

The Minutes of the **Conference Meeting** of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey on **March 21, 2023** at 7:02 p.m. in Room 108.

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 MAY 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

Township Attorney Ryan Cooper, Interim Administrator Ryan Greco, Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Lavona Patterson, Township Consulting Attorney Sherri Orenberg-Ruggieri and Township Clerk Patricia Donahue were present.

#### **North Avenue Redevelopment Area**

Commissioner Black stated that she did not want renderings included in the North Avenue Redevelopment Area (Area) Request for Proposal (RFP). She spoke about her concern pertaining to renderings (already) in the public domain. Discussion ensued regarding the renderings, the height of the building, i.e., three (3) stories versus four (4) stories and the addition of the language to the RFP "as small as possible". Further discussion ensued regarding the work that had been done thus far pertaining to the Area. Mayor Andrews inquired if the Township Committee should still consider proposed Resolution No. 2023-152 at the Official Meeting (pertaining to the Clerk advertising for RFP's for the North Avenue Gateway Redevelopment Area). Commissioner Black stated again her concern about the renderings in the public domain and the height of the proposed building (four (4) stories). Committee consensus was reached to consider for adoption proposed Resolution No. 2023-152 at the Official Meeting.

#### **Public Comments**

Ms. Madeline Curren of 45 Broad Street – stated that she didn't drive. She spoke about her disappointment about the expected close of the Indoor Pool. She stated that while the long-term plans to work with the Westfield YMCA were in (the Township's) best interests, the short-term result was that the membership base was being alienated.

Mr. Will Thilly of 22 Bloomingdale Avenue – stated that he agreed with a lot of the other swimmers' (viewpoints). He inquired about reimbursement.

#### **Westfield YMCA and Cranford Pool & Fitness Center**

Commissioner Curran spoke about the review of the salary and wage figures associated with the operation of the Cranford Pool & Fitness Center. Discussion ensued regarding the proposed closure of the Indoor Pool and Fitness Center, associated operating expenses (chlorine and lights), the annual salaries and wages to operate the Indoor Pool, provided bus transportation to the Westfield YMCA and membership refunds,

Committee consensus was reached 1) to keep the Indoor Pool open until May 23<sup>rd</sup> 2) to set the hours of operation from 5 a.m. to 10 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and 3) to close the Indoor Pool on May 24<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Andrews requested that the Westfield YMCA receive the new information about the Indoor Pool closing date. Interim Administrator Greco stated that he would contact the Westfield YMCA.

On motion of Deputy Mayor Gareis, seconded by Commissioner Miller Prunty and passed, the Township Committee moved to conduct the Official Meeting at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 21, 2023

Patricia Donahue  
Township Clerk