

The Minutes of the **Workshop Meeting** of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey on **December 12, 2022** 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 Kathleen Prunty
Deputy Mayor Jason Gareis
Commissioner Brian Andrews
Commissioner Gina Black*
Commissioner Mary O’Connor

Absent: None

*Commissioner Black was present virtually via video teleconference.

Township Attorney Ryan Cooper, Administrator Jamie Cryan, Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Lavona Patterson and Township Clerk Patricia Donahue were present.

Public Comments

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

Joint Insurance Fund (JIF) Renewal

Administrator Jamie Cryan spoke about the renewal of the Township’s membership in the Statewide Joint Insurance Fund (Statewide). He reviewed the quotes received by Statewide and Suburban Municipal Joint Insurance Fund (Suburban). Mr. Cryan stated that Garden State Municipal Joint Insurance Fund had not submitted a quote. Mayor Miller Prunty inquired if there were any concerns with Statewide. Mr Cryan spoke about the need to assert for litigation coverage with Statewide and briefly elaborated. Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Lavona Patterson spoke about Statewide’s premium increases for 2022 and 2023. Township Clerk Patricia Donahue inquired about next steps pertaining to a resolution regarding the Joint Insurance Fund renewal. Mr. Cryan responded that the renewal resolution should be placed on the Reorganization Meeting Agenda. Mr. Cryan spoke about the Township’s Risk Manager’s (Meeker Sharkey) view of the renewal fee increase.

Indoor Pool Memberships

Mr. Cryan stated that he would be attending a meeting on the following day with the Westfield YMCA and Township's representatives, specifically, Swim Pool Utility Chair (Paine), Ms. Patterson, Mayor Miller Prunty and Recreation Director Steve Robertazzi. Mr. Cryan recommended that the Indoor Pool Membership matter be discussed at the following evening's Conference Meeting.

2023 Township Committee Meeting Schedule

Members of the Township Committee discussed the proposed 2023 Township Committee Meeting Schedule (which had been emailed to them from Ms. Donahue that afternoon). Discussion ensued regarding vacation schedules and summer meetings and the need for a later December Township Committee Meeting due to Bill List processing,

2023 Board of Health Meeting Schedule

Mr. Cryan stated that he had met with the new Health Officer (Amy Monaco) during the previous week. He stated that the Board of Health was open to a 2023 meeting schedule which suited the Township Committee. Ms. Patterson spoke briefly regarding the cost of extra inspectors working at the Board of Health and the recent audit finding pertaining to the Board of Health.

Committee consensus was reached that the 2023 Board of Health Meeting schedule would be as follows:

- February 6, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.
- May 1, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.
- August 7, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.
- November 20, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Closed Session Minutes of January 25th, October 24th, November 21st and November 22, 2022

Commissioner Andrews made a motion to adopt the January 25th, October 24th and November 22nd Closed Session Minutes. Mayor Miller Prunty seconded the motion. Mayor Miller Prunty, Deputy Mayor Gareis and Commissioners Andrews, Black and O'Connor voted to approve the Closed Session minutes of January 25th, October 24th and November 22nd.

Commissioner Andrews made a motion to adopt the November 21st Closed Session Minutes. Mayor Miller Prunty seconded the motion. Mayor Miller Prunty, Deputy Mayor Gareis and Commissioners Andrew and Black voted to approve the Closed Session minutes of November 21st. Commissioner O'Connor abstained from voting on the November 21, 2022 Closed Session Minutes.

Review Official Meeting Agenda

Mayor Miller Prunty noted that the Commissioners would be considering three (3) ordinances for adoption at the following evening's Official Meeting. Ms. Donahue provided an update on resolutions which still had some outstanding issues and stated that resolution information would be forwarded to the Commissioners on the following day.

Commissioner-Elect Curran inquired about the Police Department's proposed purchase of a motorcycle (Resolution No. 2022-413). A brief discussion ensued regarding the motorcycle purchase between Deputy Mayor Gareis and Commissioner-Elect Curran. Ms. Patterson spoke about donation funding for the motorcycle.

Late Starter – Johnson Avenue Road Repairs

Commissioner O'Connor spoke about recent road work on Johnson Avenue which was done poorly. Commissioner O'Connor stated that the vendor should not get paid until the road and damaged driveways were repaired.

Public Comments

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

Closed Session

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

Resolution No. 2022-98.24

BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee will go into closed session to discuss the following, the minutes of which will be released at some time in the future at the discretion of the Township Committee:

Legal

- Legal Update

Personnel

- Collective Bargaining Negotiations Update
- Employee Salary Reviews
- 2023 Reorganization
- 2023 Volunteer Appointments
- Township Administrator

Contractual

- 2023 Professional Services
- Westfield YMCA and Cranford Pool & Fitness Center

Minute Review

- Closed Session Minutes of January 25th, October 24th, November 21st and November 22, 2022

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Mayor Miller Prunty, Deputy Mayor Gareis, Commissioners Andrews, Black and O'Connor
Nay: None
Abstained: None
Absent: None

On motion of Commissioner Andrews, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gareis and passed, the Township Committee returned to open session at 12:12 a.m.

Commissioner Andrews made a motion to authorize Mayor Miller Prunty to move forward with the Township Administrator's personnel matter as outlined in the Closed Session. Deputy Mayor Gareis seconded the motion. Mayor Miller Prunty, Deputy Mayor Gareis and Commissioner Andrews voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Black voted against the motion. Commissioner O'Connor was absent.

On motion of Commissioner Andrews, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gareis and passed, the Township Committee adjourned at 12:13 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 12, 2022

Patricia Donahue
Township Clerk