

The Minutes of the **Official Meeting** of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey on **October 10, 2017** at 8:00 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 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 MAY BE TAKEN AT THIS MEETING.

PRESENT: Mayor Thomas H. Hannen, Jr.
Deputy Mayor Patrick F. Giblin
Commissioner Ann Dooley
Commissioner Mary O'Connor

ABSENT: Commissioner Andis Kalnins

INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE

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

MINUTE APPROVAL

On motion of Commissioner O'Connor, seconded by Deputy Mayor Giblin and passed, the minutes of the Workshop Meeting of September 25, 2017 and the Conference and Official Meetings of September 26, 2017 were approved by indicated vote of the Township Committee:

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Hannen, Deputy Mayor Giblin, Commissioners Dooley and O'Connor

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Commissioner Kalnins

PAYMENT OF BILLS

On motion of Deputy Mayor Giblin, seconded by Commissioner Dooley and passed, the Bill Lists dated October 10, 2017 totaling \$4,620,497.88 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 Hannen, Deputy Mayor Giblin, Commissioners Dooley and O'Connor

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Commissioner Kalnins

FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Recognition Awards

INFORMAL MEETING

Mayor Hannen opened the informal meeting and asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing no comments, Mayor Hannen closed the informal meeting.

ORDINANCES – Final Reading

Ordinance No. 2017-11:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2017-11 entitled, "**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, CHAPTER 98 DOGS AND OTHER ANIMALS**".

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

Jeffrey Morton, Shake-A-Paw Pet Stores, Union/Green Brook New Jersey, stated that the ordinance proposed by the Township Committee was written by an animal rights group. Discussed other initiatives supported by animal rights groups and feels their agenda is political. Informed the Township Committee that it is illegal in New Jersey to buy a puppy from a puppy mill. Thanked Commissioner O'Connor for the motion to amend the ordinance to remove certain preamble statements, but feels the remainder of the ordinance is not truthful and requested that the Township Committee table the ordinance. Referred to data and specifics provided by animal rights activists and stated that these statistics are inaccurate and a "blatant lie". Feels the Township Committee should learn more before considering adoption of this ordinance. Also feels the ordinance is predicated on untruths and lies and reiterated his request that the Township Committee table the ordinance.

Mayor Hannen discussed data presented by Mr. Morton and requested clarification as to Mr. Morton's statement concerning the number of dogs euthanized per year.

Mr. Morton explained that there were thirty-four (34) dogs euthanized but the reasons why were not documented. Stated that some were due to health issues and some were due to behavioral issues.

Commissioner Dooley requested clarification of a 2015 statute cited by Mr. Morton.

Mr. Morton discussed the requirements of the Health Protection Act which prohibits pet stores from purchasing animals from puppy mills and stated that New Jersey pet stores must purchase animals from licensed breeders. Also mentioned that there has been a decrease in the number of pet stores in New Jersey.

Commissioner Dooley asked Mr. Morton how many years his business has been in operation.

Mr. Morton stated that he has been in business for twenty-six (26) years.

Larry Cohen, 24 Mac Lennan Place, Fanwood, New Jersey, Humane Society Volunteer, referred to Mr. Morton's statements and feels if they are true, they are unrelated to the Township Committee's consideration to prohibit the sale of animals in Cranford. Discussed the fact that one pet store exists in Cranford, Just for Pooches, and it does not sell animals. Also discussed violations against Shake-a-Paw and other pet stores, and mentioned that the owners of these stores are also in attendance tonight. Feels this ordinance would protect citizens and defenseless animals. Discussed comments included in a breeder's report regarding ways it controls the animal population. Feels the objective of this ordinance is to do the right thing for animals and citizens.

Commissioner Dooley requested clarification as to the contradiction in statistics provided by Mr. Morton vs. the Humane Society.

Mr. Cohen stated that eighty-four (84) dogs in Union County were euthanized in 2015.

