

The Minutes of the **Official Meeting** of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey on **November 22, 2022** at 7:36 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

MINUTE APPROVAL

On motion of Commissioner Black, seconded by Commissioner Andrews and passed, the minutes of the Workshop Meeting of April 11, 2022, and Workshop Meeting of November 14, 2022, and Conference Meeting of April 12, 2022 and Conference Meeting of October 25, 2022 and Official Meeting of June 28, 2022 and Official Meeting of July 7, 2022 were approved 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

PAYMENT OF BILLS

On motion of Commissioner O'Connor, seconded by Commissioner Andrews and passed, the Bill List dated November 22, 2022, totaling \$361,043.04 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

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. 2021-398

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, at a meeting held November 22, 2022, that Spencer Durkin be, and hereby is, advanced to the rank of Lieutenant within the Cranford Police Department, effective November 22, 2022.

Recorded vote:

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

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

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. 2021-399

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, at a meeting held November 22, 2022, that Brian Wagner be, and hereby is, advanced to the rank of Sergeant within the

Cranford Police Department, effective November 22, 2022

Recorded vote:

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

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

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 inquired about Ordinance No. 2022-27 pertaining to a financial agreement for the redevelopment of land located at 750 Walnut Avenue. He inquired 1) why there was not a schedule of payments and 2) the duration of the long-term period associated with the Financial Agreement. Township Attorney Ryan Cooper responded. Discussion ensued.

William Thilly, 22 Bloomingdale Avenue – Mr. Thilly sought clarification regarding Ordinance No. 2022-27, including language in the Financial Agreement pertaining to annual revenue versus annual gross revenue. He inquired why a large tax exemption would be given to a large development company. Discussion ensued.

Mayor Miller Prunty asked Chief Financial Officer Lavona Patterson to address members of the public regarding the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) for the 750 Walnut Avenue Redevelopment area.

Chief Financial Officer Lavona Patterson - Ms. Patterson spoke about the 750 Walnut Avenue Redevelopment area and taxes. She covered the areas of conventional taxes, taxes on the commercial portion of the area and taxes on the residential improvements portion of the project (there would be no taxation for the residential improvements portion). Ms. Patterson said that there would be an approximate four million dollar (\$4,000,000) increase on the assessment if the Township moved forward with the project. She then spoke about the Township's tax levy and net valuation.

Commissioner Andrews asked Ms. Patterson for clarification regarding the PILOT. Brief discussion ensued.

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

ORDINANCES – Introduction

Ordinance No. 2022-27:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2022-27 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A FINANCIAL AGREEMENT FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE REDEVELOPMENT OF APPROXIMATELY 15 ACRES LOCATED AT 750 WALNUT AVENUE, BLOCK 541, LOT 2"

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

Commissioner Black

Stated that she greatly respected the Township professionals and respected that the PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) agreement for the 750 Walnut Avenue was better than most. She expressed concerns over what the Township would be getting in return from the developer. Commissioner Black stated that she spent a lot of time 1) reviewing the Phoenix Advisor figures and 2) reviewing these numbers with Chief Financial Officer Patterson. She stated that the developer would be getting a long-term forty-million-dollar (\$40,000,000) tax credit and elaborated. She inquired what the Township would be getting back and answered that she did not believe the Township was receiving much in return. Commissioner Black spoke about what the developer would be receiving including their desired building height and desired building configuration. She noted that the developer resisted residents' requests to keep the current driveway configurations. Commissioner Black spoke about previous developments which were built without PILOT agreements, specifically the Riverfront and Woodmont developments. Commissioner Black stated that she would be voting "no".

Commissioner O'Connor

Spoke about the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the 750 Walnut Avenue redevelopment area and how it related to the PILOT. Commissioner O'Connor referenced a phrase in the MOU: "mutual good faith, cooperation and assistance" and stated that should be shown by both parties. Commissioner O'Connor spoke about the residents' concerns regarding the driveways and noted that nothing had been done in response to these concerns. She stated that the concerns about the Traffic Study fell on deaf ears. Commissioner O'Connor stated that the Township could get a better deal from Hartz Mountain Industries, Inc. (Hartz) and elaborated. She stated that the residents were her first concern and stated that

she did not think they had been treated with mutual good faith by Hartz. Commissioner O'Connor stated that she would be voting "no".

