

The Minutes of the **Official Meeting** of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey on **March 21, 2023** at 7:43 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 Municipal Building 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 Brian Andrews
Deputy Mayor Jason Gareis
Commissioner Terrence Curran
Commissioner Kathleen Miller Prunty
Commissioner Gina Black

ABSENT: None

INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE

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

MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Andrews recognized Girl Scout Week. He then discussed the Swim Pool Utility, the Township’s proposed partnership with the Westfield YMCA and what could be expected when construction began at the Cranford Indoor Pool and Fitness Center.

MAYORAL REMARKS

Mayor Andrews provided an update on the Township’s Affordable Housing obligations.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Curran – Finance

- Spoke about the introduction of the Township Budget;
- Discussed inflation, the rising cost of living, and the importance of maintaining a healthy reserve;
- Stated that the Fire Department needs a new Fire Truck;
- Encouraged residents to review the Township Budget and provided them with information on where to find the budget documents.

Commissioner Miller Prunty – Engineering & Public Works

- Informed members of the public that the lights at Post Office Plaza were in the process of being repaired and a new flag had been ordered;
- Reminded residents that Conservation Center stickers are for sale and available at the Conservation Center;
- Announced that the 2022 Conservation Center stickers expire on April 3rd;
- Discussed a recent ruling by the Massachusetts Supreme Court pertaining to public meetings.

Deputy Mayor Gareis – Public Safety

- Announced that the Cranford Community Connection would be holding their third Annual Truck Parade on March 26th; elaborated about the upcoming event; thanked the Cranford Police Department and Cranford Fire Department for their contributions to the Parade; thanked various groups and individuals who helped plan and organize the Parade.

Commissioner Black – Public Affairs

- Announced that the Spring registration for Recreation Department programs was scheduled to “open up” on the upcoming Friday;
- Provided an update on the Cranford Recreation Center at 375 Centennial Avenue; requested that residents provide feedback on what could be improved;
- Addressed the issue of parking at the Cranford Recreation Center at 375 Centennial Avenue

PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS

Township Attorney Ryan Cooper

- Provided specifics and an update on reconstituting the Council on Affordable Housing (COAH) legal proceedings.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

Tom O'Brien, 30E Springfield Avenue – commended Commissioner Prunty; thanked members of the public for supporting the comments that he made at the March 7th Township Committee Official meeting. Mr. O'Brien spoke about the importance of mutual respect; expressed his dissatisfaction with Commissioner Curran's response regarding the Township's finances. Mr. O'Brien then asked questions pertaining to the Township Budget; provided comments about the North Avenue Gateway Redevelopment Area Project, specifically pertaining to parking.

Jim Carvalho, 9 Orange Avenue – spoke about the change in the format of Official Meetings. Mr. Carvalho spoke about Commissioner Curran's comments which he stated were delivered at the March 7th Township Committee Official meeting.

Peter Taylor, 8 Claremont Place – stated that he had served on the Planning Board for twelve (12) years; discussed the North Avenue Gateway Redevelopment Area Project. He spoke about the Request for Proposal (RFP), plan goals, renderings, parking and design standards associated with the Project.

William Thilly, 22 Bloomingdale Avenue – discussed the topic of Affordable Housing and expressed his dissatisfaction with the Township's process for meeting their Affordable Housing obligation.

Deborah Brooks, 1 Buchanan Street – thanked the members of the Township Committee for accommodating members of the Cranford Indoor Pool & Fitness Center and spoke about the facility's hours of operation.

Leon Seigny, 452 Orchard Street – discussed the issue of flooding and asked that the Township Committee focus on its citizens.

Elizabeth Allcock, 5 Cayuga Road – thanked the members of the Township Committee for working with members of the Cranford Indoor Pool & Fitness Center to come to an agreement regarding the hours of operation for the facility. She asked for clarification regarding the hours and provided further feedback.

Sally Kleeman, 130 North Lehigh Avenue - thanked the members of the Township Committee for reconsidering the hours of operation for the Cranford Pool & Fitness Center (Pool); inquired about weekend hours for the Pool. Ms. Kleeman spoke about the importance of the facility within Union County.

Samantha Ulan, 18 Crescent Place - spoke about the North Avenue Gateway Redevelopment Area Project and offered feedback about the proposed renderings.

