

The Minutes of the **Official Meeting** of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey on **February 22, 2022** at 7:40 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 Town Hall 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 Deputy Mayor Jason Gareis, seconded by Commissioner O’Connor and passed, the minutes of the Official Meeting of November 23, 2021 were approved by indicated vote of the Township Committee:

Recorded vote:

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

Nay: None

Abstained: Commissioner Black

Absent: None

PAYMENT OF BILLS

On motion of Commissioner O’Connor, seconded by Commissioner Andrews and passed, the Bill List dated February 22, 2022, totaling \$832,896.72 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 REMARKS

Mayor Miller Prunty stated that several resolutions (ordinances) are on the Agenda that pertain to user fee increases, particularly for the Township Pools and Conservation Center. She provided an explanation as to why the increases are necessary and highlighted the recent Swim Pool Utility Advisory Board’s presentation. The Mayor also stated that fees for the Conservation Center have not been increased in a decade. She said that less than twenty five (25) per cent (%) of Cranford’s residents belong to the Township pools and urged residents of the Township to think about joining.

MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

INFORMAL MEETING

Mayor Miller Prunty opened the informal meeting portion of the meeting and asked if there were any questions or comments.

Barry Mazza, 205 Walnut Avenue – Mr. Mazza stated that he feels the Township should not over-extend itself by opening the pools if they do not have the revenue needed to sustain them. He also suggested lowering pool fees to entice more people to join. Discussion ensued.

Loretta Smith, 21 Oneida Place – Ms. Smith asked about Resolution No. 2022-140 pertaining to a contract change order for the Cranford Recreation Center located at 375 Centennial Avenue. Ms. Smith inquired as to what the change order pertained to and how much it would increase the originally agreed-upon price for the project. Discussion ensued.

Chrissa Stulpin, 356 Retford Avenue – Ms. Stulpin asked about anticipated fees for the use of amenities at the Cranford Recreation Center located at 375 Centennial Avenue. She also asked what percentage of residents are expected to use the facilities and inquired whether the expected revenues would match the fees.

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

ORDINANCES – Final Reading and Public Hearing

Ordinance No. 2022-01:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2022-01 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, CHAPTER 77 MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE TO RENAME THE COMMITTEE FROM “MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE” TO THE “CRANFORD PREVENTION AND WELLNESS ALLIANCE”

Said ordinance having been advertised and posted in accordance with law, Commissioner O’Connor opened the public hearing. Hearing no further comments, Commissioner O’Connor closed the public hearing. On motion of Commissioner O’Connor, seconded by Commissioner Black, 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. 2022-03:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2022-03 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ADOPTING A REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR AN AREA IN NEED OF REHABILITATION CONSISTING OF CERTAIN PROPERTIES LOCATED AT 100-126 SOUTH AVENUE (BLOCK 478, LOTS 1.01, 1.02, 2, 3, 4 AND 5), 32 HIGH STREET (BLOCK 478, LOT 6), 2 CHESTNUT STREET (BLOCK 483, LOT 18) AND 201 WALNUT AVENUE (BLOCK 484, LOT 19.01) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 ET SEQ.”

Said ordinance having been advertised and posted in accordance with law, Deputy Mayor Gareis opened the public hearing. Hearing no further comments, Deputy Mayor Gareis closed the public hearing. On motion of Deputy Mayor Gareis, seconded by Commissioner O’Connor and passed, said ordinance was adopted by indicated vote of the Township Committee:

Prior to the vote being taken, the Township Committee made the following comments:

Commissioner O’Connor

Stated there were neighborhood concerns regarding the redevelopment plan and hopes to address those concerns as the Township moves into the development stage. She also said that she understands the need for the project to move forward.

Commissioner Black

Stated that she still has questions which have not been answered and will be voting no.

Mayor Miller Prunty

Responded to Commissioner O’ Connor’s comments and stated that a neighborhood meeting was held to get feedback and hear concerns of residents as it relates to redevelopment agreements.

