

0The Minutes of the **Official Meeting** of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey on **November 14, 2022** at 8:02 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 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 Jason Gareis, followed by the flag salute.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

On motion of Commissioner O’Connor, seconded by Commissioner Andrews and passed, the Bill List dated November 14, 2022, totaling \$7,033,520.35 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 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Miller Prunty recognized the Girl Scout Silver Award recipients and read aloud each Scout’s name.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**RESOLUTION – By Roll Call Vote**

On motion of Deputy Mayor Gareis, seconded by Commissioner O’Connor and passed, the following resolution was adopted by **roll call vote**:

**Resolution No. 2022-383**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, at a meeting held November 14, 2022, that Matthew Nazzaro be, and hereby is, advanced to the rank of Captain within the Cranford Police Department, effective November 14, 2022.

Recorded vote:

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

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Mayor Miller Prunty administered the Oath of Office to Captain Matthew Nazzaro. Police Chief Ryan Greco read a biography about Captain Nazzaro and congratulated Captain Nazzaro. He thanked the Township Committee for their support of the Cranford Police Department.

There was a short Meeting recess (approximately five (5) minutes).

**INFORMAL MEETING**

Mayor Miller Prunty opened the informal portion of the meeting and asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing no comments, Mayor Miller Prunty closed the informal portion of the meeting.

**ORDINANCES – Final Reading and Public Hearing**

**Ordinance No. 2022-24:**

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2022-24 entitled “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2021 REVISED AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES OF THE RAHWAY VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTHORITY”

Said ordinance having been advertised and posted in accordance with law, Commissioner Black opened the public hearing. Hearing no comments, Commissioner Black closed the public hearing. On motion of Commissioner Black, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gareis 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. 2022-25:**

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2022-25 entitled “AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, CHAPTER 410, SECTION 61, SCHEDULE VIII TO DESIGNATE BELMONT AVENUE AND CAROLINA STREET AS STOP INTERSECTIONS”

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 Andrews 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 – Introduction**

**Ordinance No. 2022-26:**

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2022-26 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE I, PARKS AND RECREATION, CHAPTER 306, SECTION 1 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD TO ESTABLISH THE FEES FOR THE 375 CENTENNIAL AVENUE RECREATIONAL FACILITY”

Said ordinance was introduced and approved on first reading on motion of Commissioner Black, seconded by Commissioner O’Connor, and passed by the 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

***Final Reading and Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 2022-26 to be held December 13, 2022 and the publication will take place in the Westfield Leader on November 24, 2022.***

**RESOLUTIONS – By Consent Agenda**

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

**Resolution No. 2022-384:**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EMERGENCY CONTRACT WITH SERVPRO OF CENTRAL UNION COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, On September 8, 2022, a severe mold problem was located in the Municipal building; and **WHEREAS**, the Township Administrator has certified that an emergency condition existed and has recommended that the Township authorize/ratify the execution of an emergency contract to pay for the immediate mold remediation that has to be made to resolve the issue; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to New Jersey Administrative Code 5:23-2.32 and N.J.S.A. 52:27D-132, the Township Administrator has declared the existence of a significant and immediate threat to the health, safety and welfare of people in the immediate vicinity as well as to the surrounding environment, necessitating immediate attention; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6 allows a municipality to award a contract on an emergency basis without public advertising for bids and bidding; and

**WHEREAS**, Servpro of Central Union County, with an address located at 1094 Globe Avenue, Mountainside, New Jersey, 07092, has agreed to provide all required emergency sewer repairs at a cost not to exceed \$76,831.29.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, does hereby recognize the declaration of a local emergency as authorized by the Township Administrator.

