

**VERNON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 24, 2024 7:00 PM**

This Meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Vernon was convened at 7:00 p.m. on June 24, 2024 via Zoom Webinar and in the Vernon Municipal Center, 21 Church Street, Vernon, New Jersey with Council President Rizzuto presiding.

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided to the public and the press on January 17, 2024 and was posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-7.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Council President Rizzuto led the assemblage in the salute to the flag.

ROLL CALL

Present were Council Members Natalie Buccieri, Jessica DeBenedetto, William Higgins, Badley Sparta and Council President Patrick Rizzuto. Also, present were Mayor Anthony Rossi, Business Administrator Tina Kraus, Municipal Clerk Marcy Gianattasio, Township Attorney Ryan Windels.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Solicitors Licenses
Sign Ordinance
Mayor's Salary

MAYOR COMMENTS

Just a few things to mention.

Congratulations to the class of 2024, we wish you all the best of luck on your next chapter in life.

Thursday, we had our Senior citizen picnic, which was a great event, lots of food and dancing despite how hot it was, but our strong seniors came out and turned up the heat even more, so happy to see that these programs are being used. That evening, I was invited and had the honor of throwing out the first pitch at Skylands Stadium, And I was proud to say I threw it in for a strike depending on where you were sitting, but I did reach the plate.

On Friday, myself, the DPW and Heidi from our EDAC committee gave the intersection of Rt 94 and 517 a small facelift by adding some river rock donated by Valley Mason and a new stone planter. The planter was filled with flowers from Pappas Garden Center, so thank you to Heidi, the DPW, and the Vernon PD for all of your assistance. We are planning on doing 515, except for the river stone, and still collecting donations for the planters and clock, so No ETA on that.

Yesterday, we had the first Vernon Car show to help support our Fire department and EMS. This show turned out better than we expected, with over 100 cars, and probably about 1000 residents came out and had a great time. We are looking to have another one maybe in the fall, but definitely this time next year. Thank you for all those who volunteered, thank you for all those who donated gifts to raffle off. And special thank you Kevin Gill for designing and donating the trophies and also to Mishele and Meg from our Rec dept for running with this. This event was something I was pushing for because as some of you may or may not know, I'm a car guy, but I learned through this process was Mishelle and Meg and a thousand others are car nuts too.

And finally, the audit report was issued. And I want to say thank you Donelle and her dept for keeping our towns finances in check I think this is very good to see not much was listed on the auditors' recommendations list, except for the tax title liens synced up with the treasure's records on a monthly basis. This has been ongoing and hope to have this cleaned up by next year.

This Wednesday we are having our Senior Citizen Olympics. Seniors from all over the county participate in these Olympics which will be held in Maple Grange Park. In 2022 Vernon took the gold, so hopefully they can do it again. I'm looking forward to this event.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (For Current Agenda Items Only, Limited to 3 Minutes Per Person)

President Rizzuto asked for a motion to open the meeting to Public Comments.

MOVED: DeBenedetto
SECOND: Buccieri

All members were in favor.

Peter Knipe – asked that the Council not allow solicitor’s licenses. Mr. Knipe feels that the Economic Development Committee should be involved with recommendations for the sign ordinance.

Ann Larsen – asked how the sign ordinance will affect the election. Ms. Larsen expressed concern regarding the lighting ordinance. Ms. Larsen questioned the limousine ordinance. Ms. Larsen commented on the Mayor’s salary.

Scott Cassell – commented on the Mayor’s salary.

Heidi LeBris – agreed with Mr. Cassell’s comments regarding the Mayor’s salary.

Seeing no other members from the public wishing to come forward, President Rizzuto asked for a motion to close the meeting to Public Comments.

MOVED: Buccieri

SECOND: Higgins

All members were in favor.

REVIEW OF BILLS LIST

The Council reviewed the bills list.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 10, 2024 – Regular Meeting

President Rizzuto asked for a motion to approve the June 10, 2024 regular meeting minutes.

MOVED: DeBenedetto

SECOND: Sparta

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: DeBenedetto, Higgins, Sparta, Rizzuto

NAYES:

ABSTAIN: Buccieri

ABSENT:

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES

Ordinance #24-07: An Ordinance Amending Chapter 5, Article XVI of the Municipal Code of the Township of Vernon (Historic Preservation)

President Rizzuto asked for a motion to open the floor for public hearing on ordinance #24-07.

MOVED: Sparta

SECOND: Buccieri

All members were in favor.

Peter Knipe – asked what the ordinance says.

Seeing no one else from the public wishing to come forward, President Rizzuto asked for a motion to close the public hearing on ordinance #24-07.

MOVED: Sparta

SECOND: DeBenedetto

All members were in favor.

Council President Rizzuto asked if the term “Planning Board” could be amended to “Land Use Board”

President Rizzuto asked for a motion to adopt ordinance #24-07 as amended.

MOVED: Buccieri

SECOND: Sparta

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Buccieri, DeBenedetto, Higgins, Sparta, Rizzuto

NAYES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion carries to adopt ordinance #24-07 as amended.

ORDINANCE #24-07

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 5, ARTICLE XVI OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERNON

WHEREAS, ordinance #21-04 abolished the Historic Preservation Commission, and

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of Vernon (“Township”) has determined that it is in the best interests of the Township to reinstate the Historic Preservation Commission.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the by the Township Council of the Township of Vernon that the code of the Township of Vernon is hereby amended as follows:

SECTION 1

§ 5-13 Boards, bodies, commissions and committees.

A. The following boards and bodies of the Township are hereby continued:

- (1) Land Use Board as set forth in Section [330-6](#).
- (2) Environmental Commission;
- (3) Open Space Board
[reserved];
- (4) Historic Preservation Commission ~~(Reserved)~~;
- (5) Recreation Committee;
- (6) Municipal Alliance Committee; and
- (7) Senior Citizen Committee.

SECTION 2

§ 5-94. Historic Preservation Commission.

- A. There is hereby created in and for the Township of Vernon a commission to be known as the "Historic Preservation Commission." ~~The Township of Vernon Historic Preservation Commission in hereby abolished.~~
- B. The Historic Preservation Commission shall consist of seven members and two alternates who shall serve without compensation except that the Commission members shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the performance of official business approved in advance by the Township

Council.

C. Membership.

- (1) The Commission positions shall be filled by persons who are interested in and qualified to contribute to the preservation of historic buildings, structures, sites and objects. The Commission shall comprise the following categories:
 - (a) Class A: persons who are knowledgeable in building design and construction or in architectural history.
 - (b) Class B: persons who are knowledgeable or have demonstrated an interest in local history.
 - (c) Class C: persons who are residents of the Township and who hold no other municipal office, position or employment, except for membership on the Planning Board or Zoning Board of Adjustment.
- (2) There shall be at least one member each from Class A and Class B; three members may reside outside the Township. Both alternates shall meet the qualifications of Class C members.

D. Commission members shall be appointed by the Mayor and shall serve for four-year terms except that, of the first members appointed, two members shall serve for one year, two members shall serve for two years and the three other members shall serve for three years. The alternate members shall initially and thereafter serve two-year terms. All members may, at the expiration of their terms, be eligible for appointment to four-year terms. If a Commission member is also a member of the Land Use Board, the term of membership of such Commission member shall be the term of membership on the Planning Board or Zoning Board of Adjustment, as the case may be. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner in which the previous incumbent was appointed, and such vacancy appointment shall be only for the balance of the unexpired term.

E. The Commission shall adopt internal rules and procedures for the transaction of its business subject to the following:

- (1) The Commission shall elect from its members a Chairman and Vice Chairman.
- (2) A quorum for the transaction of all business shall be four members.
- (3) All Commission minutes and records shall be public records and all Commission meetings shall comply with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.
- (4) The Commission shall employ, designate or elect a Secretary who need not be a member of the Commission. The Secretary shall keep minutes and records of all meetings and proceedings, including voting records, attendance, resolutions, findings, determinations and decisions. All such materials shall be made of public record.
- (5) Commission meetings shall be scheduled at least once every month, or as often as required to fulfill its obligations to advise the Land Use Board, Zoning Board of Adjustment or governing body.
- (6) No Commission member shall be permitted to act on any matter in which he or she has directly or indirectly any personal or financial interest.

F. A member of the governing body shall be designated each year as a liaison with the Historic Preservation Commission.

§5-95. Duties.