Delia Collins, 72 Georgia Street, Clark, discussed the statistics concerning the number of animals euthanized and explained that many animals in Union county are euthanized in Essex County and would not be included in these statistics. Discussed a report by New Jersey Humane Health Services which listed how many animals have been euthanized in Newark.

Denise Archer, Hunterdon County, discussed animals she purchased at pet boutiques and animals she has rescued. Also stated that she is in the veterinary business and spoke in support of a pet store owner in attendance this evening. Feels many of the animals that are euthanized are in shelters. Also feels the Township Committee should not take rights from citizens as to where an animal may be purchased. Stated that if a pet store is in violation, an inspection of the premises should be conducted.

Mayor Hannen asked Ms, Archer if she is a veterinarian. Also requested clarification as to the animals left in shelters and if the reason was behavioral.

Ms. Archer stated that she is not a veterinarian and believes the majority of the animals left in shelters are due to the fact that their owners cannot take care of them.

Cindy Knowles, Owner of Furrylicious, discussed regulations implemented in 2015. Also stated that the prohibition of puppy mills could not be passed at the State level, and feels this is why animal rights groups are requesting prohibition at the municipal level. Stated that she has no violations issued against her store, which is contrary to statements made this evening. Discussed regulations she is required to follow and questioned why data from 2015 is being referred to when it is almost 2018. Explained that shelters are not regulated. Also discussed two (2) towns in New Jersey that are facing legal action for adopting similar ordinances. Read correspondence from various elected officials regarding her store. Also feels the animal rights group's agenda is political.

Janis Fisher, Manasquan, New Jersey, feels the court issues raised by Ms. Knowles pertains to constitutional issues and believes there is no issue with a challenge in Cranford because there is currently no pet store existing in Cranford. Also addressed conflicting statements concerning violations and referred to statements concerning the health of dogs adopted through recues as well as pet stores. Discussed the reason why data presented by the Humane Society dates back to 2015. Encouraged the Township Committee to move forward with the ordinance.

Alan Braslow, Cherry Hill, New Jersey, discussed an issue that occurred with a pet store in Cherry Hill and tax dollars spent to close that store down. Discussed regulations concerning health requirements and behavioral issues associated with certain dog breeds. Discussed screening conducted during a rescue adoption. Also referred to comments concerning the limitation of a citizen's choice of where animals may be purchased. Discussed 2016 data concerning euthanization in Union County and Camden County.

Mayor Hannen requested clarification as to the requirements concerning rescue shelters. Also requested clarification as to background checks conducted in connection with rescue adoption. Discussed background checks conducted when he rescued a dog and feels it is very involved, which might be why people chose to purchase from pet stores.

Mr. Braslow explained that there is no interpretation of rescue retail at the moment. Also discussed background checks that are conducted and inspection of the owner's home.

Stephanie Earl, Furrylicious, discussed issues with reports cited by animal rights activists. Discussed the demand for pets and stated that there are very few breeders in New Jersey. Also discussed the rescue process and feels

requirements to adopt a pet are unreasonable. Addressed comments that puppies from pet stores have inherent behavioral issues. Also discussed the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and other regulations regarding pet stores.

Ellen Coyote, Hamilton, New Jersey, New Jersey State Certified Animal Cruelty Investigator, feels the entire pet store industry is unscrupulous. Discussed issues with USDA regulations and inspections. Encouraged the Township Committee to adopt the ordinance for the best interest of the public. Also stated that she would like to see regulations and license requirements implemented for rescue groups.

Hearing no further comments, Commissioner O'Connor closed the public hearing.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner O'Connor discussed research she conducted concerning this ordinance. Does not feel this ordinance would limit citizens' rights. Also stated that the only pet store in Cranford sells pet supplies only, and that this store owner is supportive of this ordinance.

Commissioner Dooley explained that she would be abstaining because she is unsure as to which data is correct. Feels the State statute enacted in 2016 would adequately protect the citizens and residents of Cranford. Stated that she appreciates the passion that has been exhibited concerning this ordinance, but she needs further data in order to make an informed decision.

