

The Minutes of the **Official Meeting** of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey on **March 8, 2022** at 7:31 p.m. in Council Chambers.

This meeting is in compliance with the “Open Public Meetings Act” as adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by e-mailing the annual schedule of meetings to THE WESTFIELD LEADER, THE UNION COUNTY LOCAL SOURCE, THE STAR LEDGER, AND TAP INTO CRANFORD, by posting such annual meeting schedule on a bulletin board in the Town Hall reserved for such announcements and the filing of said notice with the Township Clerk of Cranford. Formal Action will be taken at this meeting.

PRESENT: Mayor Kathleen Miller Prunty
Deputy Mayor Jason Gareis
Commissioner Brian Andrews
Commissioner Gina Black
Commissioner Mary O’Connor

ABSENT: None

INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE

The invocation was led by Deputy Mayor Gareis, followed by the flag salute.

MINUTE APPROVAL

On motion of Commissioner Andrews, seconded by Commissioner O’Connor and passed, the minutes of the Workshop Meeting of December 13, 2021 and the Conference Meeting of December 14, 2021 and the Official Meeting of December 14, 2021, were approved by indicated vote of the Township Committee:

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Miller Prunty, Deputy Mayor Gareis, Commissioners Andrews and O’Connor

Nay: None

Abstained: Commissioner Black

Absent: None

PAYMENT OF BILLS

On motion of Commissioner O’Connor, seconded by Commissioner Black and passed, the Bill List dated March 8, 2022, totaling \$6,202,782.90 was approved for payment by indicated vote of the Township Committee and is on file in the Office of the Township Clerk:

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Miller Prunty, Deputy Mayor Gareis, Commissioners Andrews, Black, and O’Connor

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

MAYORAL REMARKS

Spoke about the Hartz Mountain Industries Traffic Study associated with 750 Walnut Avenue and Maurice Rached’s of Colliers Engineering & Design review of such report. Mayor Miller Prunty explained that the traffic study was not a final traffic and pedestrian plan.

Mayor Miller Prunty also announced that the Township Planner, Annie Hindenlang of Topology NJ LLC, had written a North Avenue Redevelopment report using both analysis and feedback from the public meetings. She explained that this report would help guide the creation of the North Avenue Redevelopment plan. Mayor Miller Prunty stated that once the Redevelopment Plan was complete, it would be available for public review. She also spoke about the Township’s Affordable Housing court-imposed deadline of May 11th. The Mayor stated that the Township Committee understood that these are difficult issues and stated that they are doing the best they can for the Township and the residents.

INFORMAL MEETING

Mayor Miller Prunty opened the informal meeting portion of the meeting and asked if there were any questions or comments.

Don Smith, 21 Oneida Place: Mr. Smith asked if he could speak about Ordinance 2022-02 that pertained to the 750 Walnut Avenue Redevelopment Plan. He stated that he would hold his comments until the public hearing portion of the meeting took place.

Loretta Smith, 21 Oneida Place: Ms. Smith asked about Resolution No. 2022-158 pertaining to a change order for the renovation of the 375 Centennial Avenue facility. She inquired about the additional \$44,000

in construction costs Ms. Smith inquired about Resolution Number 2022-160 which also pertained to renovations at the 375 Centennial Avenue facility and the additional \$8,000 award to DMR architects. Discussion ensued.

Greg Carey, 25 Locust Drive: Mr. Carey stated that he would like to get a better understanding of Cranford's mask policy. He asked which Commissioners supported the enforcement of requiring masks inside of Municipal Buildings and asked that it be put on record that Clark Township had been "mask optional" for the past two years. He stated that the mask mandate was unlawful and infringing upon the liberties on citizens and the nation as a whole.

Joe Colangelo, 310 Prospect Avenue: Mr. Colangelo expressed regret for not having come forward publicly to comment about North Avenue development and briefly elaborated. Mr. Colangelo spoke about his support for developing the other side of North Avenue. He asked about Municipal Lot No. 1 and inquired if it would be included in the Redevelopment Plan for North Avenue. Mr. Colangelo spoke about his support for the Township retaining Municipal Lot No. 1. Mr. Colangelo spoke about Builder's immunity, the need to improve the Swan Cleaners property and Builder's Remedy lawsuits.