The Historic Preservation Commission shall have the responsibility to:

- A. Prepare a survey of historic sites of the municipality pursuant to criteria identified in the survey report;
- B. Make recommendations to the Land Use Board on the historic preservation plan element of the Master Plan and on the implications for preservation of historic sites of any other Master Plan elements;
- C. Advise the Land Use Board on the inclusion of historic sites in the recommended capital improvement program;
- D. Advise the Land Use Board on applications for development pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:550-110;
- E. Provide written reports pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:550-111 and § 330-149 of this article on the application of the Zoning Ordinance provisions concerning historic preservation; and
- F. Carry out such other advisory, educational and informational functions as will promote historic preservation in the Township, including but not limited to the following:
 - (1) To review historical survey material and, if necessary, to update such material at least once every year to incorporate any newly required historical documentation and to reflect changes to the resource's integrity or condition.
 - (2) To recommend sites to be designated as historic landmarks in accordance with the procedures established in this article.
 - (3) To conduct research on and, if necessary, to nominate any additional significant resources to the State and National Register of Historic Places. If the Township becomes certified under the state's Certified Local Government (CLG) Program, the Commission shall, in accordance with the state's CLG guidelines, nominate, review and comment on all state and national registered nominations for historic resources with the Township of Vernon.
 - (4) To assist other public bodies in aiding the public in understanding historic resource significance and methods of preservation.
 - (5) To advise the governing body on the relative merits of proposals involving public lands to restore, preserve and protect historical buildings, places and structures; to prepare long-range plans; for the purpose of securing state, federal and other grants in aid to assist in carrying out the other purposes of this article.
 - (6) To secure the voluntary assistance of the public and (within the limits of the budget established by the governing body for the Historic Commission's operation) to retain consultants and experts and incur expenses to assist the Historic Preservation Commission in its work.
 - (7) To cooperate with local, county, state or national historical authorities, governmental bodies or organizations to maximize their contributions to the intent and purposes of this article.
 - (8) To advise and assist property owners and other persons and groups, including neighborhood organizations, who are interested in historic preservation.
 - (9) Within the limits of its budget, to undertake educational programs, including the preparation of a publication aimed at stimulating interest in and sensitivity to historic preservation; and the placing of historic markers on structures.
 - (10) To report at least annually to the Planning Board on the state of historic preservation in the Township and recommend measures to improve same.
 - (11) To adopt and promulgate such regulations and procedures not inconsistent with this article as are necessary and proper for the effective and efficient performance of the duties herein assigned.

(12) To perform any other lawful activities which shall be deemed necessary to further the purposes of this article.

SECTION 3

Sections 5-95, 330-141, 330-142, 330-148, 330-149, 330-150, 330-151, and 330-152 of the municipal code are hereby reinstated.

SECTION 4

§ 330-153. Establishment of historic districts; limitations on powers of Commission.

- A. The establishment of a historic district in the Township of Vernon shall be initiated and implemented in the same way as for historic landmarks.
- B. No duties or powers of the Commission shall supersede or infringe on the powers of other Township boards and committees.

SECTION 5

~~The Historic Preservation Commission shall forthwith deliver all of its books, collections, and records to the Township Clerk within 10 business days of the passage of this ordinance.~~

SECTION 6

A final copy of this ordinance shall be provided to the Land Use Board.

SECTION 7

~~Each section of this ordinance is an independent section, and the holding of any section or part thereof to be unconstitutional, void or ineffective for any cause shall not be deemed to affect the validity of constitutionality of any other sections or parts thereof.~~

SECTION 8

~~Any ordinances or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed as to their inconsistencies only.~~

SECTION 9

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately as provided by law.

Ordinance #24-08: Capital Ordinance providing for various improvements by the Township of Vernon, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, appropriating therefore the sum of \$160,000.00 and providing that such sum so appropriated shall be raised from General Capital Reserves and the Capital Improvement Fund of the Township

President Rizzuto asked for a motion to open the floor for public hearing on ordinance #24-08.

MOVED: Buccieri

SECOND: DeBenedetto

All members were in favor.

Seeing no one from the public wishing to come forward, President Rizzuto asked for a motion to close the public hearing on ordinance #24-08.

MOVED: Buccieri

SECOND: Higgins

All members were in favor.

President Rizzuto asked for a motion to adopt ordinance #24-08.

MOVED: Higgins

SECOND: Buccieri

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Buccieri, DeBenedetto, Higgins, Sparta, Rizzuto

NAYES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion carries to adopt ordinance #24-08.

ORDINANCE #24-08

CAPITAL ORDINANCE

Capital Ordinance providing for various improvements by the Township of Vernon, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, appropriating therefore the sum of \$160,000.00 and providing that such sum so appropriated shall be raised from General Capital Reserves and the Capital Improvement Fund of the Township

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Body of the Township of Vernon, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, that the following capital projects be hereby authorized but not limited to include acquisition and installation of equipment and improvements for the Fire Department and the Department of Administration; for a total Improvement Authorization of \$160,000.00.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the financing for the above projects be as follows:

General Capital Reserves- Fire Department	\$120,000.00
General Capital Improvement Fund	\$ 40,000.00

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the capital budget of the Township is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith and the resolutions promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing all detail of the amended capital budget and capital improvement program as approved by the Director, Division of Local Government Services, are on file with the Township Clerk and are available for public inspection.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the period of usefulness of the capital projects are in excess of the five (5) year statutory requirement, and that no debt shall be incurred by the Borough for this authorization. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication as required by law.

Ordinance #24-09: Bond Ordinance Providing for the Improvement of the Highland Lakes Fire Department Building In and By the Township of Vernon, In the County of Sussex, New Jersey, Appropriating \$105,750 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$100,000 Bonds or Notes of the Township for Financing Such Appropriation.

President Rizzuto asked for a motion to open the floor for public hearing on ordinance #24-09.

MOVED: Sparta

SECOND: Buccieri

All members were in favor.

Seeing no one from the public wishing to come forward, President Rizzuto asked for a motion to close the public hearing on ordinance #24-09.

MOVED: Buccieri

SECOND: Sparta

All members were in favor.

President Rizzuto asked for a motion to adopt ordinance #24-09.

MOVED: Higgins

SECOND: DeBenedetto

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Buccieri, DeBenedetto, Higgins, Sparta, Rizzuto

NAYES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion carries to adopt ordinance #24-09.

ORDINANCE #24-09

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE HIGHLAND LAKES FIRE DEPARTMENT BUILDING IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF VERNON, IN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$105,750 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$100,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR FINANCING SUCH APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERNON, IN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all the members thereof affirmatively concurring), **AS FOLLOWS:**

The improvement described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance is hereby authorized as a general improvement to be made or acquired by The Township of Vernon, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey. For the said improvement or purpose stated in said Section 3, there is hereby appropriated the sum of \$105,750, said sum being inclusive of all appropriations heretofore made therefor and including the sum of \$5,750 as the down payment for said improvement or purpose required by law and now available therefor by virtue of provision in a previously adopted budget or budgets of the Township for down payment or for capital improvement purposes.

For the financing of said improvement or purpose, including for the purpose of applicable United States Treasury regulations the reimbursement of expenditures heretofore or hereafter made therefor and to meet the part of said \$105,750 appropriation not provided for by application hereunder of said down payment, negotiable bonds of the Township are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal

amount of \$100,000 pursuant to the Local Bond Law of New Jersey. In anticipation of the issuance of said bonds and to temporarily finance said improvement or purpose, negotiable notes of the Township in a principal amount not exceeding \$105,750 are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to and within the limitations prescribed by said Local Bond Law.

a. The improvement hereby authorized and purpose for the financing of which said obligations are to be issued is the improvement of the Highland Lakes Fire Department building in and by the Township, including by the installation of new insulation, flooring, and lighting, the upgrade of the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system, and the improvement of the ceiling, together with all structures, equipment, work and materials necessary therefor or incidental thereto (the “Project”), all as shown on and in accordance with the plans and specifications therefor on file or to be filed in the office of the Township Clerk and hereby approved.

The estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued for said purpose is \$100,000.

The estimated cost of said purpose is \$105,750, the excess thereof over the said estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued therefor being the amount of the said \$5,750 down payment for said purpose.

The following additional matters are hereby determined, declared, recited and stated:

The said purpose described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance is not a current expense and is a property or improvement which the Township may lawfully acquire or make as a general improvement, and no part of the cost thereof has been or shall be specially assessed on property specially benefitted thereby.

