

**JOINT MEETING WITH THE VERNON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY
MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 8, 2026 7:00 PM**

This Meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Vernon was convened at 7:00 p.m. on June 8, 2026 in the Vernon Municipal Center, 21 Church Street, Vernon, New Jersey with Council President Higgins presiding.

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided to the public and the press on January 22, 2026, 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 Higgins led the assemblage in the salute to the flag.

ROLL CALL

Present were Council Members, Carl Contino, Sandra Ooms, Patrick Rizzuto, Bradley Sparta and Council President William Higgins. Also present were Mayor Anthony Rossi, Business Administrator Tina Kraus, CFO Patricia Reiche, Township Attorney Peter King and Municipal Clerk Marcy Gianattasio. From the MUA, Director Donelle Bright and Commissioners Kearney, McDermott, Seger, DeYoung

PROCLAMATION

America's 250th Anniversary

2025 ANNUAL AUDIT

Township Auditor Man Lee presented the Council the 2025 Annual Audit.

Resolution #26-208: 2025 Annual Audit

Council President Higgins asked for a motion to approve resolution #26-208.

MOVED: Sparta

SECOND: Ooms

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Contino, Ooms, Rizzuto, Sparta, Higgins

NAYES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion carries to approved resolution #26-208.

RESOLUTION #26-208

2025 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 2025 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 affidavit to said Board to show evidence of said compliance.

Resolution #26-209: Corrective Action Plan 2025 Audit

Council President Higgins asked for a motion to approve resolution #26-209.

MOVED: Contino
SECOND: Ooms

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Contino, Ooms, Rizzuto, Sparta, Higgins
NAYES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

Motion carries to approved resolution #26-209.

RESOLUTION #26-209

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN 2025 AUDIT

WHEREAS, the 2025 Annual Audit Report was delivered in May 2026 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 2025 Annual Audit Report prepared by the Township Chief Financial Officer and attached hereto as “Appendix A” be approved.

APPENDIX “A”
TOWNSHIP OF VERNON

Corrective Action Plan for the 2025 Audit Report

Finding #1:

The various departments/offices of the Township are responsible for the issuance of permits and licenses; collection of taxes, utility charges, and permit and license fees; and recording of collections.

Recommendation:

Adequate segregation of duties be maintained with respect to the recording and treasury functions.

Corrective Action:

Management has cross-trained more employees to allow for more segregation of duties. Deposits are now centralized in the Tax Office and receipts are recorded by one individual in the Township. All treasury functions are approved by the Chief Financial Officer prior to recording. Other treasury functions are spread across the Finance and Tax Department to ensure compliance and increased internal controls. Management is looking at additional tools for online payment of revenues with existing and prospective programs. In order to meet the criteria for adequate segregation of duties, the Township would be required to hire additional personnel to establish a centralized collection procedure. The increased cost and related inconvenience for residents are not reasonable at this time, but will be monitored.

Implementation Date:

Ongoing

Finding #2:

The tax title lien receivable ledger did not agree to the Township's general ledger after a mid-year posting that offset the starting balances.

Recommendation:

The tax collector takes extra care to ensure that tax title lien receivables are reconciled with the Treasurer's records on a monthly basis.

Corrective Action:

The tax title lien receivable ledger will be reviewed and reconciled by the tax collector on a monthly basis along with historic corrections to be made with the accounting software company. Review of old tax title liens will be conducted to find historical errors and bring the current list in balance.

Implementation Date:

Ongoing

PRESENTATION

Municipal Utilities Authority

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Rossi commented that the PBA had their fundraiser at Mountain Creek. Mayor Rossi joined the Mayor's and Commissioner for a 250th Anniversary Celebration. The County put together a time capsule and he put this proclamation a Vernon sticker and coin from the PD in the time capsule which will be opened in fifty years. Tomorrow is the Senior Olympics. June 13th is Vernon Day and the VFW is in charge of that.

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

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

MOVED: Ooms

SECOND: Contino

All members were in favor.

Motion carries to open the meeting to the public.

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

MOVED: Sparta
SECOND: Ooms

All members were in favor.

Motion carries to close the meeting to the public.

REVIEW OF BILLS LIST

The Council reviewed the bills list.

11. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

May 18, 2026 – Special Meeting

Council President Higgins asked for a motion to approve the May 18, 2026 special meeting minutes.

MOVED: Sparta
SECOND: Contino

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Contino, Ooms, Rizzuto, Sparta, Higgins
NAYES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

Motion carries to approve the May 18, 2026 special meeting minutes.

May 28, 2026 – Regular Meeting

Council President Higgins asked for a motion to approve the May 28, 2026 regular meeting minutes.