Deputy Mayor Giblin stated that he would also be abstaining from voting. Feels additional data is needed.

Mayor Hannen discussed the 2016 Animal Intake and Disposition Survey that was distributed this evening, and calculations he was able to derive from this report and from statistics available online. Feels it indicates that adoption is successful, but expressed concern with organizations that have made pet adoption almost impossible. Stated that he would reluctantly support adoption of this ordinance, but the adoption process needs to improve.

On motion of Commissioner O'Connor seconded by Commissioner Dooley and passed, said ordinance was **AMENDED** by indicated vote of the Township Committee:

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Hannen, Deputy Mayor Giblin and Commissioners Dooley and O'Connor

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Commissioner Kalnins

On motion of Commissioner O'Connor seconded by Commissioner Dooley and passed, said ordinance was adopted by indicated vote of the Township Committee:

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Hannen and Commissioner O'Connor

Nay: None

Abstained: Deputy Mayor Giblin and Commissioner Dooley

Absent: Commissioner Kalnins

RESOLUTIONS – By Consent Agenda

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

Resolution No. 2017-347:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that the resignation of Robert Fico as Property Maintenance Officer of the Building Department be and hereby is accepted with regrets effective October 16, 2017.

Resolution No. 2017-348:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford at a meeting held October 10, 2017 that Robert Colaneri and Peter Graczyk be, and hereby are, appointed as a per diem Special Law Enforcement Officers within the Cranford Police Department, effective October 25, 2017.

Resolution No. 2017-349:

RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL OF ITEMS OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION – N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-87

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, the Director may also approve the insertion of an appropriation for the equal amount;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford in the County of Union, New Jersey 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 2017 in the sum of \$7,980.89 which is now available as a revenue from the State of New Jersey, pursuant to the provision of the statute; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the like sum of \$7,980.89 is hereby appropriated under the caption “Drunk Driving Enforcement”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above is a result of a State grant of \$7,980.89 from The State of New Jersey Drunk Driving Enforcement Program.

Resolution No. 2017-350:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF FUNDS IN AN ENVIRONMENTAL ESCROW HOLDBACK ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT FOR SALE OF REAL ESTATE FOR THE ACQUISITION OF CERTAIN PROPERTIES KNOWN AS Block 291, Lot 15.01 and Block 292, Lot 2, a/k/a 215 and 235 BIRCHWOOD AVENUE FOR PURPOSES OF REDEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Resolution No. 2016-394 dated December 14, 2016, the Township of Cranford (“Purchaser” or the “Township”) Entered into an Agreement for Sale of Real Estate with Samuel P. Hekemian, Peter S. Hekemian, Richard Hekemian, Mark Hekemian and Cranford Development Associates, LLC (“CDA”) (collectively, “Seller”) dated January 5, 2017 (“Sale Agreement”) to acquire certain properties known as Block 291, Lot 15.01 and Block 292, Lot 2 a/k/a 215 and 235 Birchwood Avenue in the Township of Cranford, Union County, New Jersey (the “Property”); and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Resolution No. 2017-111 dated January 24, 2017, the Township entered into an amendment to the Sale Agreement with the Seller through a First Amendment to Agreement for Sale of Real Estate dated January 24, 2017 (“First Amendment”); and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to the First Amendment, Seller established an Environmental Escrow Holdback in the amount of \$250,000 for a period of nine (9) months from the February 7, 2017 Closing Date (*i.e.*, until November 7, 2017) that provided the Township with a mechanism to withdraw funds to pay for certain Remediation Costs in accordance with the conditions and procedures set forth in the First Amendment;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, in the County of Union, New Jersey:

1. The Township has completed its Remediation of the Property and has withdrawn the necessary funds from the Environmental Escrow Holdback to pay its Remediation costs (including \$10,891.25 paid to Maser Consulting and a \$20,000 lump sum settlement for remaining Remediation costs as agreed to by Seller); and
2. The remaining funds in the Environmental Escrow Holdback are \$219,108.75 (“Final Balance”); and
3. The Township is hereby authorized to direct the Escrow Agent to return the Final Balance to Seller.