The period of usefulness of said purpose within the limitations of said Local Bond Law, according to the reasonable life thereof computed from the date of the said bonds authorized by this bond ordinance, is fifteen (15) years.

The supplemental debt statement required by said Local Bond Law has been duly made and filed in the office of the Township Clerk and a complete executed duplicate thereof has been filed in the office of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey, and such statement shows that the gross debt of the Township as defined in said Local Bond Law is increased by the authorization of the bonds and notes provided for in this bond ordinance by \$100,000, and the said obligations authorized by this bond ordinance will be within all debt limitations prescribed by said Local Bond Law.

An aggregate amount not exceeding \$10,000 for interest on said obligations, costs of issuing said obligations and other items of expense listed in and permitted under section 40A:2-20 of said Local Bond Law may be included as part of the cost of said improvement and is included in the foregoing estimate thereof.

All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder shall mature at such times as may be determined by the chief financial officer, acting chief financial officer or treasurer of the Township (the “Chief Financial Officer”) provided that no note shall mature later than one year from its date. The notes shall bear interest at such rate or rates and be in such form as may be determined by the Chief Financial Officer. The Chief Financial Officer shall determine all matters in connection with the notes issued pursuant to this bond ordinance, and the Chief Financial Officer’s signature upon the notes shall be conclusive evidence as to all such determinations. All notes issued hereunder may be renewed from time to time subject to the provisions of N.J.S.A. §40A:2-8. The Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to sell part or all of the notes from time to time at public or private sale at not less than par and to deliver them to the purchasers thereof upon receipt of payment of the purchase price plus accrued interest from their dates to the dates of delivery thereof. The Chief Financial Officer is directed to report in writing to the governing body of the Township at the meeting next succeeding the date when any sale or delivery of the notes pursuant to this bond ordinance is made. Such report must include the principal amount, interest rate and maturities of the notes sold, the price obtained and the name of the purchaser.

The full faith and credit of the Township are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and interest on the said obligations authorized by this bond ordinance. Said obligations shall be direct, unlimited obligations of the Township, and the Township shall be obligated to levy ad valorem taxes upon all the taxable property within the Township for the payment of said obligations and interest thereon without limitation of rate or amount.

The capital budget or temporary capital budget of the Township is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith and the resolutions promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing all detail of the amended capital budget or temporary capital budget and capital program as approved by the Director, Division of Local Government Services, are on file with the Township Clerk and are available for public inspection.

Pursuant to an agreement between the Township and the Highlands Lake Fire Department (the “Fire Department”), the Fire Department has agreed to make annual payments to the Township over the course of a ten (10) year period in amounts sufficient to pay principal and interest with respect to

financial obligations issued for the Project. To the extent that sufficient amounts are not received by the Township by June 30 in each year through and including 2034 from the Fire Department, the Township shall reduce its annual appropriation to the Fire Department by said shortfall.

This bond ordinance shall take effect twenty (20) days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by said Local Bond Law.

Ordinance #24-10: Bond Ordinance Appropriating \$3,483,624, and Authorizing the Issuance of \$2,220,000 for Various Improvements or Purposes Authorized to be Undertaken by the Township of Vernon, In the County of Sussex, New Jersey.

President Rizzuto asked for a motion to open the floor for public hearing on ordinance #24-10.

MOVED: Higgins
SECOND: Sparta

All members were in favor.

Seeing no one from the public wishing to come forward, President Rizzuto asked for a motion to close the public hearing on ordinance #24-10.

MOVED: DeBenedetto
SECOND: Sparta

All members were in favor.

President Rizzuto asked for a motion to adopt ordinance #24-10.

MOVED: Buccieri
SECOND: Sparta

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Buccieri, DeBenedetto, Higgins, Sparta, Rizzuto
NAYES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

Motion carries to adopt ordinance #24-10.

ORDINANCE #24-10

BOND ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$3,483,624, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,220,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP, FOR VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS OR PURPOSES AUTHORIZED TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE TOWNSHIP OF VERNON, IN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERNON, IN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all the members thereof affirmatively concurring), **AS FOLLOWS:**

The several improvements described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance are hereby respectively authorized as general improvements to be made or acquired by The Township of Vernon, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey. For the said several improvements or purposes stated in said Section

3, there are hereby appropriated the respective sums of money therein stated as the appropriations made for said improvements or purposes, said sums being inclusive of all appropriations heretofore made therefor and amounting in the aggregate to \$3,483,624 including the aggregate sum of \$824,592, as the several down payments for said improvements or purposes required by law and more particularly described in said Section 3 and now available therefor by virtue of provision in a previously adopted budget or budgets of the Township for down payment or for capital improvement purposes and including also, in the case of the improvement or purpose described in (i) paragraph (a) of said Section 3, the sum of \$155,000 from funds available in a reserve for the street sweeper, (ii) paragraph (b) of said Section 3, the sum of \$190,032 received or expected to be received by the Township from the New Jersey Department of Transportation as a grant-in-aid of financing said improvement or purpose and the sum of \$27,000 from funds available in capital surplus of the Township, (iii) paragraph (c) of said Section 3, the sum of \$50,000 from funds available in a reserve for the ambulance, and (iv) paragraph (d) of said Section 3, the sum of \$17,000 from funds available in a reserve for the improvements to the Animal Control building.

For the financing of said improvements or purposes, including for the purpose of applicable United States Treasury regulations the reimbursement of expenditures heretofore or hereafter made therefor and to meet the part of said \$3,483,624 appropriations not provided for by application hereunder of said down payments, grant and monies available in various funds of the Township, negotiable bonds of the Township are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount of \$2,220,000 pursuant to the Local Bond Law of New Jersey. In anticipation of the issuance of said bonds and to temporarily finance said improvements or purposes, negotiable notes of the Township in a principal amount not exceeding \$2,220,000 are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to and within the limitations prescribed by said Local Bond Law.

The improvements hereby authorized and the several purposes for the financing of which said obligations are to be issued, the appropriation made for and estimated cost of each such purpose, and the estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued for each such purpose, are respectively as follows:

<u>IMPROVEMENT OR PURPOSE</u>	<u>APPROPRIATION AND ESTIMATED COST</u>	<u>ESTIMATED MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF BONDS AND NOTES</u>
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(a) Acquisition by purchase of new and additional equipment including, without limitation, diagnostic equipment, one (1) street sweeper, one (1) loader dump bucket, and dump bodies for use by the Department of Public Works of the Township, one (1) stretcher, two (2) Lucas devices and other equipment for use by the Township Ambulance Squad, a Cascade System and various equipment for use by the Fire Departments of the Township, and a ballistic shield for use by the Police Department of the Township, together with all attachments, accessories and equipment necessary therefor or incidental thereto, all as shown on and in accordance with the specifications therefor on file or to be filed in the office of the Township Clerk and hereby approved, the \$689,385 appropriation hereby made therefor being inclusive of the sum of \$155,000 in reserves for the street sweeper	\$785,385	\$600,366
(b) Improvement of various streets in and by the Township by the construction or reconstruction therein of a roadway pavements at least equal in useful life or durability to a roadway pavement of Class B construction (as such term is used or referred to in Section 40A:2-22 of said Local Bond Law), together with all structures, appurtenances, milling, curb and sidewalk reconstruction, drainage improvements, guide rails, retaining walls, equipment, work and materials necessary therefor or incidental thereto, all as shown on and in accordance with the plans and specifications therefor on file or to be filed in the office of the Township Clerk and hereby approved, the \$1,325,000 appropriation hereby made therefor being inclusive of the sum of \$190,032 received or expected to be received by the Township from the New Jersey Department of Transportation as a grant-in-aid of financing said improvement and the sum of \$27,000 from funds available in capital surplus of the Township	1,325,000	377,977
(c) Acquisition by purchase of new and additional vehicular equipment including, without limitation, one (1) single axle truck for use by the Department of Public Works of the Township and one (1) ambulance for use by the Ambulance Squad of the Township, including also equipment for installation in the chief's vehicle, together with all attachments and accessories necessary therefor or incidental thereto, all as shown on and in accordance with the specifications therefor on file or to be filed in the office of the Township Clerk and hereby approved, the \$510,000 appropriation hereby made therefor being inclusive of the sum of \$50,000 in reserves for the ambulance	510,000	435,714
(d) Improvement of municipally-owned properties and facilities in and by the Township including, without limitation, the Animal Control building by the upgrades thereto, the Police Department headquarters and the Senior Center by the upgrade of the fire suppression systems, the Department of Public Works yard by the acquisition and installation of a compacting dumpster, and Veteran's Memorial Park by the installation of new lighting, together with all equipment, structures, site work, work and materials necessary therefor or incidental thereto, all as shown on and in accordance with the plans and specifications therefor on file or to be filed in the office of the Township Clerk and hereby approved, the \$344,000 appropriation hereby made therefor being inclusive of the sum of \$17,000 in reserves for the improvements to the Animal Control building	344,000	311,429
(e) Acquisition, by purchase, of new and additional fire fighting equipment for the preservation of life and property in the Township, consisting of one (1) pumper for use by the Fire Department of the Township, including all equipment, appurtenances, accessories and attachments necessary therefor or incidental thereto, all as shown on and in accordance with the specifications therefor on file or to be filed in the office of the Township Clerk and hereby approved	<u>519,239</u>	<u>494,514</u>