Don Smith, 21 Oneida Place – thanked Mayor Andrews for his briefing regarding the Council on Affordable Housing (COAH)

Rita LaBrutto, 104 Arlington Road – thanked the Township Committee for the previous evening's discussion at the Workshop Meeting and spoke about the proposed plans for the North Avenue Gateway Redevelopment Area Project. She suggested that the Request for Proposal (RFP) be "scrubbed" and expressed concern over the height of the buildings.

John Kasperan, 4 Van Buren Avenue – stated that he was looking for feedback on the Cranford Indoor Pool & Fitness Center and spoke about the importance of accommodating Senior Citizens.

David Solomon, 317 High Street – asked the Township Committee to reconsider the hours of operation for the Cranford Indoor Pool & Fitness Center to better accommodate Senior Citizens and members with disabilities.

John Mallon, 100 Belmont Avenue – discussed the proposed North Avenue Gateway Redevelopment Area Project and asked that the Township Committee be "deliberate" in the process. He also requested that the Township Committee seek further public input on the project.

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

PAYMENT OF BILLS

On motion of Commissioner Black, seconded by Commissioner Curran and passed, the Bill List dated March 21, 2023, totaling \$1,945,790.79 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 Andrews, Deputy Mayor Gareis, Commissioners Curran, Miller Prunty and Black

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

ORDINANCES – Introduction

Ordinance No. 2023-03:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2023-03 entitled, “CALENDER YEAR 2023 ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)”

Said ordinance was introduced and approved on first reading on motion of Commissioner Curran, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gareis, and passed by the indicated vote of the Township Committee:

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Andrews, Deputy Mayor Gareis, Commissioners Curran, Miller Prunty and Black

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Final Reading and Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 2023-03 to be held April 18, 2023 and the publication will take place in the Westfield Leader on March 30, 2023.

RESOLUTIONS – By Roll Call Vote

On motion of Commissioner Curran, seconded by Commissioner Miller Prunty and passed, the following resolution was adopted by roll call vote:

Resolution No. 2023-143:

BE IT RESOLVED, that anticipated Township 2023 revenues, which amount to \$43,996,168.90, as indicated on sheet 11 on the Introduced Township Budget;

BE IT RESOLVED, that anticipated Township 2023 appropriations, which amount to \$43,996,168.90, as indicated on sheet 30 on the Introduced Township Budget;

BE IT RESOLVED, that anticipated Township Dedicated Swim Pool Utility 2023 revenues, which amount to \$1,583,201.00 as indicated on sheet 31 on the Introduced Township Budget;

BE IT RESOLVED, that anticipated Township Dedicated Swim Pool Utility 2023 appropriations, which amount to \$1,583,201.00 as indicated on sheet 33 on the Introduced Township Budget;

BE IT RESOLVED, that these indicated statements of revenues and appropriations shall constitute the municipal budget for year 2023;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the governing body of the Township of Cranford does hereby approve the attached Township Budget for the year 2023;

Notice is hereby given that the Cranford Municipal Budget was approved by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, on March 21, 2023. A hearing on said Budget will be held at the Cranford Municipal Building on April 18, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. at which time and place objections to said Budget for the year 2023 may be presented by Township of Cranford taxpayers or other interested persons.

It is hereby certified that the foregoing Budget is a true copy of the Budget approved by resolution of the governing body on this 21st day of March 2023 and that the public advertisement will be made in accordance with the provision of N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-6 and N.J.A.C. 5:30-4.4(d).

SEE MUNICIPAL BUDGET INSERT ATTACHED

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Andrews, Deputy Mayor Gareis, Commissioners Curran, Miller Prunty and Black

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

On motion of Commissioner Curran, seconded by Commissioner Black and passed, the following resolution was adopted by roll call vote:

Resolution No. 2023-144:

**DOWNTOWN DISTRICT MANAGEMENT CORPORATION
BUDGET NOTICE**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following statements of revenues and appropriations shall constitute the Downtown District Management Corporation Budget for the year 2023:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said Budget be published in the Westfield Leader in the issue of March 30, 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the governing body of the Township of Cranford does hereby approve the following as the Downtown District Management Corporation Budget for the year 2023:

APPROPRIATIONS

<u>Appropriations</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Operating		
Salaries & Wages	86,000.00	85,758.00
Other Expenses	<u>94,745.00</u>	<u>92,766.99</u>
Total Appropriations	180,745.00	178,524.99

ANTICIPATED REVENUES

<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Anticipated 2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Amount to be Raised by Special		
Improvement District Tax	<u>180,745.00</u>	<u>178,524.99</u>
TOTAL REVENUES	180,745.00	178,524.99

Notice is hereby given that the Downtown District Management Corporation Budget was Approved by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, on March 21, 2023. A hearing on said Budget will be held at the Cranford Municipal Building on April 18, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. at which time and place objections to said Budget for the year 2023 may be presented by Downtown Special Improvement District taxpayers or other interested persons.

