

The Minutes of the **Workshop Meeting** of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey on **May 13, 2019** at **7:00 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 TOWN HALL RESERVED FOR SUCH ANNOUNCEMENTS AND THE FILING OF SAID NOTICE WITH THE TOWNSHIP CLERK OF CRANFORD. FORMAL ACTION MAY BE TAKEN AT THIS MEETING.

Present: Mayor Patrick Giblin
Deputy Mayor Ann Dooley
Commissioner Thomas H. Hannen, Jr.
Commissioner Jean-Albert Maisonneuve
Commissioner Mary O'Connor

Absent: None

Public Comments

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

Mr. Craig Miklencic of 207 S. Union Avenue provided a Cranford West overview and update. He noted that the campground property was located in Hope, New Jersey. He stated that Cranford West provided a quiet and scenic getaway for Cranford residents. Mr. Miklencic spoke about proposed upgrades at Cranford West. Mr. Miklencic stated that the current challenges faced included trash storage and trespassing of the property. To deter trespassers, Mr. Miklencic stated that boulders and gates would be installed at the property. He noted that last year there were 336 visitors to the camp site. Further discussion ensued about possibly naming camp locations after Cranford residents who had been killed in war, whether pets were allowed at Cranford West, canoe donations, residents' preference for kayaks and whether some of the cabins should be torn down.

Mr. Rob Ramirez of Kenilworth inquired about the sundial initiative status at Union County College. Mayor Giblin responded, noting that it had appeared the initiative had not been successful, and that the Township did not have jurisdiction on the matter.

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

Closed Session

On motion of Commissioner Hannen, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor and passed, the following resolution was adopted by roll call vote:

Resolution No. 2019-93.14

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:

Real Estate

- Centennial Avenue Tennis Courts
- 201 Walnut Avenue
- 6 Franklin Avenue

Legal Matters

- Legal Update
- Affordable Housing Update

Contractual

- Township Administrator
- Lincoln Avenue and South Avenue Intersection Improvements

Minutes

- Closed Session Minutes of March 25th and March 26, 2019

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Mayor Giblin, Deputy Mayor Dooley, Commissioners Hannen, Maisonneuve and O'Connor
Nay: None
Abstained: None
Absent: None

On motion of Commissioner Hannen, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor and passed, the Township Committee returned to open session at 7:43 p.m.

Public Comments

Mr. David Pringle of 333 Walnut Avenue thanked the Committee for 1) coordinating the previous week's "Community" meeting with PSEG regarding their proposed upgrades and 2) consideration of the following evening's Official Meeting resolution which urged Union County to protect the Walnut Avenue Public-Right-of-Way.

Noting that she was representing the HPAB, Ms. Loretta Smith of 21 Oneida Place inquired whether the Township Committee would be discussing the Master Plan that evening. Mayor Giblin responded that there were no plans to discuss the Master Plan that evening. A brief discussion ensued.

Mr. Robert Ramirez of 140 W. Michigan Avenue in Kenilworth stated that he had heard complaints that games were being conducted on the property of River and Rail Cantina. A brief discussion ensued as to whether the games were being held on County property. Mayor Giblin requested that Commissioner Maisonneuve follow-up on this complaint.

Police Substation at Community Center

Police Chief Ryan Greco stated that Mr. Robertazzi was interested in a police presence at the Community Center. Chief Greco noted that Mr. Robertazzi's interest in such a presence was to assist with the adolescent visitors to the Community Center and further elaborated.

NJ Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) June 2019 License Renewals

Township Clerk Patricia Donahue provided an update on the 14 (fourteen) Alcoholic Beverage Control liquor license renewals and noted that they all expired on June 30th. She spoke about needed department head approvals and financial requirements (i.e., payment of municipal and state renewal fees and obtaining tax clearance.) Ms. Donahue also spoke about the previous Friday's unannounced visit from two inspectors from the State of New Jersey's Division of Taxation. Ms. Donahue noted that the type of tax which is usually delinquent was sales tax.

NJ Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Enforcement

Police Chief Ryan Greco provided an Alcoholic Beverage Control update on Police Department enforcement activity in the Township. He spoke about Cranford Police Department and New Jersey Alcoholic Beverage Control Department's combined visits to Cranford's 14 (fourteen) liquor license holders which had occurred during the past year. Police Chief Greco stated that there were no findings during these visits. He also described a recent surprise visit to a Cranford bar in which the lights were turned on in the bar and everyone was checked for proper identification. Chief Greco noted that there were also no findings during this unannounced visit.

Late Starter – Police Various

Commissioner Hannen requested that a new payment response option for parking meter use would be "no receipt." He stated the proposed meter choice would result in less litter in the downtown area.

Deputy Mayor Dooley asked a question about the traffic lights on Route 28. Police Chief Greco responded that the problem originated with pedestrian push buttons.

Referencing recent car burglaries, Deputy Mayor Dooley congratulated the Police Department on their police work. She inquired about the recent thefts. Police Chief Greco responded.

Fireworks Display in Nomahegan Park

Mayor Giblin provided a summary of the Office of Emergency Management's concerns regarding the July Fireworks Display in Nomahegan Park. He stated that the Fireworks Display would occur on July 2nd. Chief Ryan Greco spoke about both Springfield Avenue access to the Display and working with the County on the event. Commissioner Hannen inquired whether the Display could be held on July 3rd. The Mayor responded.