Totals	<u>\$3,483,624</u>	<u>\$2,220,000</u>
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Except as otherwise stated in paragraphs (a), (b), (c) and (d) above with respect to the said grant-in-aid and the said funds available in various fund of the Township for financing the improvements or purposes described in said paragraphs (a), (b), (c), and (d), the excess of the appropriation made for each of the improvements or purposes aforesaid over the estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued therefor, as above stated, is the amount of the said down payment for said purpose.

The following additional matters are hereby determined, declared, recited and stated:

The said purposes described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance are not current expenses and each is a property or improvement which the Township may lawfully acquire or make as a general improvement, and no part of the cost thereof has been or shall be specially assessed on property specially benefited thereby.

The average period of usefulness of said purposes within the limitations of said Local Bond Law and taking into consideration the respective amounts of the said obligations authorized for the several purposes, according to the reasonable life thereof computed from the date of the said bonds authorized by this bond ordinance, is 14.28 years.

The supplemental debt statement required by said Local Bond Law has been duly made and filed in the office of the Township Clerk and a complete executed duplicate thereof has been filed in the office of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey, and such statement shows that the gross debt of the Township as defined in said Local Bond Law is increased by the authorization of the bonds and notes provided for in this bond ordinance by \$2,220,000, and the said obligations authorized by this bond ordinance will be within all debt limitations prescribed by said Local Bond Law.

Amounts not exceeding \$175,000 in the aggregate for interest on said obligations, costs of issuing said obligations, engineering costs and other items of expense listed in and permitted under Section 40A:2-20 of said Local Bond Law may be included as part of the costs of said improvements and are included in the foregoing estimate thereof.

The funds from time to time received by the Township on account of the \$190,032 grant referred to in Section 1 of this bond ordinance shall be used for financing the improvement or purpose described in Section 3(b) of this bond ordinance by application thereof either to direct payment of the cost of said improvement or purpose, or to payment or reduction of the authorization of the obligations of the Township authorized by this bond ordinance. Any such funds so received may, and all such funds so

received which are not required for direct payment of such cost shall, be held and applied by the Township as funds applicable only to the payment of obligations of the Township authorized by this bond ordinance.

All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder shall mature at such times as may be determined by the Chief Financial Officer, provided that no note shall mature later than one year from its date. The notes shall bear interest at such rate or rates and be in such form as may be determined by the Chief Financial Officer. The Chief Financial Officer shall determine all matters in connection with the notes issued pursuant to this bond ordinance, and the Chief Financial Officer's signature upon the notes shall be conclusive evidence as to all such determinations. All notes issued hereunder may be renewed from time to time subject to the provisions of Section 40A:2-8 of said Local Bond Law. The Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to sell part or all of the notes at no less than par from time to time at public or private sale and to deliver them to the purchasers thereof upon receipt of payment of the purchase price plus accrued interest from their dates to the dates of delivery thereof. The Chief Financial Officer is directed to report in writing to the governing body of the Township at the meeting next succeeding the date when any sale or delivery of the notes pursuant to this bond ordinance is made. Such report must include the principal amount, interest rate and maturities of the notes sold, the price obtained and the name of the purchaser.

The full faith and credit of the Township are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and interest on the said obligations authorized by this bond ordinance. Said obligations shall be direct, unlimited obligations of the Township, and the Township shall be obligated to levy ad valorem taxes upon all the taxable property within the Township for the payment of said obligations and interest thereon without limitation of rate or amount.

The capital budget or temporary capital budget of the Township is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith and the resolutions promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing all detail of the amended capital budget or temporary capital budget and capital program as approved by the Director, Division of Local Government Services, are on file with the Township Clerk and are available for public inspection.

This bond ordinance shall take effect twenty (20) days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by said Local Bond Law.

Ordinance #24-11: Ordinance of the Township of Vernon, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey Addressing Limousine Licensing

Council Member Buccieri asked for a motion to open the floor for public hearing on ordinance #24-11.

MOVED: DeBenedetto
SECOND: Sparta

All members were in favor.

Peter Knipe – asked why the town is licensing limousines.

Seeing no one else from the public wishing to come forward, Council Member Buccieri asked for a motion to close the public hearing on ordinance #24-11.

MOVED: Sparta
SECOND: Higgins

All members were in favor.

Council Member Buccieri asked for a motion to adopt ordinance #24-11.

MOVED: Sparta
SECOND: DeBenedetto

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Buccieri, DeBenedetto, Sparta, Rizzuto
NAYES: Higgins
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

Motion carries to adopt ordinance #24-11.

ORDINANCE #24-11

ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERNON, COUNTY OF SUSSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY ADDRESSING LIMOUSINE LICENSING

WHEREAS, the Township of Vernon (“Township”) seeks to require limousine services operating within the Township to obtain a license in order to do so; and

WHEREAS, the Township is authorized to require limousine services to obtain a license in order to operate within the Township pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:16-18.1, should it choose to do so; and

WHEREAS, the Township already requires a fee in the amount of \$35 for the issuance of a limousine license in Ordinance § 250-17.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Township of Vernon, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey as follows:

SECTION 1. Part II, titled “General Legislation”, is hereby supplemented as follows:

Chapter 567 Limousines.

§ 567-1. Definitions.

a. For the purposes of this chapter, the terms “limousine” or “limousine or livery service” shall have the meanings set forth in N.J.S.A. 48:16-13, as that statute may be amended and supplemented from time to time.

§ 567-2. License Required.

No person shall maintain or operate a limousine or livery service in the Township of Vernon unless the owner thereof has secured a limousine license, signed by the Township Clerk and Township Zoning Officer.

§ 567-3. Application, Insurance and Fee.

a. All applications for a limousine license shall be filed with the Township Clerk, together with the required fee, and shall contain the full name, address, and telephone number of the applicant; the names, titles, and complete addresses of all corporate officers or partners of the applicant; and the federal identification or social security number of the applicant. In addition, every application for a limousine license shall contain the complete business address of the limousine service and the Tax Map block and lot number of the property on which the business is located.

b. Each application shall be accompanied by an insurance policy from a company duly licensed to transact business under the insurance laws of the State of New Jersey in the sum of \$1,500,000 against loss by reason of the liability imposed by law upon every limousine owner for damages on account of bodily injury or death suffered by any person as a result of an accident occurring by reason of the ownership, maintenance or use of the limousine upon any public street. Such operation shall be permitted

only so long as the insurance policy shall remain in force to the full and collectible amount of \$1,500,000. The policy must provide for the payment of any final judgment recovered by any person on account of the ownership, maintenance and use of such limousine or any fault in respect thereto, and shall be for the benefit of every person suffering loss, damage, or injury as aforesaid. In addition, each such application shall be accompanied by a copy of power of attorney executed and delivered to the Motor Vehicle Commission concurrent with the filing of the required insurance policy, as set forth above; a power of attorney wherein and whereby the owner shall appoint the Director of the Motor Vehicle Commission his true and lawful attorney for the purpose of acknowledging service of any process out of a court of competent jurisdiction to be served against the insured by virtue of the indemnity granted under the insurance policy filed.

c. Each application shall also be accompanied by photocopies of the registrations of all vehicles utilized in connection with the limousine service.

d. The fee for the issuance of a limousine license shall be as stated in Ordinance § 250-17, as may be amended and supplemented from time to time.

e. Upon receipt of an application for a limousine license, the Township Clerk shall refer the application documents to the Township Zoning Officer who shall determine whether the operation of a limousine service at the location specified in the application is permitted under the Township's Land Use and Development Regulations. No limousine license shall be issued by the Township Clerk unless the Zoning Officer has certified that the operation of the limousine service is a permitted use at the specified business location.