It is hereby certified that the foregoing Budget is a true copy of the Budget approved by resolution of the governing body on this 21st day of March 2023 and that the public advertisement will be made in accordance with the provision of N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-6 and N.J.A.C. 5:30-4.4(d).

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Andrews, Deputy Mayor Gareis, Commissioners Curran, Miller Prunty and Black

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. 2023-145:

WHEREAS, Local Public Contract Law 40A:11-6.1; “Award of Contracts” requires that every contract awarded by the contracting agent for the provision or performance of any goods or services, the cost of which in the aggregate may exceed the bid threshold, shall be awarded only by resolution of the governing body;

WHEREAS, The Township of Cranford is authorized by law to purchase goods and services from approved vendors who have been awarded by and have existing contracts with the State of New Jersey and/or authorized Cooperative Purchasing Programs; and

WHEREAS, Acceptance Leasing & Financing Service, on behalf of US Municipal; 10583 Raystown Road, Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, 16652, has been awarded a Sourcewell contract, Contract No. 93021-BUC, for Bucher Street Sweepers; and

WHEREAS, Acceptance Leasing & Financing Service, on behalf of US Municipal, will provide said goods and services to the Township of Cranford through a lease purchase contract;

WHEREAS, the purchase of one (1) City Cat 5006 Sweeper totals a cost of \$249,500.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified to the availability of funds which are on file in the Office of the Township Clerk, specifically that the Acceptance Leasing & Financing Service, on behalf of US Municipal, contract will be charged to Account No. C-04-17-005-000-207 and x-01-26-290-100-280; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that Acceptance Leasing & Financing Service, on behalf of US Municipal, 10583 Raystown Road, Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, 16652 be, and hereby is, awarded a contract for the purchase of one (1) City Cat 5006 Sweeper for a total price of \$249,500.00, under the Sourcewell Cooperative Pricing Program, Contract No. 093021-BUC.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Township Clerk be and hereby are authorized and directed to execute documents in connection with said award of a lease purchase contract.

Resolution No. 2023-146:

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford has a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers of America, Local Union No. 469 which expired on December 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Township and Local Union No. 469 have reached an agreement on new terms and conditions of employment pursuant to the attached Memorandum of Understanding; and

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford at a meeting held March 21, 2023 that the Mayor and Township Clerk be, and hereby are, authorized to sign a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers of America, Local Union No. 469, for the period of January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2025, only upon the execution of the Agreement by the signatories of Local Union No. 469.

Resolution No. 2023-147:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD TO ENTER INTO
A COOPERATIVE PRICING AGREEMENT**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A 40A:11-11(5) specifically authorizes two (2) or more contracting units to enter into a Cooperative Pricing System; and

WHEREAS, the Educational Services Commission of Morris County, hereinafter referred to as the "Lead Agency", has offered voluntary participation in a Cooperative Pricing System known as the "Educational Cooperative Pricing System" (System) for the purchase of work, materials and supplies; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford, Union County, New Jersey, desires to participate in the Educational Cooperative Pricing System; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee authorizes the Township of Cranford to become a member of the Educational Cooperative Pricing System, also known as EdData Services, effective April 1, 2023, and, that such membership shall be for the period ending March 31, 2024, and each renewal, thereafter of the System, unless the Township Committee elects to formally withdraw from the System; and

WHEREAS, on March 21, 2023, the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey hereby authorizes the execution of an Agreement with the Educational Services Commission of Morris County as Lead Agency dated March 21, 2023 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and the Township Committee be and hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency.

Resolution No. 2023-148:

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford Department of Engineering is in receipt of an application package from New Jersey American Water which proposes to install an upgraded water main; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey American Water acknowledged the need to mill and pave the roadways from curb to curb for the sections under moratorium and agrees to the assessment charges of \$45,454.00 as outlined in transmittal letter dated February 15, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford recognizes that Claremont Place, Riverside Drive, Normandie Place and Birchwood Avenue were recently paved as part of the 2020 Township Paving Program. These sections of roadway are currently under moratorium until the end of November 2025;