Recorded vote:

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

ORDINANCE – Introduction

Ordinance No. 2022-06:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2022-06 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 179-18 OF CHAPTER 179, "REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY (1988)," TO ADD USE OF THE ATRIUM AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER AND TO ADD NEW FEES FOR SUCH USAGE”

Said ordinance was introduced and approved on first reading on motion of Commissioner Black, seconded by Commissioner Andrews, 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. 2022-06 to be held March 29, 2022 and the publication will take place in the Westfield Leader on March 3, 2022.

Ordinance No. 2022-07:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2022-07 entitled, "CAPITAL ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE REPLACEMENT OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF FIELD AND RESURFACING OF THE TRACK AT MEMORIAL FIELD IN, BY AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP, APPROPRIATING THEREFOR THE SUM OF \$813,855 AND PROVIDING THAT SUCH SUM SO APPROPRIATED SHALL BE RAISED FROM PAYMENTS BY THE CRANFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION"

Said ordinance was introduced and approved on first reading on motion of Commissioner O'Connor, seconded by Commissioner Andrews, 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. 2022-07 to be held March 29, 2022 and the publication will take place in the Westfield Leader on March 3, 2022.

Ordinance No. 2022-08:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2022-08 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 183, SECTION 4 TO UPDATE THE FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE ISSURANCE OF PERMIT STICKERS FOR THE CRANFORD CONSERVATION CENTER"

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

Commissioner Andrews noted that the fees for the Conservation Center had not been increased in at least a decade and briefly elaborated.

Commissioner O'Connor

Commissioner O'Connor expressed her concerns regarding fee increases and explained that she "was stuck" on which way she would be voting.

Commissioner Black

Commissioner Black stated that Ordinance 2022-08 pertaining to Conservation Center fee increases was only presented right before the meeting and she feels there was no consensus reached on how and when to increase fees.

Recorded vote:

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

Final Reading and Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 2022-08 to be held March 29, 2022 and the publication will take place in the Westfield Leader on March 3, 2022.

Ordinance No. 2022-09:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2022-09 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE III, COMMUNITY POOLS, CHAPTER 306, SECTIONS 8 THROUGH 11 AS TO POOL MEMBERSHIP, HOURS OF OPERATION, POOL MEMBERSHIP FEES, AND ADDITIONAL POOL FEES"

Mayor Miller Prunty

Noted that the introduced matter would strike Township Code Chapter 306-9 concerning Hours of Operation.

Said ordinance was introduced as amended and approved on first reading on motion of Mayor Miller Prunty, seconded by Commissioner Black, 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. 2022-09 to be held March 29, 2022 and the publication will take place in the Westfield Leader on March 3, 2022.

Township Clerk Patricia Donahue noted that publication for Ordinance No. 2022-01 and Ordinance No. 2022-03 were placed 9 days after they were introduced.

RESOLUTIONS – By Consent Agenda

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

Resolution No. 2022-138:

WHEREAS, at a meeting held May 24, 2016, the Township Committee adopted Ordinance No. 2016-06, which established ranges with minimum and maximum salaries and progressive salary steps for certain job titles within the Township of Cranford; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ordinance No. 2016-06, the Township Committee reserves the right and discretion to make salary adjustments at any time as it deems it to be in the public interest and in the interests of good management; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee is appreciative of the hard work of all of its Township employees and is desirous of retaining dependable and experienced employees; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee hereby approves the progression in steps and/or salary increase for the following employee in the following job title as recommended by the Township Administrator:

Name	Title	Salary	Effective
Caren Demyen	District Management Corporation (DMC) - Director	\$95,400	January 1, 2022

Resolution No. 2022-139:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO FINANCE THE REPLACEMENT OF THE TURF FIELD AND RUNNING TRACK AT THE MEMORIAL FIELD

WHEREAS, the Township is the owner of a property commonly known as Memorial Field and used as an athletic field, public playground and recreational area;

WHEREAS, the Township and the Board of Education (“BOE”) have entered into a Memorial Field Lease Agreement (the “Lease Agreement”), attached hereto, pursuant to which the Township has leased all of Memorial Field to the BOE, and the BOE has agreed to maintain and operate Memorial Field at its own expense; and

WHEREAS, the Township and the BOE are also parties, among others, to the Cranford Turf Field Agreement (the “Turf Agreement”), attached hereto, applicable to the installation and use of certain improvements to Memorial Field; and

WHEREAS, the BOE desires that further improvements be made to Memorial Field, specifically the replacement of an artificial turf field and adjacent running track at an approximate cost of \$813,000; and

WHEREAS, the BOE has requested and the Township has agreed to finance the total cost of the improvements subject to the BOE’s commitment to reimburse the Township for the costs and expenses thereof; and

WHEREAS, this project is in the best interest of the health, safety and welfare of the general public in the Township of Cranford.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, New Jersey that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, Township Administrator, and Township Clerk are authorized and designated to execute any and all necessary documents in order to implement the intent of this Resolution.