Rita LaBrutto, 104 Arlington Avenue: Ms. LaBrutto spoke about the North Avenue Redevelopment report and stated that she was glad to see that Municipal Lot No. 1 and the Firehouse would stay. She spoke about parking and discussed a previous redevelopment plan proposal from June of 2021. She stated that it was unfortunate that the Township only had two (2) months to draft a redevelopment plan. Ms. LaBrutto asked about the redevelopment process and what role the Downtown Management Corporation (DMC) had in the drafting of a redevelopment plan.

Hearing no further comments, Mayor Miller Prunty closed the Informal Meeting portion of the meeting.

ORDINANCES – Final Reading and Public Hearing

Ordinance No. 2022-02:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2022-02 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR A CONDEMNATION AREA IN NEED OF REDEVELOPMENT CONSISTING OF CERTAIN PROPERTIES LOCATED AT 750 WALNUT AVENUE (BLOCK 541, LOT 2, QUALIFIERS C01, C02, C03, C04, C05, C06 AND C07) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 ET SEQ."

Said ordinance having been advertised and posted in accordance with law, Commissioner Andrews opened the public hearing.

Don Smith, 21 Oneida Place: Mr. Smith asked about a basketball court on subdivision two (2) within the 750 Walnut Avenue Redevelopment property. He said it was his understanding that Hartz Mountain declined to provide a playground for their residents and declined to put in a bike path due to the potential for legal injury issues.

Mr. Smith also asked if there would be membership fees associated with the facility located on 375 Centennial Avenue. He inquired if the basketball courts would compete with the free-to-use basketball courts at 750 Walnut Avenue. Mr. Smith then spoke about the property line that is shown on the maps of the 750 Walnut Avenue Redevelopment Plan and expressed concerns over the future of the sixteen (16) acres between Hyatt Hills Golf Complex and the 750 Walnut Avenue property.

Commissioner O'Connor

Stated that she was glad to see the restrictive wording added to the Redevelopment Plan for 750 Walnut Avenue.

Hearing no further comments, Commissioner Andrews closed the public hearing. On motion of Commissioner Andrews, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor and passed, said ordinance was adopted by indicated vote of the Township Committee:

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Miller Prunty, Deputy Mayor Gareis, Commissioners Andrews, Black, and O'Connor

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Ordinance No. 2022-04:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2022-04 entitled "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, CHAPTER 40, ARTICLE V, SECTION 28 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES TRANSPORT FEES"

Said ordinance having been advertised and posted in accordance with law, Deputy Mayor Gareis opened the public hearing. Hearing no comments, Deputy Mayor Gareis closed the public hearing. On motion of Deputy Mayor Gareis, seconded by Commissioner Black and passed, said ordinance was adopted by indicated vote of the Township Committee:

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Miller Prunty, Deputy Mayor Gareis, Commissioners Andrews, Black, and O’Connor
Nay: None
Abstained: None
Absent: None

Ordinance No. 2022-05:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2022-05 entitled “AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD DESIGNATING THE ASSISTANT ZONING OFFICER, AS THE MUNICIPAL HOUSING LIAISON”

Said ordinance having been advertised and posted in accordance with law, Commissioner Andrews opened the public hearing. Hearing no comments, Commissioner Andrews closed the public hearing. On motion of Commissioner Andrews, seconded by Commissioner O’ Connor and passed, said ordinance was adopted by indicated vote of the Township Committee:

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Miller Prunty, Deputy Mayor Gareis, Commissioners Andrews, Black, and O’Connor
Nay: None
Abstained: None
Absent: None

RESOLUTIONS – By Consent Agenda

On motion of Commissioner Black, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gareis and passed, the following resolutions were adopted by consent agenda:

Resolution No. 2022-149:

WHEREAS, Township Administrator James M. Cryan is qualified for a leave of absence pursuant to the Federal Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA), New Jersey Family Leave Act (NJFLA) and the New Jersey Paid Family Leave Act (NJPFLA) for the care of his wife and child.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of Committee of the Township of Cranford that James M. Cryan is approved for a FMLA/NJFLA/NJPFLA leave of absence beginning April 6, 2022, using accumulated time as available as employee so elects;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that James M. Cryan shall comply with all provisions of law during the FMLA/NJFLA/NJPLA leave of absence, including providing all required medical proofs.