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford recognizes that Casino Avenue, Pacific Avenue and Linden Place were recently paved as part of the 2021 Township Paving Program. These sections of roadway are currently under moratorium until the end of November 2026;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Township of Cranford Municipal Code Chapter 367 Streets and Sidewalks, Article VIII Excavations and Openings, §367-44(D) Limitations on permit; opening streets less than five years old, "the Township Engineer, or his designee, shall be required to secure approval therefor from the governing body by resolution before any permit can be approved hereunder" and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee acknowledges the need to upgrade the New Jersey American Water infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee hereby grants the Township Engineer, or his/her designee, authority to approve the necessary permit(s) for the Applicant to effectuate this project; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee hereby approves lifting the moratorium placed on these sections of roadway to enable the installation of proposed improvements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, New Jersey, as follows:

1. Grants the Township Engineer, or his/her designee, authority to approve the necessary permit(s) for the Applicant stated herein at the location described above.
2. Approves lifting the moratorium placed on the roadway discussed above to allow the street openings on the applications listed herein.

Resolution No. 2023-149:

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-59 provides for appropriation transfers during the first three (3) months of the year, when it has been determined it is necessary to expand for any of the purposes specified in the budget an amount in excess of the sum appropriated therefore and where it has been further determined that there is an excess in any appropriation over and above the amount deemed to be necessary to fulfill the purpose of such appropriation, the Governing Body may, by Resolution setting forth the facts, adopted by not less than two-thirds vote of the full membership thereof, transfer the amount of such excess to those appropriations deemed to be insufficient.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, in the County of Union and State of New Jersey, that the Chief Financial Officer, be and the same, is hereby authorized to make transfers among the 2022 budget appropriations in accordance with the following schedule of transfers.

	From	To
Admin: O/S Professional Services 2-01-20-100-100-215	\$20,000.00	
Legal 2-01-20-155-100-200		\$20,000.00

Resolution No. 2023-150:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford at a meeting held March 21, 2023 that Carol Berns be, and hereby is, appointed to the Cranford Housing Board, Inc. for a three (3) year term ending December 31, 2025.

Resolution No. 2023-151:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, at a meeting held March 21, 2023, that Walter Berg be, and hereby is, re-appointed as a Special Law Enforcement Officer II within the Cranford Police Department, effective April 1, 2023.

Resolution No. 2023-152: Moved to Roll Call Vote

Resolution No. 2023-153:

SUPPORTING A TOWNWIDE STUDY TO EVALUATE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION SAFETY AND THE SEEKING OF ASSISTANCE FROM THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (NJDOT) BUREAU OF SAFETY, OFFICE OF BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PROGRAMS

WHEREAS, it is a priority for the Township of Cranford (Cranford) to ensure that equitable access to safe, convenient, healthy, environmentally, and economically beneficial transportation options are available for vulnerable road users of all ages and abilities. “Vulnerable users” includes pedestrians, cyclists, young children, senior citizens, persons with disabilities, and public transportation users; and **WHEREAS**, Cranford has made active transportation safety a priority, including conducting a downtown walk audit in 2016, receiving a North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA) grant to undertake a Complete Streets Technical Assistance Conceptualization Study for the Post Office Plaza in 2019 and completing a pedestrian and cyclist safety public survey in 2020; and

WHEREAS, Cranford has concurrent and complementary efforts related to walking and cycling including a Complete Streets Policy update (first adopted in 2013), a downtown streetscape study (anticipated completion: Spring 2023), a parking study (anticipated completion: date 2023) and several major development projects including one (1) designated Area in Need of Redevelopment in downtown Cranford; and

WHEREAS, Cranford is designated as a Transit Village through a Smart Growth partnership spearheaded by the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) and New Jersey Transit, recognizing Cranford’s commitment to creating attractive, vibrant, pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods where people can live, shop, work and play without relying on automobiles; and

WHEREAS, Cranford was recognized as the Best Downtown in New Jersey for two (2) consecutive years in 2018 and 2019 by NJ.com, due in part to its vibrant, pedestrian-friendly downtown, commercial offerings and numerous programs and events held in the downtown Special Improvement District; and

WHEREAS, Cranford’s downtown and business community have continued to exhibit dynamism, despite the impacts and challenges associated with COVID-19, with new business openings and Township policies to create more outdoor spaces to pedestrians, cyclists, and recreation; and

WHEREAS, North Avenue, also referred to as State Route 28 (NJ 28), is a major thoroughfare which, along with South Avenue (Union County Route 610) and the New Jersey Transit Raritan Valley Line, bisects Cranford’s downtown, creating unique challenges related to safety, access, cross-town mobility, traffic flow, and walkability; and