MOVED: Ooms
SECOND: Rizzuto

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Contino, Ooms, Rizzuto, Sparta, Higgins
NAYES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

Motion carries to approve the May 28, 2026 regular meeting minutes.

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution #26-193: Resolution Enabling Agent and Contracting for Online Power Purchase

Resolution #26-194: Chapter 159 Resolution Requesting Approval of Revenue and Appropriation Amending the 2026 Budget as a Revenue and Appropriation of \$64,089.90

Resolution #26-195: Chapter 159 Resolution Requesting Approval of Revenue and Appropriation Amending the 2026 Budget as a Revenue and Appropriation of \$15,509.19

Resolution #26-198: Refund for Totally Disabled Veteran (Block 417 Lot 6)

Resolution #26-199: Refund for Totally Disabled Veteran (Block 12 Lot 10)

Resolution #26-200: Refund for Totally Disabled Veteran (Block 12 Lot 10)

Resolution #26-201: Refund for Totally Disabled Veteran (Block 446 Lot 19)

Resolution #26-202: Refund for Totally Disabled Veteran (Block 203 Lot 1)

Resolution #26-203: Refund for Carry Permit Municipal Fee, Schmarak

Resolution #26-204: Refund for Carry Permit Municipal Fee, Anthony

Resolution #26-205: Renewal of Liquor Licenses in the Township of Vernon for the 2026-2027 Licensing Term

Resolution #26-206: Authorizing Approval of Sussex County Contribution to Vernon Emergency Medical Services (VEMS)

Resolution #26-207: A Resolution Urging the New Jersey State Legislature and Governor to Repeal the Gas Tax Escalator and Restore Accountability to Fuel Tax Increases

Council President Higgins asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda.

MOVED: Ooms
SECOND: Contino

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Contino, Ooms, Rizzuto, Sparta, Higgins
NAYES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

Motion carries to approved the consent agenda.

RESOLUTION #26-193

RESOLUTION ENABLING AGENT AND CONTRACTING FOR ONLINE POWER PURCHASE

WHEREAS the NJ Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services, permits public entities – as per P.L.2001, c.30 – to utilize Division-approved online purchasing agents to secure energy supply contracts through an online bidding/reverse auction process; and

WHEREAS the services of said approved agents are exempt from public bidding, as per P.L.2001, c.30; and

WHEREAS the governing body of the Township of Vernon desires to utilize Transparent Energy (“TE”) – a BPU certified and DCA approved provider of online energy procurement services – to secure natural gas and electricity supply contracts; and

WHEREAS the NJDCA and NJBPU advise that contracts for power supply should be awarded shortly after an online auction is conducted in order to ensure the lowest possible rates;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the governing body of the Township of Vernon authorizes TE to investigate market conditions and, when directed by approved Township of Vernon officer(s), conduct online auctions for the purpose of securing natural gas and electricity supply contracts for its utility accounts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the governing body of the Township of Vernon authorizes Mayor Rossi or his designee to award and sign power supply contract.

RESOLUTION #26-194

CHAPTER 159 RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION AMENDING THE 2026 BUDGET

AS A REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION OF \$64,089.90

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 \$64,089.90 Clean Communities Grant; and wishes to amend its 2026 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 2026 in the sum of \$64,089.90 which is now available as a revenue,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a like sum of \$64,089.90 is hereby appropriated under the caption Clean Communities Grant.

RESOLUTION #26-195

**CHAPTER 159 RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL OF
REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION AMENDING THE 2026 BUDGET
AS A REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION OF \$15,509.19**

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 \$15,509.19 National Opioid Settlement Proceeds Grant; and wishes to amend its 2026 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 2026 in the sum of \$15,509.19 which is now available as a revenue,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a like sum of \$15,509.19 is hereby appropriated under the caption National Opioid Settlement.

RESOLUTION #26-198

**REFUND FOR TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN
(Block 417 Lot 6)**

WHEREAS, THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS awarded William Alnemy 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 2026 property tax in the amount of \$3,814.15 to Ryan Padilla.

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

RESOLUTION #26-199

**REFUND FOR TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN
(Block 12 Lot 10)**

WHEREAS, THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
awarded 4 Slayton Road 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 2025 property tax in the amount of \$5,329.68 to 4 Slayton Road.

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

RESOLUTION #26-200

**REFUND FOR TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN
(Block 12 Lot 10)**

WHEREAS, THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
awarded 4 Slayton Road 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 2026 property tax in the amount of \$4,817.81 to 4 Slayton Road.