PSEG Proposed Upgrade

Mayor Giblin said that representatives from PS&EG stated they were impressed with the resident turnout at the previous Wednesday's Community meeting. He noted that PSE&G is in communication with Conrail

regarding the possible use of the rail lines. Mayor Giblin stated that it had been communicated to him that the local Conrail rail lines were home to a very busy train line. Mayor Giblin then spoke about the proposed resolution for Township Committee's consideration at the following evening's Official Meeting which urged Union County to protect the Walnut Avenue Public Right-of-Way.

Sidewalk Cafes and Proposed Ordinance

Township Attorney Ryan Cooper reviewed the proposed ordinance pertaining to sidewalk cafes. A brief discussion ensued regarding its introduction. Committee consensus was reached to proposed the ordinance at the Township Committee's May 28th Official Meeting. Discussion ensued regarding the effects of the proposed ordinance. Mayor Giblin requested that the DMC (Downtown Management Corporation review the proposed ordinance. Commissioner Hannen suggested that the Pedestrian Safety Committee review the ordinance. A brief discussion ensued.

Administrative Ordinance

Township Attorney Ryan Cooper reviewed the proposed ordinance regarding changes to chapters of the Township Code which pertained to the Township positions (specifically the Tax Collector, the Deputy Tax Collector, the Administrator and the Township Attorney.) Commissioner Hannen inquired about the "duties and powers" section of the Administrator section. Mayor Giblin inquired why the changes were being done. Mr. Cooper responded that he wanted to start cleaning up certain sections of the Township Code. Committee consensus was reached to introduce the proposed ordinance at the Township Committee's May 28th Official Meeting

Professional Fees Ordinance.

Township Attorney Ryan Cooper spoke about the background of the proposed ordinance, specifically that its content was requested by members of the Planning Board. He stated that the Planning Board and Zoning Board attorneys and Zoning Officer Jason Bottcher were in agreement with the proposed ordinance. Commissioner Hannen stated that he was opposed to fees for residents. Discussion ensued.

Committee consensus was reached to introduce the proposed ordinance at the Township Committee's May 28th Official Meeting

Community Garden at Roosevelt Park

Commissioner O'Connor spoke about a proposal to build a Community Garden in Cranford. She noted that she had reached out to Recreation and Parks Director Steve Robertazzi regarding the initiative and they thought Roosevelt Park would be a good location for a Community Garden. Commissioner Maisonneuve spoke about DMC gardening efforts at the Post Office Plaza. Discussion ensued including that the Environmental Commission supported the Community Garden idea and that a resolution was not needed to move the initiative forward. Commissioner Hannen noted that residents have enough property around their home to garden. Commissioner O'Connor stated that she would work on a plan to develop the Community Garden.

Review Official Meeting Agenda

Members of the Township Committee requested a late starter resolution to replace Resolution 2019-138. Such resolution pertained to the closure of various municipal lots for the Town-wide Barbecue and Cranford Bike Tour.

Members of the Township Committee requested that Resolution No. 2019-204 be moved to a roll call vote. Such resolution pertained to urging Union County to protect the Walnut Avenue Public Right-of-Way.

Township Clerk Patricia Donahue provided a brief overview of the following evening's 1) Official Meeting Flag Salute which would be administered by the Police and Fire Honor Guard, and 2) Official Meeting Mayoral Announcement pertaining to the Proclamation for the EMS/First Responders.

Public Comments

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

Kevin Cumiskey of 109 Columbia Avenue asked a question about the July 4th Firecracker road race. Mayor Giblin and Commissioner Maisonneuve responded.

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

Commissioner Reports:

Referencing his work on the Memorial Day Committee, Commissioner Hannen recommended that other than the emcee's speech, the Day's speeches be limited to 5 (five) minutes in length. Members of the Committee noted their agreement with Commissioner Hannen's suggestion.

Mayor Giblin provided a brief update regarding a United States census meeting he attended with Administrator Cryan and Zoning Officer Jason Bottcher during the previous week

Commissioner Maisonneuve noted that he would work with DMC Director Gabe Bailer and the DMC regarding the proposed Sidewalks ordinance.

Closed Session

On motion of Commissioner Hannen, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor and passed, the following resolution was adopted by roll call vote:

Resolution No. 2019-93.14

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Recorded Vote:

Aye: Mayor Giblin, Deputy Mayor Dooley, Commissioners Hannen, Maisonneuve and O'Connor
Nay: None
Abstained: None
Absent: None

On motion of Commissioner Hannen, seconded by Deputy Mayor Dooley and passed, the Township Committee returned to open session at 9:58 p.m.

Minute Approval – Closed Session Minutes of March 25th

Commissioner Hannen motioned to approve the Closed Session minutes of March 29, 2019. Deputy Mayor Dooley seconded the motion to approve the Closed Session minutes of March 29, 2019. Each member of the Township Committee voted "aye" in favor of these motions.

On motion of Commissioner Hannen, seconded by Deputy Mayor Dooley and passed, the Township Committee adjourned at 9:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Donahue
Township Clerk

Dated: May 13, 2019