Resolution No. 2022-150:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that the following individuals be and hereby are appointed as per diem Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT’s) effective March 9, 2022:

Zachary Kornberger
Theodore Trojan

Resolution No. 2022-151:

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford reserves the right and discretion to make salary adjustments and title changes at any time as it deems it to be in the public interest and in the interests of good management; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee is appreciative of the hard work of all of its Township employees and is desirous of retaining dependable and experienced employees; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee hereby approves the salary adjustment and title change as recommended by the Township Administrator:

Name	Title	Salary	Effective
Martha Banks	Technical Assistant Supervisor	\$54,000	February 1, 2022

Resolution No. 2022-152:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, at a meeting held March 8, 2022, that the resignation of Matthew Blanck, a Communications Officer within the Cranford Police Department be and hereby is accepted, with regrets, effective March 9, 2022.

Resolution No. 2022-153:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, at a meeting held March 8, 2022, that the resignation of Susan Eisenberg as a member of the Green Team, be and hereby is accepted, retroactive to December 31, 2021.

Resolution No. 2022-154:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford at a meeting held March 8, 2022, that Lauren King be, and hereby is, appointed as a member of the Green Team for the year 2022, effective January 1, 2022.

Resolution No. 2022-155:

RESOLUTION REORGANIZING THE FLOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND APPOINTING MEMBERS

WHEREAS, on September 1, 2021, Tropical Storm Ida moved through the Township of Cranford bringing devastatingly strong winds along with heavy and sustained rainfall; and

WHEREAS, Tropical Storm Ida caused flash flooding along with stream and river flooding that overwhelmed the storm water management system throughout the Township of Cranford and caused significant damage to residents; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford seeks increased preparedness for future weather events and hereby reorganizes the Flood Advisory Committee as the Flood Prevention and Mitigation Advisory Committee (FPMAC), with two working groups to provide guidance to the Township Committee as to flood control matters on a local, regional and state level as well as assisting with the implementation of flood control measures; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee desires to continue to inform and mobilize residents to stay proactive and hereby divides the duties of the FPMAC as follows.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee hereby reorganizes the Flood Advisory Committee as the Flood Prevention and Mitigation Advisory Committee (“FPMAC”), which shall consist of two working groups:

- A. **The Stormwater Infrastructure Planning Working Group**, which shall focus on Cranford-specific issues, including stormwater ordinances, stormwater mitigation efforts, and local stormwater infrastructure needs; and,
- B. **The State-Regional Planning Working Group**, which shall focus on inter-county, state and federal plans and improvements to prevent and mitigate flooding of the Rahway River flood plain.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford hereby makes the following appointments to the Stormwater Infrastructure Planning Working Group for the year 2022: Deputy Mayor Jason Gareis - Commissioner Liaison; Ann Dooley – Chair; Ben Cohen; Dave Coughlin; Joe McMahon; Jay Stevens; Patricia Vogler; and to be supported by the Township’s professionals, John Ruschke – Mott MacDonald; Jacqueline Dirmann – Colliers Engineering & Design; Erik Hastrup – Superintendent of Public Works; and Kathleen Nemeth – Zoning Officer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford hereby makes the following appointments to the State-Regional Planning Working Group for the year 2022: Commissioner Gina Black - Commissioner Liaison; Patrick Giblin – Chair; Dana Friedman; Steve Jandoli; Chris Kolibas; Zach McCue; Kathleen Murray; and to be supported by the Township’s professionals, John Ruschke – Mott MacDonald; and Jacqueline Dirmann – Colliers Engineering & Design.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Stormwater Infrastructure Planning Subcommittee and State-Regional Planning Subcommittee, shall report regularly to the Township Committee their findings and recommendations on the issues of flood prevention and mitigation.