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

RESOLUTION #26-201

**REFUND FOR TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN
(Block 446 Lot 19)**

WHEREAS, THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
awarded Block 446 Lot 19 100% 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 2026 property tax in the amount of \$1,780.08 to Block 446 Lot 19.

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

RESOLUTION #26-202

**REFUND FOR TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN
(Block 203 Lot 1)**

WHEREAS, THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
awarded Ryan Padilla 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 2025 property tax in the amount of \$5,503.67 to Ryan Padilla.

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

RESOLUTION #26-203

REFUND FOR CARRY PERMIT MUNICIPAL FEE, SCHMARAK

WHEREAS, mayor and township council of the township of Vernon have adopted ordinance 26-04 dated 2/9/2026 allowing the refund of the municipal fee portion of the conceal carry application;

WHEREAS, to ease the financial burden, the Township of Vernon will offer a refund of \$150 for the municipal fee to Mathew Schmarak.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Township of Vernon hereby authorizes the Township of Vernon Finance Department to refund the municipal portion of the conceal carry application fee in the amount of \$150 to Mathew Schmarak.

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

RESOLUTION #26-204

REFUND FOR CARRY PERMIT MUNICIPAL FEE, ANTHONY

WHEREAS, mayor and township council of the township of Vernon have adopted ordinance 26-04 dated 2/9/2026 allowing the refund of the municipal fee portion of the conceal carry application;

WHEREAS, to ease the financial burden, the Township of Vernon will offer a refund of \$150 for the municipal fee to Stanley Anthony.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Township of Vernon hereby authorizes the Township of Vernon Finance Department to refund the municipal portion of the conceal carry application fee in the amount of \$150 to Stanley Anthony.

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

RESOLUTION #26-205

**RENEWAL OF LIQUOR LICENSES IN THE TOWNSHIP OF VERNON
FOR THE 2026-2027 LICENSING TERM**

WHEREAS, all licenses to dispense alcoholic beverages must be renewed and reissued annually no later than June 30, 2026; 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 2026-2027 licensing period effective as of July 1, 2026.

PLENARY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION	
Highland General Store Inc.	1922-44-002-002
Mac & Lindy’s L.L.C.	1922-44-012-002
LIMITED RETAIL DISTRIBUTION	
LWS2 Inc. (Lake Wanda Store)	1922-43-005-003
PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION	

Mountain Creek Resort Inc	1922-33-007-017
FLME Inc.	1922-33-008-004
Smokeys Glenwood Grill LLC	1922-33-013-005
The Leonard Inn LLC	1922-33-001-005
T&Z Holding Co LLC	1922-33-004-007
Great Gorge Entertainment LLC	1922-33-003-008
1833 House LTD	1922-33-009-006
HOTEL EXCEPTION	
Stone Hill Recreation SPE LLC	1922-36-011-003

RESOLUTION #26-206

AUTHORIZING APPROVAL OF SUSSEX COUNTY CONTRIBUTION TO VERNON EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (VEMS)

WHEREAS, Vernon Township is in receipt of Request for Certification for Rescue Squad Contribution of \$5,000.00 per squad from the County of Sussex; and

WHEREAS, per a resolution approved by the Board of Chosen Freeholders on February 28, 2001, Sussex County established policy to appropriate aid to Emergency Rescue Squads for the benefit of the county residents; and

WHEREAS, the policy stated that prior to approval, the appropriate municipality must approve the Emergency Rescue Squad seeking financial assistance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Township of Vernon that it hereby approves the Certification for Rescue Squad Contribution to Vernon Emergency Medical Services within Vernon Township and approves the receipt of financial assistance in the amount of \$5,000.00 per squad for the calendar year 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to Sussex County Administrative Center, and Vernon Emergency Medical Services.

RESOLUTION #26-207

A RESOLUTION URGING THE NEW JERSEY STATE LEGISLATURE AND GOVERNOR TO REPEAL THE GAS TAX ESCALATOR AND RESTORE ACCOUNTABILITY TO FUEL TAX INCREASES

WHEREAS, the residents of the State of New Jersey and the Township of Vernon are burdened by one of the highest overall tax structures in the United States; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, the State of New Jersey enacted legislation restructuring the Transportation Trust Fund and implementing an automatic adjustment mechanism commonly referred to as the “gas tax escalator”; and

WHEREAS, the gas tax escalator permits periodic increases in the motor fuels tax without a direct vote of the New Jersey State Legislature; and

WHEREAS, such automatic increases lack transparency and reduce accountability to taxpayers, who bear the financial burden without corresponding legislative oversight; and

WHEREAS, increases in the motor fuels tax raise the cost of commuting, goods, and services, and place additional financial strain on working families, seniors, and businesses; and