SECTION 2. Severability.

The provisions of this Ordinance shall be severable. In the event that any portion of this Ordinance is found to be invalid for any reason by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such judgment shall be limited in its effect only to the portion of the Ordinance actually adjudged invalid and shall not be deemed to affect the operation of any other portion thereof, which shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 3. Repealer.

All ordinances and resolutions, and parts of ordinances and resolutions which are inconsistent with provisions of this ordinance shall be, and are hereby, repealed to the extent of any such inconsistency.

SECTION 4. Effective Date.

This ordinance shall take effect upon final adoption and publication in accordance with law.

Ordinance #24-12: Ordinance of the Township of Vernon, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, Amending Chapter 374, Titled "Nuisances, Public Health" to Address Exterior Lighting Standards

Council Member Buccieri asked for a motion to open the floor for public hearing on ordinance #24-12.

MOVED: Higgins

SECOND: Sparta

All members were in favor.

Ann Larsen – expressed concern with the lighting ordinance.

Seeing no one else from the public wishing to come forward, Council Member Buccieri asked for a motion to close the public hearing on ordinance #24-12.

MOVED: Sparta

SECOND: DeBenedetto

All members were in favor.

Council Member Buccieri asked for a motion to adopt ordinance #24-12.

MOVED: Sparta
SECOND: Higgins

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Buccieri, DeBenedetto, Higgins, Sparta, Rizzuto
NAYES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

Motion carries to adopt ordinance #24-12.

ORDINANCE #24-12

ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERNON, COUNTY OF SUSSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING CHAPTER 374, TITLED “NUISANCES, PUBLIC HEALTH” TO ADDRESS EXTERIOR LIGHTING STANDARDS

WHEREAS, various exterior lighting sources within the Township of Vernon have the potential to cause public safety risks and can be a source of nuisance; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Vernon seeks to mitigate those risks by regulating exterior lighting standards.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Township of Vernon, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 374, titled “Nuisances, Public Health” is hereby amended and supplemented as follows:

§ 374-5.1 Exterior lighting standards.

- A. All exterior lighting shall be designed to provide a minimum lighting intensity of five-tenths lumen per square foot. Lighting shall be of a soft or glare-free type and shall not cast an illumination color which shall be distracting, obliterate or obscure the view, be ultraviolet, strobic, pulsating, flashing or of any unnatural kind or create a public nuisance, discomfort or hazard.
- B. All exterior lighting fixtures shall be designed, manufactured, installed, and aimed in such manner as to shield glare from reflecting onto adjacent streets, properties, residences, or public areas.
- C. All lighting fixtures shall conform with all applicable state and federal requirements and industry standards, including, but not limited to, ~~the BOCA Basic Energy Conservation Code and Lighting Power Limit Determination Procedure of the Illuminating Engineer’s Society.~~ [International Building Code/ 2021. NJ Edition, International Energy Conservation Code/ 2021, ASHRAE 90.1-2019, National Electrical Code 2020](#)
- D. All site plans or other development plans proposing the use of exterior lighting, either freestanding or building-mounted, shall include complete data regarding the proposed intensity of illumination, as expressed either in horizontal footcandles or lumens per square foot; the hours of illumination; detail drawings and specifications of lighting fixtures, including but not limited to the type of lighting, fixture details, mounting details, mounting height and lighting isobar patterns; illumination areas as shown on the site plan; and provisions to shield glare from reflecting onto adjacent thoroughfares and properties; and in addition, any additional specific and special detailed data deemed appropriate for the particular lighting application as required by the Township Engineer, Construction Code Official, Zoning Officer, Planning Board, Environmental Commission, Electrical Subcode Official, Police Department, Zoning Board of Adjustment or other agency.

§ 374-5.2 Effect on other legislation.

The provisions and requirements of Article VII of Chapter 330, Land Development, of the Code of the Township of Vernon shall not be affected by this Chapter.

§ 374-5.3 Violations and penalties.

Any person violating the provisions of this chapter shall be subject to a fine of a minimum of \$100 to a maximum of \$1,000 for the first offense; \$250 to a maximum of \$1,000 for the second offense; and \$500 to a maximum of \$1,000 for the third offense and subsequent offense. In addition, any offense shall be deemed a separate and distinct offense for each and every day such offense occurs and is not abated by such person.

SECTION 2. Severability.

The provisions of this Ordinance shall be severable. In the event that any portion of this Ordinance is found to be invalid for any reason by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such judgment shall be limited in its effect only to the portion of the Ordinance actually adjudged invalid and shall not be deemed to affect the operation of any other portion thereof, which shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 3. Repealer.

All ordinances and resolutions, and parts of ordinances and resolutions which are inconsistent with provisions of this ordinance shall be, and are hereby, repealed to the extent of any such inconsistency.

SECTION 4. Effective Date.

This ordinance shall take effect upon final adoption and publication in accordance with law.

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution #24-180: Resolution of the Township of Vernon, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Execution of a Memorandum of Understanding Between the Vernon Township Police Department and Atlantic Health System, Newton Medical Center, to Establish Joint Participation in the Arrive Together Program to Enhance and Support Response to Certain Behavioral Health Crisis Calls

Resolution #24-181: Chapter 159 Resolution Requesting Approval of Revenue and Appropriation Amending the 2024 Budget as a Revenue and Appropriation of \$47,635.64

Resolution #24-182: Resolution of the Township of Vernon, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Use of Omnia Partners, Formerly Known as US Communities' National Cooperative

Resolution #24-183: Resolution Authorizing Purchase of Schwarze A8SE Sweeper and Accessories Through Sourcewell National Cooperative #093021-SWZ Through H.A. Dehart & Son Inc.

Resolution #24-184: Resolution Authorizing Purchase of Dump Body Accessories Through Sourcewell National Cooperative 080818-HPI Through Henderson Products Inc.

Resolution #24-185: Resolution Authorizing Purchase of Freightliner 108SD and Accessories Through Sourcewell National Cooperative 080818-HPI Through Henderson Products Inc.

Resolution #24-186: Resolution Authorizing Fireworks to be Displayed on July 4, 2024 Within the Township of Vernon

Resolution #24-187: Refund Overpayment (Block 527 Lot 338 – Garcia)

Resolution #24-188: Refund Overpayment (Block 106 Lot 43 – Humpreys)

Resolution #24-189: Resolution Authorizing Fireworks to be Displayed on July 6, 2024 with Raindate on July 20, 2024 Within the Township of Vernon

Resolution #24-190: Authorizing the Use of Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council for the Proposed Improvements to Various Streets-2024

Resolution #24-191: Resolution of the Township of Vernon, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, Amending Resolution #23-237 Specifically Contracts for Proposed Improvements to Maple Grange Park

Resolution #24-192: Authoring the Use of Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council for Resurfacing Maple Grange Park Lower Parking Lot

Resolution #24-193: Authorizing the Use of Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council for Proposed Improvements to Various Streets-2024

Resolution #24-195: Refund for Totally Disabled Veteran (Block 82 Lot 14-Schwarts)

Resolution #24-196: (Block 82 Lot 14-Schwartz) Cancelling Taxes for Total Disabled Veteran

Resolution #24-197: Renewal of Liquor Licenses in the Township of Vernon for the 2024-2025 Licensing Term

President Rizzuto asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

MOVED: Sparta
SECOND: Buccieri

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Buccieri, DeBenedetto, Higgins, Sparta, Rizzuto
NAYES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

RESOLUTION #24-180

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERNON, COUNTY OF SUSSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE VERNON TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT AND ATLANTIC HEALTH SYSTEM, NEWTON MEDICAL CENTER, TO ESTABLISH JOINT PARTICIPATION IN THE ARRIVE TOGETHER PROGRAM TO ENHANCE AND SUPPORT RESPONSE TO CERTAIN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS CALLS

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Township Council of the Township of Vernon have received from the Vernon Township Chief of Police a Memorandum of Understanding to establish joint participation in the ARRIVE Together Program to enhance and support responses to certain behavioral health crisis calls; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor, Township Council and the Vernon Township Chief of Police have reviewed the terms of the MOU; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Township Council, together with the Chief of Police find it to be in the best interest of Vernon Township and its residents to execute the MOU.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Mayor and Township Council of the Township of Vernon, County of Sussex, that the Vernon Township Police Chief be authorized to execute the Memorandum of Understanding between the Township and Atlantic Health System, Newton Medical Center (Participating Mental Health Service Provider) to establish a joint participation in the ARRIVE Together Program to enhance and support response to certain behavioral health crisis calls.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effective immediately.