WHEREAS, Cranford has dedicated walking and cycling trails, paths, and routes but does not currently have any dedicated on-street facilities for cyclists; and

WHEREAS, Cranford does not provide busing to school children due to the presence of neighborhood schools located within walking distance of most residential areas;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, that the Township supports a townwide study to evaluate active transportation safety, compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and overall conditions for walking and cycling. The study should be data-driven and informed by robust outreach to the community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township of Cranford will seek support from the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) Bureau of Safety, Office of Bicycle and Pedestrian Programs, recognizing that NJDOT has conducted similar efforts to promote safe and complete streets and improve safety and mobility of pedestrians and cyclists within New Jersey.

Resolution No. 2023-154:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford hereby authorizes the closure of the lower section of Municipal Lot 1 (One) from 12:00 noon. to 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 26, 2023* for the Cranford Community Connection 2023 Annual Truck Parade.

*3/24/23 - Resolution updated by Township Clerk: March 23, 2023 updated to March 26, 2023

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Andrews, Deputy Mayor Gareis, Commissioners Curran, Miller Prunty and Black

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

RESOLUTION – By Roll Call Vote

On motion of Commissioner Miller Prunty, seconded by Commissioner Curran and passed, the following resolution was adopted by roll call vote:

Resolution No. 2023-152:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that the Township Clerk be, and hereby is, authorized to advertise for Request for Proposals (RFP’s):

- for redevelopment of the North Avenue Gateway Redevelopment Area

Commissioner Black conveyed her opposition to the advertisement for Request for Proposals (RFP) for the North Avenue Gateway Redevelopment Area at this time and elaborated.

Commissioner Curran, Commissioner Miller Prunty, Deputy Mayor Gareis and Mayor Brian Andrews expressed their support of Resolution No. 2023-152.

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Andrews, Deputy Mayor Gareis, Commissioners Curran and Miller Prunty

Nay: Commissioner Black

Abstained: None

Absent: None

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Gina Black

- Recognized and congratulated individuals who worked to get the Township Budget ready for Introduction;
- Thanked residents and non-resident members for their recent input pertaining to the Cranford Pool & Fitness Center.

Commissioner Terrence Curran

- Announced that the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) would host a Blood Drive and encouraged members of the public to participate;
- Stated that the Centennial Village Group would sponsor their annual “Bunny Hop”;
- Thanked Shea Jennings of Shea-Jennings School of Irish Dance and Cranford Police Officer Thomas Bell for their “show of Irish Heritage”;
- Responded to a resident’s inquiry regarding the Township’s Debt;
- Commented on remarks made earlier by Commissioner Miller Prunty and Deputy Mayor Gareis regarding civility.

Commissioner Kathleen Miller Prunty

- Echoed Commissioner Black’s sentiments regarding the Budget process and congratulated Chief Financial Officer Lavona Patterson, Department Heads and Interim Township Administrator Ryan Greco on their work with the Budget;
- Thanked residents for attending public meetings and providing input regarding the Cranford Pool & Fitness Center;
- Discussed an upcoming drainage project in the area of Spruce Street and spoke about various upcoming drainage and flood mitigation projects;
- Announced that “Poke House” had opened in Downtown Cranford on Eastman Street;
- Stated that the Downtown Management Corporation (DMC) would be holding their second annual “Peeps-Tacular”;
- Congratulated the Director of the Downtown Management Corporation, Caren Demyen, Social Media Coordinator Michelle Stavrou and the Downtown Management Corporation Board for their hard work.

Deputy Mayor Jason Gareis

- Encouraged residents to attend Township Committee Workshop Meetings and to get involved in discussions;
- Thanked Chief Financial Officer Lavona Patterson and Commissioner Curran for their work on the Township Budget;
- Spoke about the upcoming 2023 Cranford Truck Parade.

Mayor Brian Andrews

- Thanked Chief Financial Officer Lavona Patterson for her hard work on the Township Budget;
- Spoke about transportation options to the Westfield YMCA for current Cranford Pool & Fitness Center members;
- Stated that no discussions had taken place regarding a parking garage or a Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) for the North Avenue Gateway Redevelopment Area Project;
- Congratulated the cast and crew of the Orange Avenue School’s production of *Beauty and the Beast*.

On motion of Commissioner Miller Prunty, seconded by Commissioner Black and passed, the Township Committee adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Donahue, RMC
Township Clerk

Date: March 21, 2023