

The Minutes of the **Official Meeting** of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey on **July 7, 2022** at 7:46 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 February 7, 2022 and the Workshop Meeting of June 28, 2022 and the Official Meeting of March 29, 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 Black and passed, the Bill List dated July 7, 2022, totaling \$699,177.34 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 invited Steve Saltzman, Chair of the Historic Preservation Advisory Board to the podium and read the Mayor's Proclamation:

Obelisk Street Signs

WHEREAS, Cranford's unique obelisk street signs, first erected in 1929, are a part of Cranford's cultural heritage; and

WHEREAS, street signs were first installed in 1906 when Townships decided the streets of the growing towns needed name signs.

WHEREAS, these signs were manufactured by the Mueller Tile Company, which used the Cranford sign image in company advertising; and

WHEREAS, the Cranford Township Committee wishes to support the preservation of our cultural resources;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Kathleen Miller Prunty, Mayor of the Township of Cranford, declare that our approximately 200 obelisk street signs are a unique cultural heritage worthy of preservation.

INFORMAL MEETING

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

ORDINANCE – Final Reading and Public Hearing

Ordinance No. 2022-15:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2022-15 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, CHAPTER 255, LAND DEVELOPMENT, PERTAINING TO SIGNAGE”

Commissioner Andrews provided a brief overview of the ordinance. Said ordinance having been advertised and posted in accordance with law, Commissioner Andrews opened the public hearing. Hearing no comments, Commissioner Andrews closed the public hearing. On motion of Commissioner Andrews 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

ORDINANCES – Introduction

Ordinance No. 2022-17:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2022-17 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD CHAPTER 93, ARTICLE III, SECTIONS 28 AND 29 (PERTAINING TO POLICE EXTRA DUTY)”

Deputy Mayor Gareis provided a brief overview of the proposed ordinance. Said ordinance was introduced and approved on first reading on motion of Deputy Mayor Gareis, 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. 2022-17 to be held August 9, 2022 and the publication will take place in the Westfield Leader on July 14, 2022.

Ordinance No. 2022-18:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2022-18 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, CHAPTER 410, SECTION 65, SCHEDULE XII: TRUCKS OVER CERTAIN WEIGHTS EXCLUDED FOR THE ENTIRE LENGTH OF ORCHARD STREET”

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:

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. 2022-18 to be held August 9, 2022 and the publication will take place in the Westfield Leader on July 14, 2022.

RESOLUTIONS – By Consent Agenda

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

Resolution No. 2022-287:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, at a meeting held on July 7, 2022, that Gary Gonzalez, be, and hereby is, advanced from the position of Equipment Operator to the position of Road Foreman within the Department of Public Works, effective July 11, 2022.

Resolution No. 2022-288:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, at a meeting held on July 7, 2022, that Nicholas Hughes, be, and hereby is appointed to the position of Laborer/Driver within the Department of Public Works, effective July 11, 2022.

Resolution No. 2022-289:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, at a meeting held on July 7, 2022, that Casey Cullen-Wood be, and hereby is, appointed to the Stormwater Infrastructure Planning Working Group, effective July 1, 2022.

Resolution No. 2022-290:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SETTLEMENT WITH AMERICAN ASPHALT & MILLING SERVICES, LLC (“AAM”) AND GRANTING AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, on April 29, 2021, pursuant to New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq., the Township of Cranford opened bids for construction services for the Elm Street Drainage Improvements Project (the “Elm Street Project”); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 2021-217, the Township awarded AAM the contract for the Elm Street Project to AAM as the lowest responsible bidder; and

WHEREAS, a dispute arose between the Township of Cranford and AAM regarding the timeliness and sufficiency with which AAM has performed its services pursuant to the terms of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee became aware that the New Jersey Department of Labor pursuant to the Prevailing Wage Act, N.J.S.A. 34:11-56.37 and -56.38 has debarred and suspended American Asphalt and Milling Services, LLC and its owner Hugo Ortiz from receiving public works contracts; and

WHEREAS, a bidder is “responsible” if it is able to complete the contract in accordance with its requirements and the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford may disqualify a bidder who would otherwise be determined to be the lowest bidder, if the Township Committee finds it has prior negative experience with the bidder; and

WHEREAS, negative prior experience includes, but is not limited to, the bidder being debarred or suspended from contracting by the State of New Jersey, or the bidder has failed to perform the services contracted for, or failed to complete the contract in a timely manner, or otherwise performed unsatisfactorily; and