**Resolution No. 2022-385:**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Cranford required repairs to the roof of the Roundhouse at 364 North Avenue in the Township of Cranford; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Cranford requested quotes for the roof repair 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**, Northeast Roof Maintenance of 649 Catherine Street, Perth Amboy, New Jersey, 08861 has submitted a proposal, dated October 8, 2022, indicating they will perform the Roof Repair for \$41,500.00; and

**WHEREAS**, Northeast Roof Maintenance has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Northeast Roof Maintenance 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 Northeast Roof Maintenance from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract, and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer have certified to the availability of funds which is on file in the office of the Township Clerk and that said contract amount shall be charged to Account No. 2-01-26-290-100-295; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, authorizes the Purchasing Agent to enter into a contract with Northeast Roof Maintenance as described herein; and,

**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. 2022-386:**

**WHEREAS**, Local Public Contract Law N.J.S.A. 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**, the Chief Financial Officer has certified to the availability of funds which are on file in the Office of the Township Clerk and that said contract amount shall be charged to Account No. C-04-21-010-000-208; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that A & K Equipment Co. Inc., 221 Wescott Drive, Rahway, New Jersey, 07065, be, and hereby is, awarded a contract for the outfitting of one (1) dump body and snow plows for two (2) Department of Public Works (DPW) Trucks for a total price of \$30,937.88, under the State of New Jersey Contract No. 88273.

**Resolution No. 2022-387:**

**AWARDING CONTRACT TO PRB ATTORNEYS AT LAW, LLC**

**WHEREAS**, there exists a need to engage experts to provide Labor Attorney legal services for the Township of Cranford; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Cranford advertised for a Request for Proposals (RFP) 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**, Peter P. Perla, Jr., Esq., of the firm, Vaughan Baio & Partners responded and was deemed to have the background, experience and qualifications to satisfy the criteria set forth in the RFP; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Resolution 2022-02, Vaughan Baio & Partners, located at 317 George Street, Suite 320, New Brunswick, New Jersey, 08901 was designated as experts to be engaged for Labor Attorney Services; and

**WHEREAS**, Peter P. Perla, Jr., Esq., has separated from Vaughan Baio & Partners and joined the firm PRB Attorneys at Law, LLC, with offices at One Gateway Center, Suite 2600, Newark, New Jersey, 07102; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township desires to continue to be represented in labor and employment law matters by Peter P. Perla, Jr., who has been deemed to have the background, experience and qualifications to satisfy the Township's criteria for such counsel; and

**WHEREAS**, Peter P. Perla, Jr. and PRB Attorneys at Law, LLC have and shall affirm and ratify the terms and conditions set forth in the original response to the RFP, which shall remain binding; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5, the Township desires to enter into a contract with PRB Attorneys at Law, LLC to serve and complete the contract, ending December 31, 2022, to provide the Township with labor and employment law legal services on the same terms as and to replace the existing contract.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, New Jersey that the Township awards and is hereby authorized to enter into a contract with the firm PRB Attorneys at Law, LLC, is approved to provide Labor Attorney legal services in substitution for Vaughan Baio & Partners.

**Resolution No. 2022-388:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, at a meeting held November 14, 2022, that the Township Committee hereby accepts, with regrets, the resignation of Gregory Federici, a Patrolman within the Cranford Police Department, effective October 31, 2022.

**Resolution No. 2022-389:**

**Removed from Agenda**

**Resolution No. 2022-390:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, at a meeting held November 14, 2022, that Rameil R. King be, and hereby is, appointed as a Second Grade Patrol Officer within the Police Department, effective November 15, 2022.

**Resolution No. 2022-391:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, at a meeting held November 14, 2022, that Travis K. Freeman be, and hereby is, appointed as a Second Grade Patrol Officer within the Police Department, effective November 16, 2022.

**Resolution No. 2022-392:**

**WHEREAS**, Constituent Services Coordinator Suzanne Welsh 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).

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township of Committee of the Township of Cranford that Suzanne Welsh is approved for a FMLA/NJFLA/NJPFLA leave of absence beginning November 17, 2022, using accumulated time as available as employee so elects;

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

**Resolution No. 2022-393:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford be and hereby authorizes the closure of a portion of North Union Avenue (from Alden Street to Springfield Avenue) and the upper portion of Municipal Lot No. 1 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday, November 25, 2022, for the Holiday Tree Lighting and Santa’s arrival.