Commissioner Andrews

Commissioner Andrews provided background on what had occurred during recent years between the Township and Hartz. Commissioner Andrews noted that the MOU had been approved unanimously. He also noted that the MOU had been approved before his time on the Township Committee. Commissioner Andrews stated that legal counsel had advised that Hartz could hold the Agreement to the Township. Commissioner Andrews stated that he had worked fairly aggressively to renegotiate. He stated that legal counsel had consistently advised that in order to comply with the law and Special Master, the terms of the MOU had to be honored. Commissioner Andrews stated that it was responsible to meet the Affordable Housing requirements. He noted this PILOT would result in a reduced tax burden on the residents and more money would go to the schools. Commissioner Andrews stated that he did not think the Agreement was perfect but it would be better than getting sued and it was better than getting a development with nine hundred (900) units. Commissioner Andrews stated that the responsible thing to do would be to approve the PILOT and stated that he would be voting "yes".

Deputy Mayor Gareis

Stated that the Agreement preceded his time on the Township Committee. Deputy Mayor Gareis spoke about the duty to continue the Agreement and elaborated. He stated that he could not comment on some of Commissioner O'Connor's points as the application was before the Planning Board and he sat on the Planning Board. He stated that he would vote "yes".

Mayor Miller Prunty

Stated that like Deputy Mayor Gareis, Mayor Miller Prunty sat on the Planning Board and the 750 Walnut Avenue application was an active application before the Planning Board. Mayor Miller Prunty stated that she could not comment because she sits on the Planning Board. Mayor Miller Prunty noted that this matter preceded her time on the Township Committee and elaborated. She stated that like her fellow Commissioners, Mayor Miller Prunty had worked hard to get the best for Cranford and that she would be voting "yes".

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Miller Prunty, Deputy Mayor Gareis and Commissioner Andrews

Nay: Commissioners Black and O'Connor

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Final Reading and Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 2022-27 to be held December 13, 2022 and the publication will take place in the Westfield Leader on December 1, 2022.

Ordinance No. 2022-28:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2022-28 entitled "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A FINANCIAL AGREEMENT FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE REDEVELOPMENT OF WALNUT AVENUE AND SOUTH AVENUE"

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

Commissioner Andrews

Provided a brief overview of Ordinance No. 2022-28 which included Commissioner Andrews noting that it was a more modest PILOT agreement.

Commissioner Black

Stated that this five (5)-year tax abatement was a much more palatable solution and a better compromise and elaborated.

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. 2022-28 to be held December 13, 2022 and the publication will take place in the Westfield Leader on December 1, 2022.

RESOLUTIONS – By Consent Agenda

On motion of Commissioner O'Connor, seconded by Commissioner Black and passed, the following resolutions were adopted by consent agenda:

Resolution No. 2022-400:

WHEREAS, the Township advertised for bids for the purchase of one (1) 2022 Super Cab 4x4 Pick Up and one (1) 2022 Regular Cab/Chassis 4x4 DRW; and

WHEREAS, the Township received sealed bids on November 15, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the bid of the lowest responsible bidder for the purchase of one (1) 2022 Ford Super Duty F350 Pickup Truck and one (1) 2022 Ford Cab/Chassis F550 4x4 was Ciocca Ford Lincoln of Flemington, 215 Route 202, Flemington, New Jersey, 08822 with a submitted bid proposal of \$89,180.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified to the availability of funds which is on file in the office of the Township Clerk and that said contract amount shall be charged to Accounts No. C-04-22-012-000-213 and Account No. C-04-21-010-000-208; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that the bid for the acquisition of one (1) 2022 Ford Super Duty F350 Pickup Truck and one (1) 2022 Ford Cab/Chassis F550 4x4, be and is hereby awarded to Ciocca Ford Lincoln of Flemington, as more particularly set forth in the Successful Bidder's bid proposal dated November 15, 2022, which bid proposal is on file in the Office of the Township Clerk; and

Resolution No. 2022-401:

WHEREAS, Township of Cranford has determined to move forward with the EMEX Reverse Auction in order procure electricity for Township of Cranford; and

WHEREAS, the Local Government Electronic Procurement Act (P.L. 2018, c. 156) (the "Act") authorizes the purchase of electricity supply service for public use through the use of an online auction service; and

WHEREAS, Township of Cranford will utilize the online auction services of EMEX, LLC, a division of Mantis Innovation, an approved vendor pursuant to the Act; and

WHEREAS, EMEX, LLC, a division of Mantis Innovation, is compensated for all services rendered through the participating supplier that a contract is awarded to; and

WHEREAS, the auction will be conducted pursuant to the Act; and

WHEREAS, if the auction achieves a price of \$0.0989/kWh or less for a twelve (12) month term, a price of \$0.09269/kWh or less for an eighteen (18) month term, a price of \$0.09402/kWh or less for a twenty-four (24) month term, the Township of Cranford may award a contract to the winning supplier for the selected term.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Administrator of the Township of Cranford be and he hereby is authorized to execute on behalf of the Township of Cranford any electricity contract proffered by the participating supplier that submits the winning bid in the EMEX Reverse Auction if the auction achieves a price of \$0.0989/kWh or less for a twelve (12) month term, a price of \$0.09269/kWh or less for an eighteen (18) month term, a price of \$0.09402/kWh or less for a twenty-four (24) month term, the Township of Cranford may award a contract to the winning supplier for the selected term.