WHEREAS, as per Resolution No. 2021-359, the Township Committee disqualified AAM and Hugo Ortiz as a “responsible bidder” authorized to receive public works contracts from the Township of Cranford for a period to coincide with AAM’s debarment by the New Jersey Department of Labor; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Resolution No. 2021-380, the Township and AAM have reached a settlement in principle to award the Elm Street Project to the next lowest responsible bidder, transfer certain project materials for which AAM shall receive credit and direct payment, and to preclude AAM from bidding on future Cranford public works contracts for a period of five years; and

WHEREAS, the Township recognizes the time and expense of litigation and acknowledges the benefit and value to the parties resolving this matter amicably and without further delay.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that the Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to execute a Settlement Agreement with American Asphalt & Milling Services, LLC in a form substantially consistent with the agreement attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Resolution No. 2022-291:

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:54-12.1, the Township of Cranford Free Public Library may, and without advertising for bids, purchase library materials and specialized library services; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford is in need of acquiring specialized library services from LMxAC Inc. (Libraires of Middlesex Automation Consortium, Inc.), 27 Mayfield Avenue, Edison, New Jersey, 08837 for inventory management (specifically access to the Integrated Library System which provides 1) database services for both patrons and records of materials, 2) centralized cataloging services, 3) E-library NJ and 4) centralized Information Technology (IT) services) at the Township of Cranford Free Public Library; and such contract will include consortium membership fees; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee authorizes the Township of Cranford to become a member of the LMxAC Inc. (Libraires of Middlesex Automation Consortium, Inc.), effective August 9, 2022, and that such membership shall be for the period ending June 30, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Agent has determined and certified in writing that the value of the contract will exceed \$17,500; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et. Seq., LMxAC Inc. has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that LMxAC 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 LMxAC Inc. from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract, 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 Account No. 2-01-29-390-100-214.

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 **LMxAC Inc., 27 Mayfield Avenue, Edison, New Jersey, 08837**, 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. 2022-292:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford on this 7th day of July 2022, that the Mayor and Township Clerk be, and hereby are, authorized to renew a Shared Services Agreement with the Cranford Board of Education in connection with School Resource Officers for a term of one (1) year for the period of July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 in an amount not to exceed \$75,000.

Resolution No. 2022-293:

RESOLUTION AWARDING CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR THE 2022 CAPITAL ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

WHEREAS, on Friday, July 1, 2022, at 10:00 a.m., bids were opened in the presence of the Chief Financial Officer, the Township Consulting Engineer and the Township Clerk; and

WHEREAS, there were six (6) bids received with the lowest bidder for the project being P & A Construction Inc., 650 Leesville Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey, 07065 with a Base Bid Amount of \$845,373.00, Alternate Bid 'A' Amount of \$65,000.00 and Total Bid Amount of \$910,373.00; and

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer and other appropriate Township Officials have reviewed the bids and recommend award of contract for the Base Bid and Alternate Bid "A" for this project to P & A Construction Inc.; 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 Account No. C-04-22-012-000-201; and

WHEREAS, this Project is funded by way of a capital improvements bond ordinance as provided by the Township of Cranford; 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, Union County, New Jersey that the above referenced construction project is awarded to P & A Construction Inc., 650 Leesville Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey, 07065 for a **Total Bid amount of \$910,373.00** and **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 July 7, 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 7th day of July 2022.

Resolution No. 2022-294:

RESOLUTION AWARDING PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE 2022 CAPITAL ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford requires an expert to provide construction administration (engineering) services in connection with the 2022 Capital Road Improvement Project; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford advertised a Request for Proposals (RFP) 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 Inc., DBA Maser Consulting is familiar with the procedures that are necessary for said improvements and shall perform the tasks as delineated in the July 1, 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 Inc., DBA Maser Consulting**, 400 Valley Road, Suite 304, Mount Arlington, New Jersey 07856 be and hereby are awarded a contract to perform engineering services in connection with the aforementioned project at a fee not to exceed **\$89,500.00**; and
2. The Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract with Colliers Engineering & Design Inc., DBA Maser Consulting; 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-04-22-012-000-S20.

Resolution No. 2022-295:

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford requires an expert to provide Engineering Services in connection with the improvements to repair the Nomahegan Dikes; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford advertised for a Request for Proposals (RFP's) 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, pursuant to Resolution 2022-20, the Township of Cranford deemed that the background, experience, and qualifications of Mott MacDonald satisfied the criteria set forth in the RFP, and designated Mott MacDonald as a firm for providing the Township engineering services; and

WHEREAS, Mott MacDonald, 412 Mt. Kemble Avenue, Suite G22, Morristown, New Jersey, 07960, is familiar with the procedures that are necessary for Engineering Services in connection with improvements to repair the Nomahegan Dikes and shall perform the tasks as delineated in their June 24, 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. **Mott MacDonald**, 412 Mt Kemble Avenue, Suite G22, Morristown, New Jersey, 07960, be and hereby are awarded a contract to perform Engineering Services in connection with the aforementioned project at a fee not to exceed **\$22,000.00**; and
2. The Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract with Mott MacDonald, 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-04-21-010-000-203.