Resolution No. 2017-351:

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford requires an expert to provide professional engineering services in connection with Phase 2B of the Northeast Quadrant Storm Water Management Project; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford advertised a Request for Proposals (RFP) for engineering services 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 October 27, 2015, the Township Committee adopted Resolution No. 2015-358 authorizing an award of contract to Mott MacDonald for said services in the amount of \$21, 700; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend said contract for an additional amount not to exceed \$12,500.00; 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 Mott MacDonald, 412 Mt. Kemble Avenue, Suite G22, Morristown, New Jersey 07960 for the aforementioned services via issuance of purchase orders in an amount not to exceed \$12,500.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said contract amount shall be charged to Account No. C-04-02-004-100-280

Resolution No. 2017-352:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER FOR ADDITIONAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE RENOVATIONS TO THE INDOOR POOL AT THE CRANFORD POOL AND FITNESS CENTER, FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, Hull-Vicci Construction Corporation, 107 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, NJ 07016 was previously awarded a construction contract for the Renovations to the Indoor Pool with a total project price of \$438,150.00; and

WHEREAS, the project is currently on-going and it is understood that the Township of Cranford would like to expedite the Renovation to the Indoor Pool;

WHEREAS, Terjesen Associates has reviewed the requests and approved each, which outlines the estimated additional construction costs for said improvements to the Indoor Pool in the amount of \$76,376.00;

WHEREAS, the following summarizes the allocation of the \$76,326.00 Change Order:

- Utilize the available funding from Capital Bond Ordinance C-27-15-026-100-280

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that sufficient funds are available within the current and/or previously adopted budget for said purpose.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Cranford, Union County, New Jersey that the above referenced Change Order for the Renovations to the Indoor Pool at the Pool and Fitness Center is awarded to Hull-Vicci Construction Corporation, 107 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, NJ 0701 in the amount of \$76,326.00 (17.42% of the original contract amount of \$438,150.00).

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

Resolution No. 2017-353:

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, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that the Modern Group be and hereby is awarded a contract for the purchase of new Brush Bandit model 15XP 15" drum chipper with a contract price of \$49,701.60 under the NJPA CO-OP state approved CO-OP.

Resolution No. 2017-354:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford at a meeting held October 10, 2017 that the Township Clerk be, and hereby is, authorized to advertise for sale at public auction certain unclaimed bicycles which have come into the possession of the Cranford Police Department through abandonment or failure of owner to claim same.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Public Auction will be held on October 28, 2017 at 8:00 a.m.

Make	Model	Serial #
Razor	Dual Shock X16	GS080663185
Huffy	Rockcreek	AF14E068888
Connondale	Trail 7	1CC013A09919
Schwinn	Frontier	SNHUA09B023
Giant	Frantic	A58018675
Mt. Fury	Roadmaster	SNFSD07EC177
Schwinn	Thrash	KY95090486
Sharp	Road S1000	6W020
Giant	#20	A07007012
Shimano	Terra 2.4 Kent	G1512048345
Razor	62042	G1504164194
Mongoose	F520 High Roller	SNHUA5G503
Trek	MT240	WTU071C5842
Sims	Boost	G100500792
Hoffman	BMX Aves	SNACB13M027
Magna	Excitor	SL99684434
Huffy	Sea Star	SNHBC10E016
Huffy	Rockcreek 26	5688608416A

Resolution No. 2017-355:

WHEREAS, the Township Committee, in the past, has approved the temporary suspension of parking meter enforcement for shoppers during the holiday season, and this Township Committee wishes to extend the free shopper parking period; and

WHEREAS, at a meeting held September 26, 2017, the Township Committee adopted Resolution No. 2017-340 authorizing free parking for metered spaces in the municipal parking lots and the municipal parking garage; and

WHEREAS, the Township also desires to provide free on-street parking during the holiday season.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED at a meeting held October 10, 2017 that the Township Committee be and hereby authorizes free parking at three (3) and four (4) hour metered spaces in the municipal parking lots and the municipal parking garage, and for on-street parking beginning December 16, 2017 through December 25, 2017; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Committee authorized free parking on Friday, November 24, 2017 and Saturday, November 25, 2017 for "Shop Small Saturday", a national campaign to support local businesses; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Resolution No. 2017-340 be and hereby is repealed.