Resolution No. 2022-156:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford on the 8th day of March, 2022 that the Tax Collector has been authorized to refund tax overpayments for the reason noted:

100% Disabled Veteran-Resident Tax Overpayment

Block 163 Lot 11
Acinapura, Joseph
604 Willow Street
Cranford, N.J. 07016

Refund \$4,718.37
(2-01-55-000-010-025)

Resolution No. 2022-157:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, that the Township Clerk be, and hereby is, authorized to advertise for bids for the demolition and renovation of flood-damaged components of the Cranford Canoe Club

Resolution No. 2022-158:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER FOR ADDITIONAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE RENOVATION OF THE RECREATION CENTER AT 375 CENTENNIAL AVENUE, FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, Tri-Form Construction Inc., 119 Liberty Street, Metuchen, New Jersey, 08840 was previously awarded a construction contract for the Renovation of the Cranford Recreation Center at 375 Centennial Avenue with a total project price of \$1,253,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the project is currently on-going and it is understood that the Township of Cranford would like to expedite the Renovation of the Cranford Recreation Center at 375 Centennial Avenue; and

WHEREAS, DMR Architects has reviewed the requests and approved each, which outlines the estimated additional construction costs for said improvements to the Recreation Center in the amount of \$44,440.00; **WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that sufficient funds are available within the current and/or previously adopted budget for said purpose.

WHEREAS, the following summarizes the allocation of the \$44,440.00 Change Order:

- Utilize the available funding from Capital Bond Ordinance C-04-21-010-000-209

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, Union County, New Jersey that the above referenced Change Order for the Renovation of the Cranford Recreation Center at 375 Centennial Avenue is awarded to Tri-Form Construction, Inc., 119 Liberty Street, Metuchen, New Jersey, 08840 in the amount of \$44,440.00 (3.5% of the original contract amount of \$1,253,000.00).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

I, Patricia Donahue, Township Clerk of the Township of Cranford, in the County of Union, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the forgoing is true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey at a regular meeting of said Committee held on March 8, 2022.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Township of Cranford in the County of Union and State of New Jersey this 8th day of March, 2022.

Resolution No. 2022-159:

WHEREAS, on or about March 14, 2019, the Township of Cranford entered into a contract with Circelli Construction for Concession Rights for the Cranford Canoe Club; and

WHEREAS, said contract provided for the Contractor to operate said concessions for the 2019 and 2020 seasons; and

WHEREAS, said contract further provided for the extension of the contract for the 2021 and 2022 seasons at the option of the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee wishes to extend said contract for the 2022 season;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that the:

1. Aforementioned contract dated March 14, 2019 between the Township of Cranford and Circelli Construction be, and hereby is, extended to include the 2022 season; and
2. Sum to be paid by the Contractor to the Township for the 2022 season shall be \$4,560.15 and;
3. The Township Administrator be, and hereby is, authorized and directed to notify the Contractor of the extension granted herein.

Resolution No. 2022-160:

WHEREAS, there exists a need to engage experts to provide architectural services for the Township of Cranford; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford advertised a Request for Proposals and Qualifications (RFP/Q) for architectural services in connection with renovations to 375 Centennial Avenue Indoor Recreation Facility through a fair and open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, at a meeting held November 10, 2020, the Township Committee adopted Resolution No. 2020-361, authorizing an award of contract to DMR Architects for the aforementioned service at a fee not to exceed \$138,750.00; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend said contract for an additional amount not to exceed \$8,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified to the availability of funds which is on file in the office of the Township Clerk.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, be and hereby amends the contract awarded to **DMR Architects, 777 Terrace Avenue, Suite 607, Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey, 07604** for architectural services via issuance of purchase orders in an amount not to exceed \$8,000.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said contract amount shall be charged to Account No. C-04-19-005-000-S21.

