

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Verona Township Council on Monday, October 17, 2016 beginning at 7:00 P.M. in the Municipal Building, 600 Bloomfield Avenue, Verona, New Jersey.

Call to Order:

Municipal Clerk reads notice of Open Public Meetings law.

Roll Call:

Mayor Kevin Ryan; Deputy Mayor Michael Nochimson; Councilman Jay Sniatkowski; Councilman Bob Manley and Councilman Alex Roman are present. Township Manager Matthew Cavallo, Township Attorney Brian Aloia and Jennifer Kiernan, Municipal Clerk are also present.

Mayor Ryan leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Ryan invites township resident Herbert Lev to the lectern. Mr. Lev was this year's recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Arc of Essex County. He is presented with a certificate of recognition from the Mayor and Council.

Mayor Ryan states that the second order of business is in regards to this past Saturday's event at the Verona Public Library. Bob and Virginia Boeck, founders of the Friends of the Verona Public Library were honored at a luncheon held by the organization for their many years of service. Mayor Ryan presented the Boeck's with a certificate of recognition from the Mayor and Council during that luncheon.

The Mayor reports that Verona Fights Hunger Week culminated on the steps of Town Hall this past Saturday at 10am. He expresses his appreciation to the Junior's and co-chairs in their collection of over 1,203 bags of food, an additional \$2,500 in donations and \$3,250 in grocery gift cards to Verona residents.

He announces that the Verona Lions Club is present tonight from an invitation from the Council asking Verona's civic organizations to address the public on their missions, membership, etc. Myron Spektor, President of the Lions Club, which currently has 34 members, approaches the lectern and discusses the many initiatives, accomplishments and services the Club provides.

Mayor Ryan invites Jay Coltre to the lectern. Strut Your Mutt will be held in Brookdale Park on October 22, 2016 at 9:15 a.m. The Essex County Environmental Center will hold a Family Halloween Walk on October 28th. Information available on the Essex County Parks Department website.

The Mayor reminds the public that parking on the traffic circle on White Rock Road is illegal and requests the Police Department monitor the area for violators.

Manager's Report:

Township of Verona's Director of Community Services, Jim Cunningham is present to inform the Council of this year's Community Pool Season. He reports that new online registration system worked very well and will greatly reduce the time put into assigning pool tags year after year. He reports that memberships increased by \$10,000, miscellaneous revenue increased \$16,000 and the daily revenue (at the front office) increased by \$13,000.

Matthew Cavallo shows a PowerPoint presentation on the Best Practices Survey.

He reports the Governor repealed his Executive Order for the Transportation Trust Fund and the Claremont Avenue project is back underway.

Councilmembers’ Reports:

Deputy Mayor Nochimson reports that VMAC’s Family Night will be held on Thursday, October 20, 2016. No homework will be assigned that evening as families are encouraged to spend time together. He reports that many residents have put their recycling out two days earlier than the scheduled pick up and reminds residents that it is not only costly, but unhealthy.

Councilman Sniatkowski reports that the Fair in the Square is December 3rd. Interested vendors or organizations should contact Steve Neale in the Community Services Department for more information.

Councilman Manley reports the Junior Woman’s Club did an incredible job with the Food Drive and echoes the Mayor’s comments.

Councilman Roman has no report this evening.

ORDINANCE # 25-16

AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES, COMPENSATION AND RETAINERS OF THE PAID OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA, N.J. FOR THE 2016 YEAR

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance #25-16 by title into record.

Mayor Ryan explains that this ordinance was tabled by Councilman Manley at the last meeting until all Councilmen were present to vote. Motion to remove Ordinance #25-16 from the table is moved by Councilman Manley; seconded by Councilman Roman.

Mayor Ryan asks for Council comments. Councilman Sniatkowski states since discussion took place at introduction and at the last meeting following public participation, he does not see the need for further comments. Deputy Mayor Nochimson states he does not support this ordinance as it is a universal raise that identifies no one receiving a raise on merit and disagrees on giving a random raise to all.

Motion for adoption of Ordinance #25-16 is moved by Councilman Manley; seconded by Councilman Roman.

ROLL CALL:
AYES: Sniatkowski, Manley, Roman, Nochimson, Ryan
NAYS: Nochimson

Ordinance #25-16 is adopted and will be published according to law.

ORDINANCE No. 26-16

CAPITAL ORDINANCE INCREASING ORDINANCE 15-2015 BY APPROPRIATING \$20,000 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR THE PURCHASE OF A HYDRAULIC STRETCHER FOR THE FIRST AID SQUAD BY THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA, IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY

The Municipal Clerk reads Ordinance #26-16 by title into record.

Mr. Cavallo explains that authorization for the purchase of hydraulic stretcher was approved on a Capital Ordinance. Funding was allocated for two, but a third purchase is necessary, therefore, this ordinance will allocate an additional \$20,000 from Capital to fund the cost.

Motion for introduction of Ordinance #26-16 is moved by Councilman Manley; seconded by Deputy Mayor Nochimson. Vote: 5 ayes.

ROLL CALL:
AYES: Manley, Sniatkowski, Roman, Nochimson, Ryan
NAYS:

Ordinance #26-16 is approved on introduction. It will be published according to law and a public hearing will be held on November 7, 2016.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from the October 3, 2016 meetings are moved for approval by Councilman Manley; seconded by Councilman Roman. Vote: 4 ayes. Councilman Sniatkowski abstains as he was not present during the October 3, 2016 regular meeting.

RESOLUTION No. 2016-141

A motion was made by Councilman Manley; seconded by Councilman Roman that the following resolution be adopted:

PERMITTING ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the Public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Verona, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of an action upon the hereinafter specified subject matter.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:
 - a. Contract Negotiations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(7)
3. It is anticipated at this time that the above stated subject matter will be made public when said subject has been fully discussed by the Council, and the attorney rules this matter may be brought before the public without jeopardizing any pending litigation.
4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

ROLL CALL:
AYES: Manley, Roman, Sniatkowski, Nochimson, Ryan
NAYS:

Limousine Operating License for Non-Stop Limousine, 46 Park Avenue, Verona is in order and approved by Council.

Public Comment

Gerry Shimonaski	33 Kenwood Avenue, Verona, New Jersey
Jessica Pearson	20 Montclair Avenue, Verona, New Jersey
Richard Aloia	37 Malvern Place, Verona, New Jersey
Jack McEvoy	20 Montclair Avenue, Verona, New Jersey

Motion to adjourn the meeting is made by Councilman Manley; seconded by Councilman Roman.

The meeting is adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 7, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

A Special Joint Meeting of the Governing Body and Board of Education will be held on Monday, October 24, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Verona Community Center Ballroom.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Kiernan

Jennifer Kiernan, Municipal Clerk

Kevin Ryan

Kevin Ryan, Mayor