WHEREAS, these increased costs also impact municipal operations, including transportation, public works, and service delivery, thereby placing further pressure on local budgets and, ultimately, property taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Property Taxpayers Coalition has called for the repeal of the gas tax escalator as part of a broader effort to restore fiscal responsibility and taxpayer protections; and

WHEREAS, local governments have a responsibility to advocate for policies that protect their residents from unnecessary and unaccountable tax increases;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Vernon, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, that it hereby urges the New Jersey State Legislature and the Governor to:

- 1. Repeal the gas tax escalator; and
- 2. Require that any future increases in the motor fuels tax be subject to a direct vote of the Legislature; and
- 3. Restore transparency and accountability in the taxation process affecting New Jersey residents;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Governor of the State of New Jersey, the Senate President, the Speaker of the General Assembly, the members of the New Jersey Legislature representing this district, and all municipalities within Sussex County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be made available to the public and shared with other municipalities as part of a coordinated effort to advocate for meaningful tax reform.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution #26-196: Authorize Cancel Reserve Balance (Small Cities Housing)

Council President Higgins asked for a motion to approve resolution #26-196.

MOVED: Ooms
SECOND: Contino

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Contino, Ooms, Rizzuto, Sparta, Higgins
NAYES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

Motion carries to approved resolution #26-196.

RESOLUTION #26-196

Authorize Cancel Reserve Balance (Small Cities Housing)

WHEREAS, the Small Cities Housing reserve balance is \$1,733.00; and
WHEREAS, this balance represent completed/cancelled project and it is necessary to formally cancel the reserve balances from the balance sheet;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Township of Vernon, in the County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, that the following reserve balance be cancelled.

<u>Reserve</u>	<u>Reserve Balance</u>
Small Cities Housing	\$1,733.00

Resolution #26-197: Authorize Cancellation of Grant Receivable and Reserve Balance

Council President Higgins asked for a motion to approve resolution #26-197.

MOVED: Ooms
SECOND: Contino

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Contino, Ooms, Rizzuto, Sparta, Higgins
NAYES:
ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion carries to approved resolution #26-197.

RESOLUTION #26-197

Authorize Cancellation of Grant Receivable and Reserve Balance

WHEREAS, certain receivable and reserve balances remain dedicated to programs or projects which have been completed; and

WHEREAS, these balances represent completed programs or projects and it is necessary to formally cancel the grant receivable balance and its offsetting grant appropriation reserve balance from the balance sheet;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Township of Vernon, in the County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, that the following grant receivable and grant reserve balances be cancelled.

Grant	Reserve Balance	Receivable Balance
2019 MAC Grant	\$0.97	\$0.97
2020 MAC Grant	\$1,298.71	\$1,298.71
2021 MAC Grant	\$15,163.00	\$20,747.00
2022 MAC Grant	\$5,584.00	
2023 MAC Grant		\$90.00

ORDINANCES TO INTRODUCE

Ordinance #26-12: Ordinance Establishing the Salaries for Certain Officers and Employees of the Township of Vernon, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey

Council President Higgins asked for a motion to introduce ordinance #26-12.

MOVED: Rizzuto
SECOND: Contino

Council Member Ooms made a motion to amend ordinance #26-12 to make the tax collectors minimum salary from \$95,000 to \$115,000.

Council Member Contino made a motion to table ordinance #26-12. Seconded by council Member Ooms.

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Contino, Ooms, Rizzuto, Sparta, Higgins
NAYES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

Motion carries to table ordinance #26-12.

Ordinance #26-13: An Ordinance Authorizing the Sale of Certain Land in Vernon Township to be Sold at Public Auction in Accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13 (a)

Council President Higgins asked for a motion to introduce ordinance #26-13.

MOVED: Contino
SECOND: Sparta

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Contino, Ooms, Rizzuto, Sparta, Higgins
NAYES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

Motion carries to introduce ordinance #26-13.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (Limited to 5 Minutes Per Person)

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

MOVED: Sparta
SECOND: Contino

All members were in favor.

Motion carries to open the meeting to the public.

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

MOVED: Rizzuto
SECOND: Sparta

All members were in favor.

Motion carries to close the meeting to the public.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Contino thanked the MUA for coming to the meeting tonight and giving a lot of information.

Council Member Rizzuto had no comments.

Council Member Ooms had no comments.

Council Member Sparta had no comments.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT COMMENTS

Council President Higgins had no comments.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:10 pm Council Member Sparta made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Council Member Rizzuto.

All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcy Gianattasio, RMC, CMR
Municipal Clerk

William Higgins
Council President

Minutes approved: June 22, 2026