Resolution No. 2022-161:

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford required the replacement of the Outdoor Pool Pump at the Centennial Avenue Pool Complex in the Township of Cranford; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford requested quotes for the Outdoor Pool Pump through a non-fair and open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Agent has determined and certified in writing that the value of the contract will exceed \$17,500; and

WHEREAS, Aquatic Service Inc. has submitted a proposal dated February 16, 2022, indicating they will provide the Outdoor Pool Pump and Services for \$41,747.53; and

WHEREAS, Aquatic Service Inc. has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Aquatic Service Inc. has not made any reportable contributions to a political or

candidate committee in the Township of Cranford in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit Aquatic Service Inc. from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract, and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified to the availability of funds which is on file in the office of the Township Clerk.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, authorizes the Purchasing Agent to enter into a contract with Aquatic Service Inc., 550 Hartle Street, Suite F, Sayreville, New Jersey, 08872, as described herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said contract amount shall be charged to ACCOUNT NO. C-27-16-017-100-280.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value to be placed on file with this resolution.

Resolution No. 2022-162:

**APPROVING AN AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR REDEVELOPMENT
ATTORNEY LEGAL SERVICES**

WHEREAS, there exists a need for the Township of Cranford to engage various experts in legal, engineering and planning services;

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford advertised for a Request for Proposals (RFP’s) for the Provision of Various 2022 Professional Services through a fair and open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford, as memorialized by the Township Committee’s Resolution No. 2022-14 dated January 2, 2022, has deemed that the firm Stevens & Lee, P.C. at 111 North Sixth Street, P.O. Box 679, Reading, Pennsylvania, 19603-0679, to have the background, experience and qualifications to satisfy the criteria set forth in the RFP;

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has approved the proposal from Stevens & Lee, P.C. to provide Redevelopment Attorney legal services and has agreed to award a contract for the same;

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer and the Director of Finance have certified to the availability of funds for the aforementioned contract upon adoption of the 2022 municipal budget which will be on file in the office of the Township Clerk.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, New Jersey, authorizes and approves the issuance of a contract awarded pursuant to Township Committee Resolution 2022-14 consistent with the applicable Certificate of Availability of Funds.

Resolution No. 2022-163:

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL FOR AUTHORIZING AN EMERGENCY
TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 CURRENT
FUND**

WHEREAS an emergent condition has arisen due to the adoption of the 2022 Budget, and adequate provision has not been made in the 2022 Temporary Budget for the appropriations specified on this page; and

WHEREAS the total emergency temporary resolutions adopted in fiscal year 2022 pursuant to the provision of Chapter 96, P.L. 1951 (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20) including this resolution total \$5,031,977.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE, AND IT IS, HEREBY, RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey, (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) that in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20:

1. Emergency temporary appropriations be and the same are hereby made as specified on this page in the amount of \$5,031,977.00; and
2. That said emergency temporary appropriations will be provided in the 2022 budget under the headings as specified on this page.
3. That one certified copy of this resolution be filed with the Director of Local Government Services.

<u>Title</u>	<u>Emergency Appropriation</u>
PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SERVICES (PERS)	\$ 825,317.00
POLICE & FIRE RETIREMENT SERVICES (PFRS)	2,844,270.00
RAHWAY VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTH (RVSA)	<u>1,362,390.00</u>

Total **\$5,031,977.00.**

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Miller Prunty, Deputy Mayor Gareis, Commissioners Andrews, Black, and O'Connor

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Miller Prunty opened the public comments portion of the meeting and asked if there were any questions or comments.

Chrissa Stulpin, 356 Retford Avenue: Thanked the Township Committee for adopting Ordinance No. 2022-02 which pertained to the amended 750 Walnut Avenue Redevelopment Plan. She stated that the amended ordinance provides more protection for the Township.

Don Smith, 21 Oneida Place: Mr. Smith expressed concerns over sixteen (16) acres of land behind the 750 Walnut Avenue property and stated that he feels there is a misconception that the property is protected from residential development due to the environmental conditions on the Hyatt Hills Golf Course.