Resolution No. 2022-402:

WHEREAS, Township of Cranford has determined to move forward with the EMEX Reverse Auction in order procure natural gas for Township of Cranford; and

WHEREAS, the Local Government Electronic Procurement Act (P.L. 2018, c. 156) (the "Act") authorizes the purchase of natural gas supply service for public use through the use of an online auction service; and

WHEREAS, Township of Cranford will utilize the online auction services of EMEX, LLC, a division of Mantis Innovation, an approved vendor pursuant to the Act; and

WHEREAS, EMEX, LLC, a division of Mantis Innovation, is compensated for all services rendered through the participating supplier that a contract is awarded to; and

WHEREAS, the auction will be conducted pursuant to the Act; and

WHEREAS, if the auction achieves a price of \$0.9089/therm or less for a twelve (12) month term, a price of \$0.8296/therm or less for an eighteen (18) month term, a price of \$0.8543/therm or less for a twenty-four (24) month term, a price of \$0.838/therm or less for a thirty- six (36) month term, the Township of Cranford may award a contract to the winning supplier for the selected term.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Administrator of the Township of Cranford be and he hereby is authorized to execute on behalf of the Township of Cranford any natural gas contract proffered by the participating supplier that submits the winning bid in the EMEX Reverse Auction if the auction achieves a price of \$0.9089/therm or less for a twelve (12) month term, a price of \$0.8296/therm or less for an eighteen (18) month term, a price of \$0.8543/therm or less for a twenty-four (24) month term, a price of \$0.838/therm or less for a thirty- six (36) month term, the Township of Cranford may award a contract to the winning supplier for the selected term.

Resolution No. 2022-403:

WHEREAS, at its regularly scheduled meeting of November 21, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 8 Springfield Avenue, Conference Room 108, the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, Union County, New Jersey, held discussion regarding the proposal for funding for Community Development Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (Year 49) programs; and

WHEREAS, said meeting was advertised in compliance with the "Open Public Meetings Act"; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford agrees with the prioritization of proposed programs as presented; and **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford at a meeting held November 22, 2022, that the Mayor and Township Clerk be, and hereby are, authorized to sign the Community Development Block Grant applications for funding the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (Year 49) projects.

Resolution No. 2022-404:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, on this 22nd day of November, 2022, hereby authorizes the following holidays for Township employees for the year 2023;

<u>Holiday</u>	<u>Actual Date</u>	<u>Employee Holiday</u>
New Year’s Day	Sunday, January 1 st	Monday, January 2 nd
Martin Luther King Jr.	Monday, January 16 th	Monday, January 16 th
President’s Day	Monday, February 20 th	Monday, February 20 th
Good Friday	Friday, April 7 th	Friday, April 7 th
Memorial Day	Monday, May 29 th	Monday, May 29 th
Juneteenth Independence Day	Monday, June 19 th	Monday, June 19 th
Independence Day	Tuesday, July 4 th	Tuesday, July 4 th
Labor Day	Monday, September 4 th	Monday, September 4 th
Columbus Day	Monday, October 9 th	Monday, October 9 th
Election Day	Tuesday, November 7 th	Friday, November 24 th
Veterans Day	Saturday, November 11 th	Friday, November 10 th
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 23 rd	Thursday, November 23 rd
Christmas Day	Monday, December 25 th	Monday, December 25 th

Resolution No. 2022-405:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford on the 22nd day of November, 2022, that the Tax Collector is authorized to refund tax overpayments for the reason noted:

Tax Court Judgements

Block 320 Lot 1, 411 North Ave. E
 Dunghloe, LLC
 c/o Wolf Vespasiano, LLC
 331 Main Street
 Chatham, NJ 07928

2020 Refund \$ 3,281.00
 (2-01-55-000-010-028)
2021 Refund \$3,291.50
 (2-01-55-000-010-028)
2022 Refund \$3,306.00
 (2-01-55-000-010-028)

Resolution No. 2022-406:

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:

Account	From	To
Social Security: O/E		
2-01-36-472-100-285	18,000.00	
Health S+W: Regular Part-time		
2-01-27-330-100-103	12,500.00	
Municipal Alliance MATCH: O/E		

Account	From	To
G-01-41-700-152-280	470.94	
Pool: Social Security O/E		
2-26-00-230-100-285	4,161.56	
B&G Muni. Bldg O/E: Maint. & Repairs		
2-01-26-310-110-221		10,000.00
B&G Municipal Building O/E: Utilities		
2-01-26-310-110-237		3,000.00
B&G Parking System: O/E		
2-01-26-310-145-221		5,000.00
Health O/E: Outside Professional		
2-01-27-330-100-214		12,500.00
Prevention & Wellness MATCH: O/E		
G-01-41-700-159-280		470.94
Pool: BAN Interest Payment		
2-26-00-220-935-280		4,161.56
	35,132.50	35,132.50

Resolution No. 2022-407:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, at a meeting held November 22, 2022, that St. Michael Church is hereby is authorized to hold their annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on Saturday, December 10, 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Committee hereby authorizes the closure of Miln Street, between the intersection of Alden Street and Springfield Avenue, on December 10, 2022, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.in connection with this event.

Resolution No. 2022-408:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford be and hereby authorizes the closure of the upper section of Municipal Lot No. 1 (One) for the Jingle Jubilee Event as follows:

- Thursday, December 15, 2022 – 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- Thursday, December 22, 2022 – 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (rain date)

Resolution No. 2022-409:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that the Township Clerk be, and herby is, authorized to advertise for bids for the purchase of vehicles, specifically:

- 2022 (or newer) Crew Cab – One (1) ton 4 x 4 Pick Up SRW (Single Rear Wheel) (Short Bed)

Resolution No. 2022-410:

AUTHORIZING ADOPTION OF THE AMENDED TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD PERSONNEL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL DATED NOVEMBER 22, 2022
WHEREAS, the Township Committee recognizes the efficiency of setting forth the terms, conditions and emoluments of employment in a central Manual; and
WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford (the “Township”) adopted the Township of Cranford Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual (the “Manual”) by way of Resolution No. 2014-341; and

WHEREAS, the Manual was modified, supplemented and/or amended thereafter by way of Resolution Nos. 2019-398, 2019-373, 2019-28, 2016-312, 2016-161; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 97-107 independently addressed issues covered by the Manual; and

WHEREAS, the Township seeks to update the Manual to meet its operational needs and in accordance with applicable evolving law and to incorporate intervening amendments and various existing Township policies and procedures relating to personnel and employment issues into a single current Township of Cranford Policies and Procedures Manual (“Manual”), which will serve as the current and governing document for personnel matters; and

WHEREAS, the Township’s Special Labor Counsel and Labor Counsel have reviewed the Manual and associated policies; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford to approve the modifications and amendments to the Manual, as reflected in Exhibit A attached hereto; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the policies and procedures in the Manual shall be effective immediately upon adoption of this Resolution, and shall replace and supersede all preexisting manuals, handbooks, policies, and procedures addressing personnel issues previously in existence and/or utilized in the Township, including but not limited to the content of the above-noted Resolutions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Administrator is authorized and directed to finalize the Manual, making any necessary formatting, pagination, grammatical, and/or spelling/typographical corrections, so that copies of the Manual may be distributed and made available to all current and future Township employees in electronic form, and as requested, in hard copy form within a reasonable time following adoption of this Resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of the Manual will be distributed and made available to all current and future volunteers, appointed and elected officials, and independent contractors to the extent applicable to them in electronic and/or hard copy form. To facilitate such distribution, the Township Administrator is authorized to compile and distribute applicable policies in an appropriate format for distribution to volunteers, appointed and elected officials, and/or independent contractors consistent with the Manual.

I, Patricia Donahue, RMC, Clerk of the Township of Cranford, hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Council at a duly convened meeting held on November 22, 2022.

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.

Don Smith, 21 Oneida Place – Mr. Smith asked for a status on Hartz Mountain’s intention to file for a variance to remove the basketball courts. Mayor Miller Prunty responded.

Jim Carvalho, 9 Orange Avenue – Mr. Carvalho expressed his dissatisfaction with the party in power. He discussed the results of the recent general election. He spoke about two recent partisan affairs held at what he believed were on taxpayer expense, specifically Senator Donald Payne’s visit to the Cranford Community Center and Governor Phil Murphy’s visit to Cranford High School. Mr. Carvalho stated that he had not received support from the opposition party and elaborated. He spoke about recent ordinances pertaining to conflict-of-interest policies and the establishment of an anti-nepotism policy. Mr. Carvalho spoke about his dissatisfaction with the opposition party.