Resolution No. 2022-140:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER FOR ADDITIONAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE RENOVATION OF THE RECREATION CENTER AT 375 CENTENNIAL AVENUE, FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, Tri-Form Construction Inc., 119 Liberty Street, Metuchen, New Jersey, 08840 was previously awarded a construction contract for the Renovation of the Cranford Recreation Center at 375 Centennial Avenue with a total project price of \$1,253,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the project is currently on-going and it is understood that the Township of Cranford would like to expedite the Renovation of the Cranford Recreation Center at 375 Centennial Avenue; and

WHEREAS, DMR Architects has reviewed the requests and approved each, which outlines the estimated additional construction costs for said improvements to the Recreation Center in the amount of \$5,967.50;

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

WHEREAS, the following summarizes the allocation of the \$5,967.50 Change Order:

- Utilize the available funding from Capital Bond Ordinance C-04-21-010-000-209

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, Union County, New Jersey that the above referenced Change Order for the Renovation of the Cranford Recreation Center at 375 Centennial Avenue is awarded to Tri-Form Construction, Inc., 119 Liberty Street, Metuchen, New Jersey, 08840 in the amount of \$5,967.50 (0.5 per cent (%)) of the original contract amount of \$1,253,000.00).

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

I, Patricia Donahue, Township Clerk of the Township of Cranford, in the County of Union, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the forgoing is true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey at a regular meeting of said Committee held on February 22, 2022.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Township of Cranford in the County of Union and State of New Jersey this 22nd day of February, 2022.

Resolution No. 2022-141:

RESOLUTION AWARDING PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE 2022 INFLOW AND INFILTRATION PROJECT FUNDED BY A BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDED BY THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford requires an expert to provide engineering services in connection with the 2022 Inflow and Infiltration Project; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford advertised a Request for Proposals (RFP's) for Engineering Services through a fair and open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford deemed that the background, experience and qualifications of the respondent herein satisfy the criteria set forth in the RFP; and

WHEREAS, Colliers Engineering & Design, dba Maser Consulting Inc., is familiar with the procedures that are necessary for said improvements and shall perform the tasks as delineated in the January 31, 2022 correspondence; 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.

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

1. **Colliers Engineering & Design**, dba Maser Consulting Inc., 400 Valley Road, Suite 304, Mount Arlington, New Jersey, 07856, be and hereby is awarded a contract to perform engineering services in connection with the aforementioned project at a fee not to exceed \$106,500.00; and
2. The Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract with Colliers Engineering & Design; and
3. This contract is awarded pursuant to the "fair and open" process (N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said contract amount shall be charged to Account No C-04-21-010-000-S21.

Resolution No. 2022-142:

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A11-5(1) (dd), the Township may, by resolution and without advertising for bids, purchase goods or services for the support, maintenance, and acquisition of proprietary computer hardware and software; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford is in need of acquiring software and hardware from Integrated Technical Systems, Inc., 8 Capital Drive, Wallingford, Connecticut, 06492, for the management of the parking meter system; and

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Agent has determined and certified in writing that the value of the aggregate purchases may exceed \$44,000; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et. seq., Integrated Technical Systems, Inc. has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Integrated Technical Systems, Inc. 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 Integrated Technical Systems, Inc. from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract,
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, authorizes the Purchasing Agent to enter into a non-fair and open contract with Integrated Technical Systems, Inc. as described herein; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification be placed on file with this resolution.