RESOLUTION #24-181

CHAPTER 159 RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION AMENDING THE 2024 BUDGET AS A REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION OF \$47,635.64

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and

WHEREAS, said Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for an equal amount; and

WHEREAS, the Township has been awarded a \$47,635.64 Opioid Settlement Funds Grant and wishes to amend its 2024 budget for the difference of the awarded amount as a revenue.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Vernon hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget of the year 2024 in the sum of \$47,635.64 which is now available as a revenue,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a like sum of \$47,635.64 is hereby appropriated under the caption Opioid Settlement Funds Grant.

RESOLUTION #24-182

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERNON, COUNTY OF SUSSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE USE OF OMNIA PARTNERS, FORMERLY KNOWN AS US COMMUNITIES' NATIONAL COOPERATIVE

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 52:34-6.2 authorizes contracting units, including the Township of Vernon, to make purchases and contract for services through the use of nationally recognized and accepted cooperative purchasing agreements that have been developed utilizing a competitive bidding process by another contracting unit within the State of New Jersey or within any other state; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Vernon has determined that the use of cooperative purchasing agreements may result in significant cost savings and is desirous of joining and participating in a national cooperative called the Omnia Partners formerly known as US Communities National Cooperative; and

WHEREAS, Omnia Partners 840 Crescent Centre Drive, Franklin, TN 37067 is a private cooperative, complying with New Jersey Local Finance Notice 2012-10 by ensuring lead agency procurements are offered to the New Jersey region in accord with the mandates as described within the Local Finance Notice; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Vernon desires to become a member of Omnia Partners for the purposes of purchasing goods and or services through a procurement process that is more efficient and provides a cost savings to the Township;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Vernon, being the governing body thereof, that the Township of Vernon be and hereby is authorized to join and become a member of the Omnia Partners National Cooperative 840 Crescent Centre Drive, Franklin, TN 37067; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor be and hereby is authorized to execute any agreement and the Clerk is authorized to attest to the signature of the Mayor on any agreement signed in connection with joining and participating in Omnia Partners National Cooperative; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township of Vernon Qualified Purchasing Agent shall be responsible for ensuring that all goods and/or services procured through Omnia Partners comply with all laws of the State of New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq., and all other provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey.

RESOLUTION #24-183

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF SCHWARZE A8SE SWEEPER
AND ACCESSORIES THROUGH SOURCEWELL NATIONAL
COOPERATIVE #093021-SWZ THROUGH H.A. DEHART & SON INC.**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Township of Vernon, Sussex County, State of New Jersey as follows:

WHEREAS, in accordance with the requirements of the Local Public Contract Law P.L. 2011, C.139 (the “Law” or “Chapter 139” and N.J.S.A.52:34-6.2 the regulations promulgated there under in Local Finance Notice LFN 2012-10, the following purchase without competitive bids from vendor with a Sourcewell National Cooperative is hereby approved for municipalities, and;

WHEREAS, the Township of Vernon has the need to procure certain Schwarze A8SE Sweeper and accessories in accord with the Local Publics Contract Law N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et. Seq., and;

WHEREAS, the Township of Vernon has previously acted in accord with New Jersey public procurement statutes and regulations as promulgated by formally joining a recognized and compliant national cooperative, being the Sourcewell National Cooperative, and;

WHEREAS, the regulations as set forth within Local Finance Notice LFN 2012-10 have been fully complied with, and;

WHEREAS the equipment and corresponding Sourcewell National Cooperative contract is #093021-SWZ distributed by H.A. Dehart & Son, 311 Crown Point Road, Thorofare, NJ 08086-9999; and

WHEREAS the quoted cost under the Sourcewell National Cooperative is contract \$437,145.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has determined, and certified available funds are available in the amount of \$437,145.00 from:

Line Item: C-04-24-010 Various Purpose Ordinance 24-10

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Mayor is hereby authorized to effectuate the purchase of herein approved equipment through H.A. Dehart & Son, 311 Crown Point Road, Thorofare, NJ 08086-9999 for the approved cost of \$437,145.00 from Sourcewell contract #093021-SWZ.

RESOLUTION #24-184

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF DUMP BODY ACCESSORIES THROUGH
SOURCEWELL NATIONAL COOPERATIVE 080818-HPI THROUGH HENDERSON
PRODUCTS INC.**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Township of Vernon, Sussex County, State of New Jersey as follows:

WHEREAS, in accordance with the requirements of the Local Public Contract Law P.L. 2011, C.139 (the “Law” or “Chapter 139” and N.J.S.A.52:34-6.2 the regulations promulgated there under in Local Finance Notice LFN 2012-10, the following purchase without competitive bids from vendor with a Sourcewell National Cooperative is hereby approved for municipalities, and;

WHEREAS, the Township of Vernon has the need to procure certain dump body replacements and accessories in accord with the Local Publics Contract Law N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et. Seq., and;

WHEREAS, the Township of Vernon has previously acted in accord with New Jersey public procurement statutes and regulations as promulgated by formally joining a recognized and compliant national cooperative, being the Sourcewell National Cooperative, and;

WHEREAS, the regulations as set forth within Local Finance Notice LFN 2012-10 have been fully complied with, and;

WHEREAS the equipment and corresponding Sourcewell National Cooperative contract is 080818-HPI for Henderson Products Inc 94 North Dell Avenue Kenil, NJ 07847; and

WHEREAS the quoted cost under the Sourcewell National Cooperative is contract \$96,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has determined, and certified available funds are available in the amount of \$96,000.00 from Line Item: C-04-24-010 Various Purpose Ordinance 24-10 with an effective date of July 18, 2024.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Mayor is hereby authorized to effectuate the purchase of herein approved equipment through Henderson Products Inc 94 North Dell Avenue Kenil, NJ 07847 for the approved cost of \$96,000.00 from Sourcewell contract 080818-HPI.

Resolution #24-185

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF FREIGHTLINER 108SD AND ACCESSORIES THROUGH SOURCEWELL NATIONAL COOPERATIVE 080818-HPI THROUGH HENDERSON PRODUCTS INC.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Township of Vernon, Sussex County, State of New Jersey as follows:

WHEREAS, in accordance with the requirements of the Local Public Contract Law P.L. 2011, C.139 (the “Law” or “Chapter 139” and N.J.S.A.52:34-6.2 the regulations promulgated there under in Local Finance Notice LFN 2012-10, the following purchase without competitive bids from vendor with a Sourcewell National Cooperative is hereby approved for municipalities, and;

WHEREAS, the Township of Vernon has the need to procure certain Freightliner Single Axles 108sd and accessories in accord with the Local Publics Contract Law N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et. Seq., and;

WHEREAS, the Township of Vernon has previously acted in accord with New Jersey public procurement statutes and regulations as promulgated by formally joining a recognized and compliant national cooperative, being the Sourcewell National Cooperative, and;

WHEREAS, the regulations as set forth within Local Finance Notice LFN 2012-10 have been fully complied with, and;

WHEREAS the equipment and corresponding Sourcewell National Cooperative contract is 080818-HPI for Henderson Products Inc 94 North Dell Avenue Kenil, NJ 07847; and

WHEREAS the quoted cost under the Sourcewell National Cooperative is contract \$242,232.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has determined, and certified available funds are available in the amount of \$242,232.00 Line Item: C-04-24-010 with an effective date of July 18, 2024.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Mayor is hereby authorized to effectuate the purchase of herein approved equipment through Henderson Products Inc 94 North Dell Avenue Kenil, NJ 07847 for the approved cost of \$242,232.00 from Sourcewell contract 080818-HPI.