**Resolution No. 2022-394:**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-58 provides for appropriation transfers during the last two (2) 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:

<b>Account</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>
Salary Adjustment Account	290,000.00	
2-01-36-477-100-100		
DPW: S&W	27,000.00	
2-01-26-290-100-100		
Social Security: O/E	7,700.00	
2-01-36-472-100-200		
Gasoline: O/E		50,000.00

<b>Account</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>
2-01-26-315-000-200		
Fire: S&W		90,000.00
2-01-25-265-100-100		
Fire: O/E		15,000.00
2-01-25-265-100-200		
Other Insurance: O/E		12,000.00
2-01-23-210-000-200		
Engineering: O/E		45,000.00
2-01-20-165-100-200		
Recycling: O/E		200.00
2-01-26-305-100-200		
Clerk: S+W		25,000.00
2-01-20-120-100-100		
Zoning Board: S+W		2,500.00
2-01-21-185-000-100		
Police: S&W		80,000.00
2-01-25-240-100-100		
Youth: S&W		2,500.00
2-01-28-370-130-100		
Assessor: S&W		2,500.00
2-01-20-150-100-100		
	324,700.00	324,700.00

**Resolution No. 2022-395:****RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL OF ITEMS OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION – N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-87****(PERTAINING TO THE NEW JERSEY SHADE TREE FEDERATION (NJSTF) - "WILLIAM J. PORTER COMMUNITY TREE PROJECT" AWARD PROGRAM)**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-87 provides that the Director of the New Jersey 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 the New Jersey Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget of the year 2022 in the sum of \$2,500.00 which is now available from the New Jersey Shade Tree Federation (NJSTF), "William J Porter Community Tree Project" Award Program, pursuant to the provision of the statute; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the like sum of \$2,500.00 is hereby appropriated under the caption "William J Porter Community Tree Project Grant (Environmental Commission)"; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the above is a result of a grant of \$2,500.00 from the NJSTF "William J Porter Community Tree Project" Award Program.

**Resolution No. 2022-396:**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of November 2022, that the Tax Collector has been authorized to refund sewer and tax overpayments for the reason noted:

**Resident overpayment**

Block 130 Lot 66.02, Sewer #486-0  
Sicko, Kathryn  
726 Gallows Hill Road  
Cranford, NJ 07016

**Refund \$ 11.39**  
(2-01-55-000-010-026)

**Duplicate payment**

Block 432 Lot 7

**Refund \$ 1,114.80**

Bernardo, Nicholas & Angela  
311 Retford Avenue  
Cranford, NJ 07016

(2-01-55-000-010-025)

**Resolution No. 2022-397:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2022 that the following checks will be refunded by the Tax Collector to the lien holder according to statutory requirements:

**Redemption of Certificate No. 20-00018**

Block 483 Lot 13: **105 High St.**  
FIG Cust FIGNJ19LLC & Sec Pty  
PO Box 669507  
Dallas, TX 72566-9507

**Refund:** \$ 787.00  
(2-01-55-000-010-029)

**Premium:** \$ 1,200.00  
(T-15-00-000-106-000)

**Redemption of Certificate No. 20-00021**

Block 547 Lot 7: **45 Mendell Ave.**  
FIG Cust FIGNJ19LLC & Sec Pty  
PO Box 669507  
Dallas, TX 72566-9507

**Refund:** \$ 1,052.05  
(2-01-55-000-010-029)

**Premium:** \$ 1,200.00  
(T-15-00-000-106-000)

**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.

Jim Carvalho, 9 Orange Avenue – Mr. Carvalho spoke about the recent general election results, recent “letters to the editor” published in the Westfield Leader, his dissatisfaction with local government officials and members of the party in “power”.

Kevin Cumiskey, 109 Columbia Avenue – Mr. Cumiskey thanked Township Clerk Patricia Donahue and Township Administrator Jamie Cryan for their work on the Township website. He stated that the Township could do “better” on the timeliness of Meeting minutes. He spoke about pickleball and his eagerness for the 375 Centennial Avenue Recreation Facility to open. Mr. Cumiskey asked the Township Committee to consider converting the unused tennis courts at Orange Avenue Pool into pickleball courts. He thanked Commissioner O'Connor for her service to the Township.

William Thilly, 22 Bloomingdale Avenue – Mr. Thilly spoke about relaxation and calm. He stated that he was a friend. He asked the Township Committee for their attention. A brief discussion ensued about the people’s business.