Resolution No. 2017-356:

WHEREAS, an application has been filed Zapryan Terziev, 73 Winans Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey, for a limousine/livery service vehicle license; and

WHEREAS, the submitted vehicle license application form is complete in all respects, the fees have been paid, and a favorable recommendation has been provided by the Chief of Police; and

WHEREAS, the applicant has complied with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 48:16-13 et seq. with respect to proof of insurance and delivery of power of attorney; and

WHEREAS, Zapryan Terziev has also filed an application for a limousine/livery driver's license required by § 212-8 of the Code of Township of Cranford; and

WHEREAS, no additional applications for a limousine/livery driver's license have been filed, which indicates that Zapryan Terziev will be the sole driver of said vehicle for the purpose of providing limousine/livery services; and

WHEREAS, the submitted driver's license application form is complete in all respects, the fees have been paid, and a favorable recommendation has been provided by the Chief of Police; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to § 212-4B of the Code of the Township of Cranford, The Township Clerk may not issue any new vehicle license until the application has been approved by the Township Committee.

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

hereby approve, effective October 10, 2017, the issuance of a limousine/livery service vehicle license for Zapryan Terziev for a license term ending December 31, 2017.

Resolution No. 2017-357:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford on the 10th day of October 2017 that the following checks will be refunded by the Tax Collector to the lien holder according to statutory requirements:

Redemption of Certificate# 17-00006

Block 198 Lot 44 – 702 Springfield Ave.
US Bank Cust BV002 Trst/Crdtrs
50 South 16th St. Suite 2050
Philadelphia, PA. 19102/2513

Refund: \$ 385.33
(7-01-55-000-010-029)
Premium: \$51,100.00
(T-15-00-000-106-000)

Redemption of Certificate# 17-00014

Block 274 Lot 12 – 22 Parker Ave.
Trystone Capital Assets, LLC
PO Box 1030
Brick, NJ 08723

Refund: \$ 178.30
(7-01-55-000-010-029)
Premium: \$ 500.00
(T-15-00-000-106-000)

Resolution No. 2017-358:

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

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

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford advertised for a Solicitation of Bids for Animal Control services through a fair and open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq., and

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Agent of the Township of Cranford has deemed that **Animal Control Solutions, LLC, 2 Marshall Drive, Flemington, NJ 08822** is the apparent lowest respondent who satisfies the criteria set forth in the specification.

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

1. **Animal Control Solutions, LLC, 2 Marshall Drive, Flemington, NJ 08822** be and hereby is awarded a contract to provide Animal Control services at a cost not to exceed \$48,240.00.

This contract amount shall be charged to Account No. 07-01-27-340-100-214.

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Hannen, Deputy Mayor Giblin, Commissioners Dooley and O'Connor

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Commissioner Kalnins

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

Kathy Allegro, 17 Shetland Drive, referred to a comment on Facebook concerning the adjournment of Hartz Mountain's application and requested clarification.

Commissioner Dooley confirmed that the Planning Board hearing scheduled for October 18, 2017 concerning the Hartz Mountain application has been adjourned.

Gerald Caperio, 17 ½ Eastman Street, discussed public safety issues and requested that certain vacant properties be inspected and addressed accordingly.

Commissioner Dooley thanked Mr. Caperio for his comments and explained that earlier this year an ordinance regarding vacant properties was adopted and letters would be mailed to all vacant property owners regarding the condition of properties.

Mr. Caperio discussed multi-tenant properties, specifically office parks, and stated that they usually have long-term vacancies. Feels the Township should be aware of certain records and documents that should be on file with the Fire Department concerning these properties.