RESOLUTION #24-186

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FIREWORKS TO BE DISPLAYED
ON JULY 4, 2024 WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP OF VERNON**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A.21:3-1et seq. Explosive and Fireworks, provides that a Municipal Governing Body must authorize the display of fireworks within its boundaries as a pre-condition to such display in accordance with the New Jersey Fire Prevention Code; and

WHEREAS, Mountain Creek has submitted an application to Vernon Township to conduct fireworks display on July 4, 2024 to be held at Mountain Creek Resort, 200 RT 94; and

WHEREAS, the proposed fireworks display location will be on the Mountain Creek Resort Property Grounds, Block 531 Lot 4 as noted on application Site Map; and

WHEREAS, Mountain Creek Resort has engaged in a contract with Garden State Fireworks, Millington, NJ, to perform the public fireworks and special effects display and has provided the required certificate of liability insurance to the Township.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of Vernon, in the County of Sussex, hereby authorizes the firework display, performed by Garden State Fireworks Inc. on July 4, 2024 at Mountain Creek Resort, located at 200 Route 94, Vernon, upon satisfaction of all statutory and departmental requirements.

RESOLUTION #24-187

**REFUND OVERPAYMENT
(Block 527 Lot 338 – Garcia)**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Township of Vernon, Vernon, New Jersey, that a warrant be drawn to Danielle Garcia in the amount of \$1091.56 representing refund for overpayment of 3rd qtr. 2023 property taxes for Block 527 Lot 338.

OWNER	BLOCK	LOT	REFUND AMOUNT
Garcia	527	338	\$1091.56
		TOTAL:	\$1091.56

RESOLUTION #24-188

**REFUND OVERPAYMENT
(Block 106 Lot 43 – HUMPHREYS)**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Township of Vernon, Vernon, New Jersey, that a warrant be drawn to Amy Humphreys in the amount of \$2056.27 representing refund for overpayment of 3rd qtr. 2023 property taxes for Block 106 Lot 43.

OWNER	BLOCK	LOT	REFUND AMOUNT
Humphreys	106	43	\$2056.27
		TOTAL:	\$2056.27

RESOLUTION #24-189

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FIREWORKS TO BE DISPLAYED
ON JULY 6, 2024 WITH RAINDATE ON JULY 20, 2024
WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP OF VERNON**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A.21:3-1et seq. Explosive and Fireworks, provides that a Municipal Governing Body must authorize the display of fireworks within its boundaries as a pre-condition to such display in accordance with the New Jersey Fire Prevention Code; and

WHEREAS, Tall Timbers Property Owner’s Association has submitted an application to Vernon Township to conduct fireworks display on July 6, 2024, with rain date July 20, 2024 to be held at Tall Timbers, 100 Tall Timbers Road per site map provided; and

WHEREAS, Tall Timbers Property Owner’s Association has engaged in a contract with Garden State Fireworks, Inc., Millington, NJ, to perform the public fireworks and special effects display and has provided the required certificate of liability insurance to the Township.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of Vernon, in the County of Sussex, hereby authorizes the firework display, performed by Garden State Fireworks Inc. on July 6, 2024, with rain date of July 20, 2024, at Tall Timbers, located at 100 Tall Timbers Road, Vernon, upon satisfaction of all statutory and departmental requirements.

RESOLUTION #24-190

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF MORRIS COUNTY COOPERATIVE PRICING COUNCIL FOR PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO VARIOUS STREETS-2024

WHEREAS, the Township of Vernon has a need for contracting services for Proposed Improvements to Various Streets – within Cliffwood Lake, Pleasant Valley Drive, Lake Conway & Margaret Lane; and

WHEREAS, the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council advertised and received bids for milling & paving through Contract #6; and

WHEREAS, the bids received allowed for vendors to extend their pricing to municipalities who are a member of the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council, a State regulated County Contract Purchasing System; and

WHEREAS, the Vernon Township Engineer recommends the Township Council award a contract for milling & paving through the use of the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council to the following contractor:

- 1) Milling & Paving: Riverview Paving, Inc. (Contract # 6) in an amount of **\$644,303.68**;

WHEREAS, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer of the Township of Vernon has certified that the funds for this contract is available in Line Item: C-04-24-010 with an effective date of July 18, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Vernon that the vendors Riverview Paving, Inc be utilized for Proposed Improvements to Various Streets through the respective Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council contracts at the amount not to exceed listed herewith.

This Resolution shall take effect July 18, 2024.

RESOLUTION #24-191

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERNON, COUNTY OF SUSSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING RESOLUTION #23-237 SPECIFICALLY CONTRACTS FOR PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO MAPLE GRANGE PARK

WHEREAS, Resolution #23-237 was duly adopted by the Township Council on September 25, 2023; and

WHEREAS, said Resolution authorized contracts for Milling & Paving with Schifano Construction Corp and Line Striping with Denville Line Painting, for Improvements to Maple Grange Park in amount of \$63,555.00 and \$5,600.00 respectfully; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to amend the resolution by rescinding the contract to Schifano Construction Corp only because project was based on Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council’s 2023 awarded contract and that work was not completed in 2023; and

WHEREAS, the contract awarded to Denville Line Painting, Inc., for line striping this project will remain in effect.

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Vernon, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, that the Resolution #23-237 is hereby amended and award to Schifano Construction Corp. for Milling & Paving for Proposed Improvements to Maple Grange Park is hereby rescinded.

RESOLUTION #24-192

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF MORRIS COUNTY COOPERATIVE PRICING COUNCIL FOR RESURFACING MAPLE GRANGE PARK LOWER PARKING LOT

WHEREAS, the Township of Vernon has a need for contracting services for Resurfacing Vernon Township Maple Grange Parking Lot; and

WHEREAS, the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council advertised and received bids for milling & paving through Contract #6; and

WHEREAS, the bids received allowed for vendors to extend their pricing to municipalities who are a member of the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council, a State regulated County Contract Purchasing System; and

WHEREAS, the Vernon Township Engineer recommends the Township Council award a contract for milling & paving through the use of the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council to the following contractor:

- 1) Milling & Paving: Riverview Paving, Inc. (Contract # 6) in an amount of **\$57,247.50**;

WHEREAS, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer of the Township of Vernon has certified that the funds for this contract is available in Line Items: C-04-22-010 Various Purpose Ordinance and C-04-23-015 Various Purpose Ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Vernon that the vendors Riverview Paving, Inc be utilized for the Resurfacing of Maple Grange Parking Lot through the respective Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council contracts at the amount not to exceed listed herewith.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately according to law.

RESOLUTION #24-193

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF MORRIS COUNTY COOPERATIVE PRICING COUNCIL FOR PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO VARIOUS STREETS - 2024

WHEREAS, the Township of Vernon has a need for contracting services for Proposed Improvements to Various Streets – within Cliffwood Lake, Pleasant Valley Drive, Lake Conway & Margaret Lane; and

WHEREAS, the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council advertised and received bids for Guide Rails through Contract #26; and

WHEREAS, the bids received allowed for vendors to extend their pricing to municipalities who are a member of the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council, a State regulated County Contract Purchasing System; and

WHEREAS, the Vernon Township Engineer recommends the Township Council award a contract for Guide Rails and Drainage Inlet Accessories through the use of the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council to the following contractors:

- 1) Guide Rails: Road Safety Systems, LLC (Contract #26) in an amount of **\$183,005.00**;
- 2) Drainage Inlet Access. Campbell Foundry Co. (Contract #14 in an amount of **\$13,685.00**

WHEREAS, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer of the Township of Vernon has certified that the funds for this contract is available from Line Item: C-04-24-010 with an effective date of July 18, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Vernon that the vendors Road Safety Systems, LLC and Campbell Foundry, Co. be utilized for the Improvements to Various Streets-2024 through the respective Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council contracts at the amount not to exceed listed herewith.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately according to law.

RESOLUTION #24-195

**REFUND FOR TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN
(Block 82 Lot 14-Schwartz)**

WHEREAS, THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS awarded Corey Schwartz a 100% permanent and totally disabled veteran: and,

WHEREAS, the law exempts said property from taxation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Township of Vernon hereby authorizes the Tax Collector to refund 2024 property tax in the amount of \$1,863.76 to Corey Schwartz.

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Township Tax Collector.

RESOLUTION #24-196

(Block 82 Lot 14 - Schwartz)

CANCELLING TAXES FOR TOTAL DISABLED VETERAN

WHEREAS THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS on awarded Corey Schwartz a 100% permanent and total disabled veteran; and

WHEREAS, as of said date the law exempts said property from taxation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Township of Vernon authorizes the Tax Collector to cancel the taxes for 2024 in the amount of \$1,877.21.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Tax Collector.

