Star Ledger and the Verona Cedar Grove Times. The Township Clerk reported the public was notified that the complete budget was available to the public upon request in her Office. The Township Clerk reported Notices were posted in the Town Hall Lobby and the Library indicating that copies of the budget were available for public inspection and upon request in Council Chambers and the Library. The Township Clerk verified that the Township was in compliance with all of the statute’s criteria.

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

AYE: Councilmember Maceri, Mega, Deputy Mayor Skabich, Mayor Peterson
NO: None
ABSENT: Councilman Zazzali

- b) To consider adoption of 2024 Solid Waste Collection District Budget.

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

2024 SOLID WASTE COLLECTION DISTRICTION BUDGET RESOLUTION TO READ BUDGET BY TITLE

WHEREAS, The Township Clerk has certified that the provisions set forth in N.J.S.A. 40:4-8(1)(a) & (b) have been satisfied,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Township Council of the Township of Cedar Grove does hereby determine that the 2024 Solid Waste Collection District Municipal Budget shall be read by its title and declare that the conditions set forth in N.J.S.A. 40A:4-8 subsections 1a and 1b have been met.

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

AYE: Councilmember Maceri, Mega, Deputy Mayor Skabich, Mayor Peterson
NO: None
ABSENT: Councilman Zazzali

10. APPROVAL OF BILLS

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 of Cedar Grove, County of Essex, New Jersey, that the summary of bills, having been duly audited and found to be correct, are hereby ordered paid and that warrants be drawn by the Treasurer in the aggregated amount of \$4,408,002.30.

The Township Clerk reported the Township was in compliance.

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

AYE: Councilmember Maceri, Mega, Deputy Mayor Skabich, Mayor Peterson
NO: None
ABSENT: Councilman Zazzali

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

Mayor Maceri opened this portion of the meeting to anyone wishing to be heard on any item on the agenda.

1. Kate Hartwyk, Essex County Liaison: Ms. Hartwyk announced the County scheduled Electronics Recycling Event on May 18th from 8:30 AM in Cedar Grove. She announced a free event at May 18th from 11 AM to 3 PM at Presby Memorial Iris Gardens in Upper Montclair. She explained the information was available on the County’s website. She explained all of the events were free to the public.
2. Steve Young: Mr. Young shared that Jr. Firefighters Day would be held in Community Park. He shared details of the scheduled event. Mr. Young shared that the community garden was doing well.

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

12. ADJOURNMENT

Councilwoman Mega moved adjournment of the public council meeting, seconded by Councilman Maceri, and passed by a voice vote:

The meeting adjourned at 7:49 PM.

KERRY PETERSON MAYOR

ATTEST:

DALE A. FORDE MUNICIPAL CLERK