Hearing no further comments, Mayor Miller Prunty closed the public comments portion of the meeting.

PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS

Township Administrator Jamie Cryan

- Announced that the mask mandate had been lifted in municipal buildings and vehicles and was now optional;
- Thanked members of the public for their cooperation and understanding regarding mask-wearing;
- Wished everyone a happy International Women's Day;
- Wished everyone a happy Saint Patrick's Day.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS/COMMENTS

Commissioner Gina Black

- Spoke about Women's History Month and International Women's Day;
- Thanked the women who work in the Township for their hard work and inspiration;
- Highlighted the traffic study for 750 Walnut Avenue and reiterated comments that were made by the Township's Traffic Engineer;
- Spoke about items that were addressed in the Engineer's presentation and encouraged members of the public to continue to raise their concerns and keep the conversation "going" regarding 750 Walnut Avenue;
- Urged members of the public to review the recording of the 750 Walnut Avenue Traffic Study meeting;
- Spoke about resident feedback pertaining to the North Avenue Redevelopment report;
- Stated that the Township was still on track for the May 11th deadline for the development plan;
- Announced that 375 Centennial Avenue facility should be ready to open during the upcoming summer;
- Stated that residents could expect to see more change orders as the 375 Centennial Avenue project nears completion and spoke about the installation of netting at 375 Centennial Avenue;
- Announced that the Centennial Village Committee would be hosting their first annual Bunny Hop;
- Reminded members of the public that Daylight Savings Time would take place on March 13th;
- Encouraged residents to join the Pools;
- Wished everyone a happy Saint Patrick's Day.

Commissioner Mary O'Connor

- Stated that the North Avenue Redevelopment Area memo and the 750 Walnut Avenue Traffic Study were posted on the Township website under the Redevelopment tab and urged members

- of the public to read through them;
- Spoke about the ongoing gas project and noted that the recent presentation document was on the homepage of the Township website;
- Announced that March was Women’s History Month and stated that she was proud to be part of the first women majority on the Cranford Township Committee;
- Discussed her experience working in male-dominated fields and spoke about strong women;
- Spoke about women working in the Municipal Offices as well as the Police and Fire Department;
- Recited an “Irish Blessing” in honor of Saint Patrick’s Day;
- Stated that the Union County St. Patrick’s Day Parade was scheduled for Saturday, March 13th.

Commissioner Brian Andrews

- Reported that the Cranford Community Connection Truck Parade would be held on March 26th and thanked the Cranford Police Department, Cranford Fire Department, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), and the Department of Public Works for their assistance with the event;
- Announced that the gas project work would continue for a few more weeks and commended the Police Department and Engineering Department for their cooperation on such project;
- Spoke about the Downtown Management Corporations (DMC)’s “Chase the Rainbow” event;
- Discussed the Garden State Film Festival and said it would be returning to the Cranford Theatre on March 23rd through March 26th;
- Announced that 900 homes in Cranford would be receiving letters from the New Jersey American Water Company regarding service lines;
- Wished everyone a happy Saint Patrick’s Day.

Deputy Mayor Jason Gareis

- Spoke about his Ukrainian Heritage and how the conflict in Europe affected him;
- Thanked the Cranford Fire Department for changing their exterior lights to blue and yellow in support of the Ukrainian people;
- Mentioned International Women’s Day and noted that over fifteen (15) per cent (%) of the Ukrainian Army are women;
- Announced that March marked the 125th Anniversary of the Cranford Police Department;
- Reminded members of the public to check their smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors and that Daylight Savings Time would take place on March 13th.

Mayor Kathleen Miller Prunty

- Thanked Fire Chief Dan Czeh for the installation of blue and yellow exterior lights in support of Ukraine;

Wished everyone a Happy Saint Patrick’s Day;

On motion of Commissioner Andrews, seconded by Commissioner Gareis and passed, the Township Committee adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Donahue, RMC
Township Clerk

Date: March 8, 2022