Resolution No. 2022-143:

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford is requesting that the County of Union install a crosswalk at the intersection of Penn Road and Springfield Avenue through an interlocal services agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Concept Plan entitled “Roadway Improvements for Springfield Avenue/Penn Road” prepared by Colliers Engineering & Design, dated February 9, 2022, has been prepared as a result of coordination with the County of Union; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that the installation of the crosswalk through an interlocal services agreement with the County of Union is hereby authorized and directed.

Resolution No. 2022-144:

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford wishes to purchase certain goods and services from an authorized vendor with Sourcewell (a cooperative purchasing company); and

WHEREAS, the purchase of goods and services by local contracting units is authorized by the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J. S. A. 40A:11-12; and

WHEREAS, Rain Drop Products, LLC, 2121 Cottage Street, Ashland, Ohio, 44805 has been awarded a Sourcewell contract, Contract No. 010521-RDP, for Children’s Commercial Aquatic Play Equipment; and

WHEREAS, Rain Drop Products, LLC, will provide said goods and services to the Township of Cranford at a cost of \$346,480.12; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.5(b), the Chief Financial Officer has certified that sufficient funds are available and appropriated for this purchase, specifically that the Rain Drop Products, LLC contract will be charged to Account No. C-04-21-010-000-210 and Account No. G-01-41-700-138-280.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford be and hereby approves an award of contract to Rain Drop Products, LLC for the purchase of a Splash Pad and associated goods and services at Orange Avenue Pool at a cost not to exceed \$346,480.12 under Sourcewell Contract No. 010521-RDP; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Township Clerk be and hereby are authorized and directed to execute documents in connection with said award of contract.

Resolution No. 2022-145:

This was on “Consent Agenda” and during the Consent Agenda vote, the resolution was moved to a Roll Call Vote.

Resolution No. 2022-146:

WHEREAS, an application has been filed by Milen Roussenov, 73 Winans Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey, for renewal of limousine/livery service vehicle licenses for Milen Roussenov; 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.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford does hereby approve, effective January 1, 2022, the issuance of limousine/livery service vehicle licenses to Milen Roussenov for a license term ending December 31, 2022.

Resolution No. 2022-147:

SUPERSEDING RESOLUTION NO. 2022-135 AUTHORIZING THE CLOSURE OF EASTMAN STREET, BETWEEN NORTH AVENUE WEST AND MILN STREET IN CONNECTION WITH THE FILMING OF A MOTION PICTURE NAMED, “MAYBE I DO”

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, that Maybe I Do Film, Inc., (a film production company) of 78 John Miller Way, 4th Floor, Kearny, New Jersey, 07032, be, and hereby is, authorized to close and utilize Eastman Street, between North Avenue West and Miln Street in connection with the filming of a motion picture named, “Maybe I Do” on February 23, 2022 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. with a rain date of February 24, 2022 from 3:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m.; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Maybe I Do Film, Inc. has received a filming permit from the Township of Cranford and has provided the Township of Cranford with a valid insurance certificate of liability for the filming; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Cranford Police Department has been contracted to be on-site during the filming to provide security and maintain traffic control during the street closure.

Resolution No. 2022-148:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford on the 22nd day of February, 2022 that the following checks will be refunded by the Tax Collector to the lien holder according to statutory requirements:

Redemption of Certificate# 21-00004

Block 574 Lot 9
USBANK CUST/PC8 FIRSTRUST BANK
50 South 16th St. Suite 2050
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Refund: \$ 594.68
(2-01-55-000-010-029)
Premium: \$1500.00
(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

RESOLUTION – By Roll Call Vote

On motion of Commissioner Black, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gareis and passed, the following resolution was adopted by **roll call vote.**

Resolution No. 2022-145:

WHEREAS, Community Grants, Planning & Housing (CGP&H) provides Administrative Agent Services to the Township of Cranford and serves as the Administrator of the Township’s Home Improvement Program; and,

WHEREAS, CGP&H has conducted the procurement process on behalf of the Township of Cranford, pursuant to the duties and responsibilities outlined in their Professional Services Contract, for certain improvements in connection with the Cranford Township Home Improvement Program, Case No. CRANF-2105-R, located at 9 Osage Drive, Cranford, New Jersey, 07016, Block 581, Lot 11 on the official Tax map of the Township of Cranford; and,

WHEREAS, the Qualified Purchasing Agent has consented to the recommendation of award issued by CGP&H, and further recommends award by the governing body for the tracking and accounts payable purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey hereby awards a contract to A-Plus Construction Inc., located at 18 Station Road, Lincoln Park, New Jersey, 07035, in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 for the Township of Cranford Home Improvement Program project, Case No. CRANF-2105-R, located at 9 Osage Drive, Cranford, New Jersey, 07016, Block 581, Lot 11 on the official Tax map of the Township of Cranford.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said contract amount shall be charged to Account No. T-23-00-000-101-000.