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

**PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS**

**Township Clerk Patricia Donahue**

- Spoke about the recent general election and extended her gratitude to a number of individuals, departments and government offices for their assistance to the Clerk’s Office in the weeks leading up to and on Election Day.

**Township Administrator Jamie Cryan**

- Congratulated Mayor Miller Prunty on winning her re-election to the Township Committee;
- Congratulated Commissioner-elect Terrence Curran;
- Stated that it had been a pleasure serving with Commissioner O'Connor; stated that he was sorry that she would not be on the dais;
- Congratulated Captain Matthew Nazzaro on his promotion;
- Congratulated newly-hired Patrol Officers Travis Freeman and Rameil King;

- Spoke about the work the Clerk's Office put into Election Day and congratulated Township Clerk Patricia Donahue and her staff on a job "well done".

## COMMISSIONER REPORTS/COMMENTS

### **Commissioner Gina Black**

- Thanked the Township Clerk's Office for a well-run election;
- Thanked the poll workers who worked the general election;
- Congratulated Captain Matthew Nazzaro on his promotion and briefly elaborated;
- Thanked Patrolmen Gregory Federici for his twelve (12) years of service and wished him the "best" in his future endeavors;
- Welcomed newly-hired Patrol Officers Travis Freeman and Rameil King;
- Spoke about the fees ordinance pertaining to the 375 Centennial Avenue Recreation Facility; Stated that a soft opening of the 375 Centennial Avenue Recreation Facility would be held in the upcoming week;
- Discussed the high number of Basketball season registrations (over 900 registrations); noted the hard work of the Recreation Department in organizing the Basketball program.

### **Commissioner Mary O'Connor**

- Congratulated Captain Matthew Nazzaro on his promotion and elaborated about Captain Nazzaro's attributes;
- Welcomed Patrol Officers Travis Freeman and Rameil King to the Cranford Police Department;
- Thanked Officer Gregory Federici for his years of service to the Township of Cranford;
- Congratulated the Girl Scouts recognized that evening (Gold Award);
- Informed members of the public that a few remaining votes were to be counted on the following day; stated that she anticipated that the election outcome would be the selection of Kathleen Miller Prunty and Terrence Curran and congratulated them;
- Spoke about the various outreach programs within the Township; suggested Cranford be named the "Thanksgiving Capital of the World"; encouraged members of the public to donate to an organization over the holiday season.

### **Commissioner Brian Andrews**

- Congratulated Captain Matthew Nazzaro on his promotion and briefly elaborated;
- Welcomed newly-hired Patrol Officers Travis Freeman and Rameil King;
- Spoke about the Halloween events that took place during the month of October and noted the impact the Halloween events had for both families and the Downtown businesses; thanked town organizations, government bodies and volunteers who contributed to the Halloween events;
- Discussed "Small Business Saturday"; announced that the Downtown Management Corporation (DMC) would be sponsoring raffle baskets for that event;
- Provided a paving and road update pertaining to North Avenue on the western side of the Township;

### **Deputy Mayor Jason Gareis**

- Congratulated Captain Matthew Nazzaro on his promotion;
- Welcomed new Patrol Officers Travis Freeman and Rameil King;
- Congratulated Mayor Miller Prunty and Dr. Terrence Curran on their election victory;
- Congratulated County Commissioner and Cranford resident B.J. Kowalski on her election victory;
- Thanked Township Clerk Patricia Donahue and her staff for their hard work on Election Day;
- Encouraged residents to cheer on the Cranford Police Athletic League (PAL) sixth grade football team and stated that the team would play on the upcoming Saturday in Clark (for their Super Bowl).

### **Mayor Kathleen Miller Prunty**

- Congratulated Captain Matthew Nazzaro on his promotion;
- Thanked Gregory Federici for his years of service to the Township;

11/14/2022

- Welcomed newly-hired Patrol Officers Travis Freeman and Rameil King;
- Thanked Township Clerk Patricia Donahue for her hard work on Election Day;
- Spoke about how she had known Commissioner O'Connor before their time on the Township Committee and stated that she suspected she would continue to know her.

On motion of Commissioner Andrews seconded by Commissioner O'Connor and passed, the Township Committee moved to the Workshop Meeting at 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 14, 2022

Patricia Donahue, RMC  
Township Clerk