RESOLUTION #24-197

**RENEWAL OF LIQUOR LICENSES IN THE TOWNSHIP OF VERNON
FOR THE 2024-2025 LICENSING TERM**

WHEREAS, all licenses to dispense alcoholic beverages must be renewed and reissued annually no later than June 30, 2024; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 33:1-1 et. seq., the Vernon Township Police Department has made the necessary inspections and reported same to the Township Clerk; and

WHEREAS, all of the licensees have complied with all of the regulations as set forth by the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission of the State of New Jersey;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Vernon that the following licenses shall be reissued for the 2024-2025 licensing period effective as of July 1, 2024.

PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION
Great Gorge Entertainment LLC

1922-33-003-008

Smokey’s Glenwood Grill LLC

1922-33-013-005

CLUB LICENSE

Wallkill Valley Memorial Post 8441

1922-31-010-002

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution #24-179: Approval to Submit a Grant Application and Execute a Grant Contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the McPeek Road Improvements Project

President Rizzuto asked for a motion to approve resolution #24-179.

MOVED: Sparta

SECOND: Higgins

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Buccieri, DeBenedetto, Higgins, Sparta, Rizzuto

NAYES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

RESOLUTION#24-179

**APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A
GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION FOR THE MCPEEK ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Vernon Township Council of the Township of Vernon, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey formally approves the grant application for the above stated project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as **MA-2025-McPeek Road Improvements-00421** to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of Vernon Township.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of Vernon Township and that their signatures constitute acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approve the execution of the grant agreement.

My signature and Municipal Clerk’s seal serve to acknowledge the above resolution and constitute acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approve the execution of the grant agreement as authorized by the resolution above.

Resolution #24-194: Resolution of the Authorizing Award of CC#1-2024 Payroll Processing Vendor Through the Competitive Contracting Process

President Rizzuto asked for a motion to approve resolution #24-194.

MOVED: DeBenedetto

SECOND: Sparta

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Buccieri, DeBenedetto, Higgins, Rizzuto

NAYES: Sparta

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

TOWNSHIP OF VERNON

RESOLUTION #24-194

**Resolution of the Authorizing the Award of CC# 1-2024 Payroll Processing Vendor
Through the Competitive Contacting Process**

WHEREAS, the Township has authorized the competitive contract procurement for payroll processing vendors through resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Township received and opened in a public manner competitive contract responses on April 23, 2024, at 10:00 A.M.; and

WHEREAS, the Township established a rating committee, rating the proposals upon the standards of Price and Other Factors, those factors being Technical, Managerial and Cost, in accord with N.J.A.C.5:34-4; and

WHEREAS, the Township received three (3) proposals; and

WHEREAS the report produced by the committee, recommended Action Data Services, 17 Sherwood Lane, Fairfield, New Jersey, 07004 and was made available to the public and governing body at least 48 hours prior to the meeting of the governing body in accord with N.J.S.A 40A:11-4.1 and N.J.A.C 5:34-4; and

WHEREAS, Action Data Services, 17 Sherwood Lane, Fairfield, New Jersey, 07004, has provided a proposal deemed responsive and responsible under the New Jersey Local Publics Contract Law (N.J.S.A.40A:11-1 et. Seq.,) as well as most advantageous based upon Price and Other Factors (N.J.A.C. 5:34-4); and

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation that the Township enter into an agreement for services under competitive contract with Action Data Services, 17 Sherwood Lane, Fairfield, New Jersey, 07004, for a period of seven (7) years under the terms and tenets as set forth in the competitive contract procurement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED 1. That the Mayor is authorized to execute contract with Action Data Services, 17 Sherwood Lane, Fairfield, New Jersey, 07004 under the precepts of competitive contract payroll processing vendor CC# 1-2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Clerk shall forward a certified copy of this Resolution to the Business Administrator; Chief Financial Officer; and Purchasing Agent.

2023 ANNUAL AUDIT

Resolution #24-198: 2023 Annual Audit

President Rizzuto asked for a motion to approve resolution #24-198.

MOVED: DeBenedetto

SECOND: Sparta

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Buccieri, DeBenedetto, Higgins, Sparta, Rizzuto

NAYES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

RESOLUTION #24-198

2023 Annual Audit

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-4 requires the governing body of every local unit to have made an annual audit of its books, accounts and financial transactions, and

WHEREAS, the Annual Report of Audit for the year 2023 has been filed by a Registered Municipal Accountant with the Municipal Clerk pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:5-6, and a copy has been received by each member of the governing body; and

WHEREAS, R.S. 52:27BB-34 authorizes the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey to prescribe reports pertaining to the local fiscal affairs; and

WHEREAS, the Local Finance Board has promulgated N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5, a regulation requiring that the governing body of each municipality shall, by resolution, certify to the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey that all members of the governing body have reviewed, as a minimum, the sections of the annual audit entitled “Comments and Recommendations”; and

WHEREAS, the members of the governing body have personally reviewed, as a minimum, the Annual Report of Audit, and specifically the sections of the Annual Audit entitled “Comments and Recommendations,” as evidenced by the group affidavit form of the governing body attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, such resolution of certification shall be adopted by the Governing Body no later than forty-five days after the receipt of the annual audit, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5; and

WHEREAS, all members of the governing body have received and have familiarized themselves with, at least, the minimum requirements of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey, as stated aforesaid and have subscribed to the affidavit, as provided by the Local Finance Board; and

WHEREAS, failure to comply with the regulations of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey may subject the members of the local governing body to the penalty provisions of R.S. 52:27BB-52, to wit:

R.S. 52:27BB-52: A local officer or member of a local governing body who, after date fixed for compliance, fails or refuses to obey an order of the director (Director of Local Government Services), under the provisions of this Article, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, may be fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both, in addition shall forfeit his office.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of Vernon, hereby states that is has complied with N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5 and does hereby submit a certified copy of this resolution and the required

Resolution #24-199: Corrective Action Plan 2023 Audit

President Rizzuto asked for a motion to approve resolution #24-199.

MOVED: DeBenedetto

SECOND: Sparta

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Buccieri, DeBenedetto, Higgins, Sparta, Rizzuto

NAYES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

RESOLUTION #24-199

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN 2023 AUDIT

WHEREAS, the 2023 Annual Audit Report was delivered in June 2024 and regulations promulgated by the Local Fiscal Affairs Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:5 requires that the Chief Financial Officer prepare a Corrective Action Plan covering all findings and recommendations in the audit report; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5 further requires approval of the Corrective Action Plan within 60 days of audit receipt by the Township Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Vernon that the Corrective Action Plan for the 2023 Annual Audit Report prepared by the Township Chief Financial Officer and attached hereto as “Appendix A” be approved

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

Ordinance #24-13: Ordinance of the Township of Vernon, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey Addressing Taxis/Autocabs

Council President Rizzuto asked for a motion to introduce ordinance #24-13.

MOVED: Sparta
SECOND: DeBenedetto

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: DeBenedetto, Higgins, Sparta, Rizzuto
NAYES: Buccieri, Higgins
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

Motion carries to introduce ordinance #24-13.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (Limited to 5 Minutes Per Person)

MOVED: Sparta
SECOND: Higgins

All members were in favor.

Peter Knipe – commented on the limousine ordinance. Mr. Knipe expressed concern regarding the Mayor’s salary.

Scott Cassell – expressed concern with only livestreaming meetings.

Ann Larsen – agrees with Mr. Cassell’s comments regarding livestreaming meetings.

Seeing no other members of the public wishing to speak, President Rizzuto asked for a motion to close the meeting for Public Comments.

MOVED: Buccieri
SECOND: Sparta

All members were in favor.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Higgins explained that the research he did regarding the Mayor’s salary was to stimulate discussion and not to be criticized. He explained where the information came from and he feels it was successful in stimulating a discussion and the goal was not to solve the problem. Council Member Higgins voted no on the Zoom issue because he felt that Council President Rizzuto solved the problem with new rules of engagement.

Council Member DeBenedetto had no comments.

Council Member Sparta had no comments.

Council Member DeBenedetto had no comments.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT COMMENTS

Council President Rizzuto is cancelling the July 22, 2024 and August 26, 2024 Township Council meetings. Council President Rizzuto said congratulations to the 2024 graduates and he wishes them the best in their future.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:40 pm Council Member Buccieri made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Council Member Higgins.

All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcy Gianattasio, RMC, CMR
Municipal Clerk

Patrick Rizzuto
Council President

Minutes approved: July 8, 2024