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Miller Prunty, Deputy Mayor Gareis, Commissioners Andrews and Black
Nay: None
Abstained: Commissioner O’ Connor
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 about the Hartz Mountain traffic study as well as the schedule for the Township’s own traffic study. He inquired about the Township’s traffic engineer. Discussion ensued.

Barry Mazza, 205 Walnut Avenue – Mr. Mazza requested an update on mitigation efforts being put into place near the intersection between Chestnut Street and Walnut Avenue. He inquired about the various traffic studies that were being done and if the narrowing of streets had been discussed. Mr. Mazza also spoke about the Conservation Center and stated that residents are not aware of all the services offered such as the “Food Waste to Energy” program and plastic film recycling.

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

PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS

Township Administrator Jamie Cryan

- Announced that the Municipal Building was now open to the public, effective February 14th;
- Asked that members of the public continue to utilize the secure drop boxes located outside of the Municipal Building;
- Spoke about Resolution No. 2022-143 pertaining to the installation of a crosswalk at the intersection of Penn Road and Springfield Avenue; congratulated Commissioner Andrews on moving the project forward.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS/COMMENTS

Commissioner Gina Black

- Announced that she had the pleasure of sitting in on a Girl Scouts meeting earlier in the week to assist the Scouts in obtaining their Democracy Badge;
- Commended the Girl Scouts on how articulate they were when speaking and discussed the importance of having a voice and using it to express your thoughts and opinions;
- Spoke about the importance of holding in-person meetings;
- Mentioned how important it is to have respectful discussions with residents and announced that there would be a meeting held the following night regarding the traffic study for 750 Walnut Avenue;
- Spoke about her frustration with last minute meeting notice and stated that more discussion should occur (within the Township Committee) before a decision is made;
- Announced that the Centennial Village Group is planning a “Bunny Hop” and briefly elaborated.

Commissioner Mary O’Connor

- Stated that she echoed Commissioner Black’s statements about the recent Girl Scout meeting; stated that she was very impressed with the Girl Scouts.
- Spoke about the Fire and Ice event to be held Downtown on the upcoming weekend;
- Implored residents to join the Township pools.

Commissioner Brian Andrews

- Discussed the interlocal services agreement that was entered into with Union County for the installation of a crosswalk at the intersection of Penn Road and Springfield Avenue;
- Spoke about the ongoing flood mitigation efforts and the work being done by the engineering firm, Mott MacDonald, as well as what can be done for flood control at the local and federal levels;
- Mentioned concerns regarding the Pump House and dyke levels;
- Announced that the Elizabethtown Gas Project was set to begin on South Avenue;
- Spoke about the Fire and Ice event that would be held in the Downtown area;
- Thanked members of the public for their feedback on the new archway that was installed near the Breadsmith store;
- Spoke about an upcoming filming project.

Deputy Mayor Jason Gareis

- Spoke about two exemplary incidents involving Police Department personnel, specifically Officer McSharry and Officer Ingram’s work with a loaded firearm situation and Officer Gross and Officer Gamba’s work with a motor vehicle stop/illicit drugs/firearm situation.
- Thanked the Cranford Police Department for their professionalism, dedication and bravery.

Mayor Kathleen Miller Prunty

- Urged members of the public to join the Township pools this summer and said membership information would be available March 1, 2022; spoke about the importance of being fiscally responsible when evaluating pool operations.
- Highlighted comments made by resident Barry Mazza; reminded residents about the useful information found in the Township Newsletter.

On motion of Commissioner Andrews seconded by Commissioner O’Connor and passed, the Township Committee adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

2/22/2022

Date: February 22, 2022

Patricia Donahue, RMC
Township Clerk