Michael Gedonius, 704 Springfield Avenue, discussed the 750 Walnut Avenue property. Explained that while he lives on the north side of Cranford, he feels this matter is a quality of life issue and supports residents who would be directly impacted by this development. Discussed mass transit which is consistently crowded and feels this will worsen if the development at 750 Walnut Avenue moves forward. Also feels the Township Committee should contact NJ Transit and state legislators concerning the impact the increase in population would have to mass transit. Also discussed Hartz Mountain's statements concerning the annual net benefit of the project and requested clarification as to the occupancy rate this net benefit was based upon. Also asked if Hartz Mountain believes in the numbers it provided, and if Hartz Mountain would be willing to "float a bond" to make up for any differences or shortfalls in its projected revenue. Encouraged the Township Committee to continue to ask questions and to listen to the residents of Cranford.

Wendy Menneg, 21 Sutton Place, discussed existing apartment complexes in Cranford and those being constructed in neighboring municipalities. Also discussed vacancies within those developments and requested clarification as to whether Hartz Mountain should be obligated to explain how it intends to fill vacant units. Also stated that vacant apartments within existing developments are being converted to Section 8 housing because of the difficulty encountered with filling vacancies. Stated that she does not understand how this development would be beneficial to Cranford.

Mayor Hannen referred to Ms. Menneg's statement regarding Section 8 housing and requested clarification as to how she obtained this data.

Ms. Menneg stated that residents residing in these developments have stated that vacant apartments are being converted to Section 8 housing.

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

PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS - None

COMMISSIONER REPORTS/COMMENTS

Commissioner Mary O'Connor

- Congratulated the Fire Department, EMTs and First Aid Squad members recognized this evening. Feels Cranford is fortunate to have a Fire Department with dedicated professionals and volunteers. Discussed the Fire Department's 125th Anniversary and the celebration to be held later in the week. Encouraged residents to participate and to thank Fire Department members for their service;
- Announced that the Great Pumpkin Carve Out would be held on October 21, 2017. Provided information for those interested in participating;
- Thanked everyone involved with coordinating the memorial ceremony for those lost and injured in the shooting in Las Vegas. Extended special thanks to the Cranford Clergy Council and stated that her thoughts and prayers are with the victims and their families.

Commissioner Ann Dooley

- Provided an update regarding the 2017 Road Paving Program and stated that Mohawk Drive and Mohican Place should be completed this week. Also stated that Meeker Avenue and Myrtle Street are scheduled for the week of October 23rd. Explained that more extensive engineering is needed for Hawthorne Drive and Riverside Drive and that they are scheduled for paving in the spring of 2018;
- Discussed the first annual Porchfest to be held in Cranford and provided information for those interested in participating.

Deputy Mayor Patrick Giblin

- Announced that the new Township website has been launched and provided the new address;
- Congratulated the Cranford Jaycees on a successful Octoberfest;
- Thanked the Fire Department, Police Department and the Department of Public Works for hosting a Hurricane Relief Drive for Puerto Rico;
- Discussed the Fire Department's 125th Anniversary celebration and encouraged residents to participate in the celebration;
- Discussed the upcoming Halloween Parade sponsored by the Cranford Jaycees and the Cranford Recreation Department. Also discussed additional events to take place;
- Discussed the annual Scarecrow Stroll;
- Discussed the Pumpkin Carve Out event;
- Discussed the annual Rubber Duck Race.

Mayor Thomas H. Hannen, Jr.

- Congratulated the Fire Department award recipients;
- Extended condolences to the O'Neill family;
- Stated that the Township Committee would follow up regarding a comment made this evening regarding Section 8 housing. Requested that citizens refrain from making certain comments if they are uncertain as to their accuracy. Also feel it is encouraging that residents help each other regardless of where they live in town;
- Wished his brother a Happy Birthday.

On motion of Commissioner Dooley, seconded by Deputy Mayor Giblin and passed, the Township Committee returned to the Conference Meeting in Room 108 at 9:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Rowley, RMC
Township Clerk

Date: October 10, 2017