Mayor Miller Prunty suggested that if Mr. Carvalho truly believed his accusations that he contact the Union County Prosecutor’s Office or the Attorney General’s Office.

William Thilly, 22 Bloomingdale Avenue – Mr. Thilly spoke about tax exemptions, affordable housing obligations, matters not being clear to the members of the public, optics and a money loss for the Township. He suggested renegotiating. Mr. Thilly stated that he wanted to spend the rest of his time relaxing.

Superintendent of Public Works Erik Hastrup, 364 North Avenue East – Mr. Hastrup provided an update on leaf pickup.

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

PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS

There were no Professional Comments.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS/COMMENTS

Commissioner Gina Black

- Congratulated newly-promoted Lieutenant Spencer Durkin and Sergeant Brian Wagner;
- Thanked the Commissioners for joining her at the recent soft opening of the Recreation Center at 375 Centennial Avenue which included their participation in a pickleball game; spoke about the expected use and already-reserved use of the Recreation Center; stated that the full opening for the Recreation Center was expected to occur in January;
- Noted that the (General) Election was certified on the previous day; thanked and congratulated all of the five (5) candidates who ran for office; congratulated Mayor Miller Prunty and Terrence Curran on their election win; thanked Commissioner Mary O'Connor and Chrissa Stulphin and noted their strength and service to the Township; spoke about the need for positive energy in the world;
- Stated that this was her last Official Meeting of the year as she had a work commitment during the December Official Meeting; thanked Commissioner O'Connor for her mentorship; wished everyone a happy and healthy holiday season.

Commissioner Mary O'Connor

- Echoed Commissioner Black's comments and congratulated Kathleen Miller Prunty and Terrence Curran (on their election wins); noted that both teams ran very good campaigns; stated that they had a lot of respect for each other and stated that should be the tone of Cranford politics; stated that it had been her honor to sit (on the dais);
- Congratulated Lieutenant Durkin and Sergeant Wagner (on their promotions in the Police Department); stated that the Township had a wonderful Police Department; spoke about the turnout for the recent 125th Police Anniversary celebration, the respect the community has for the Police Department and the ensuing appreciation felt by members of the Police Department;
- Noted that she found something to be grateful for every day; stated that at this time of year, she was especially grateful for her family, friends and the people who make her days and life happy and special; encouraged members of the public to be thankful and share their blessings with other people;
- Encouraged members of the public to "shop small" during the upcoming Saturday and to spend money in Downtown Cranford;
- Wished everyone a 'Happy Thanksgiving'.

Commissioner Brian Andrews

- Referencing the finished vote count, congratulated Mayor Miller Prunty and Dr. Terrence Curran on their election win; recognized the other candidates who ran in the election; stated that Mayor Miller Prunty and Dr. Curran ran positive campaigns;
- Congratulated Lieutenant Spencer Durkin and Sergeant Brian Wagner on their promotions;
- Encouraged members of the public to participate in the annual Jaycee Track Friday event at Memorial Field;
- Encouraged shopping at the upcoming Small Business Saturday event and elaborated;
- Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Deputy Mayor Jason Gareis

- Congratulated Mayor Miller Prunty and Dr. Curran on their election win; commended Mayor Miller Prunty and Dr. Curran for the campaign they ran;
- Congratulated Lieutenant Spencer Durkin and Sergeant Brian Wagner on their promotions and elaborated;
- Announced that Cranford won the "Downtown Excellence Award" at the previous week's

New Jersey League of Municipalities Conference, specifically at the New Jersey Parking Institute;

- Wished everyone a ‘Happy Thanksgiving’; requested members of the public to remember Police Officers, Firefighters, First Responders and Military personnel who would not be able to celebrate Thanksgiving with their loved ones;
- Reminded residents to “shop small” both during the upcoming Saturday event and throughout the year.

Mayor Kathleen Miller Prunty

- Spoke about current and past Township Committee members and their desire to contribute to the Township of Cranford;
- Thanked the Cranford Clergy Council for hosting the annual community Thanksgiving Service; spoke about the generosity of the residents of Cranford;
- Spoke about the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday and asked everyone to remember people who would not be able to celebrate the holiday;
- Recited a quote from Winston Churchill pertaining to giving;
- Congratulated Lieutenant Spencer Durkin and Sergeant Brian Wagner;
- Wished everyone a joyful Thanksgiving.

On motion of Commissioner O’Connor, seconded by Commissioner Andrews and passed, the Township Committee adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Donahue, RMC
Township Clerk

Date: November 22, 2022