Resolution No. 2022-296:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A TOWNSHIP CURBING POLICY AS A CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

WHEREAS, the presence of curbing in a roadway improves the pavement life by reducing the amount of water that gets under the pavement and conveys gutter line flow into the stormwater system and/or points of collection; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford has historically approached the installation of new curbing in conjunction with drainage projects; and

WHEREAS, curbing has also historically been installed or replaced in areas with flat gutter line slopes to minimize ponding and to direct water to flow towards the new underground stormwater system; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford's Engineering Department will now consider installation or replacement of curbing as part of a Capital Improvement Project under specific parameters; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford authorizes the Township of Cranford's Engineering Department to consider installation or replacement of curbing as part of a Capital improvement project under specific parameters as follows:

1. When the roadway does not have sufficient gutter line slope to minimize ponding.
 - 0.5% is a minimum slope for a gutter to drain during a rain event.
2. When the roadway has a high groundwater table with sump pump discharges.
 - If high groundwater is suspected, and the gutter line slope is flat (less than 0.5%), icing in the winter could be a concern due to sump pump discharges. For these roadways, the Engineering Department will consider the installation of storm sewers and connection of sump pump discharges, in conjunction with curbing.
3. When the majority of the roadway already has existing curb.
4. When the existing curb height is less than 4 inches.
5. When underground drainage structures are proposed.
6. When the curbing is deteriorated or broken.
7. While curbing is preferred on most roadways, it is not always possible for the following reasons, which should also be considered in conjunction with the factors above:

- Curbing will not be considered on roadways where the installation of same would result in a significant change to the roadway that includes excavating and lowering the entire roadway, especially if the roadway already has positive gutter line slope of over 0.5%
 - Curbing will not be considered on roadways where it would cause a change in the vehicular pattern and parking conditions of the street.
 - Utility company projects do not include the installation or replacement of curbing, unless it has been damaged by the utility company. The utility companies are paving the roads at their cost, as part of their projects to upgrade their utilities.
8. When the installation or replacement of curbing is advisable, the following types of curb, as applicable, should be used:
- Belgian Block curbing will be installed in residential areas and the Special Improvement District, unless the road is a State or County Road.
 - If the predominant type of curb is concrete in a roadway, the Engineering Department will consider installation of concrete curbs to match the existing curbing.

Resolution No. 2022-297:

WHEREAS, Sweethearts LLC applied for and was subsequently granted required approval by the Township of Cranford to film *Sweethearts*; and

WHEREAS, Sweethearts LLC has indicated that its production may affect a portion of Township Property, specifically, Miln Street between Eastman Street and the entrance to Municipal Lot No. 7, and North Union Avenue between Riverside Drive and Springfield Avenue; and

WHEREAS, The Township of Cranford wants to ensure the safety of motor vehicle and pedestrian traffic surrounding the Sweethearts LLC’s filming locations while reducing the impact to the surrounding residential, business, church and school communities;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, that the Cranford Police Department hereby is authorized to periodically close Miln Street between Eastman Street and the entrance to Municipal Lot No. 7, and North Union Avenue between Riverside Drive and Springfield Avenue, when supervising police personnel deem it necessary to ensure the safety of pedestrians, motorists, and individuals associated with Sweethearts LLC’s production of “*Sweethearts*” on the dates of Wednesday, July 27, 2022 and Thursday, July 28, 2022 respectively; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Cranford Police Department shall determine what police personnel, police equipment and/or Township resources will be required to authorize, establish and supervise any road closures, parking restrictions, or traffic detours caused by this production at a cost borne by Sweethearts LLC, its contractors, or other organizations connected with the aforementioned production.

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.

Marlen Depp (World Mission Society Church of God), 478 South Avenue East – announced that she was present on behalf of the World Mission Society Church of God and explained that their mission was to teach individuals how to reach salvation, interact with the community and participate in volunteer services.

William Thilly, 22 Bloomingdale Avenue – noted that he was a candidate for the Township Committee. Mr. Thilly offered his love and peace to all.

Township Attorney Sherri Orenberg-Ruggieri stated that the Public Comments portion of the Official Meeting should not include comments about political campaigns.

Mr. Thilly spoke about opening up discussions and making decisions together. Mr. Thilly spoke about development projects and stated that the Township did a good job of presenting plans but expressed concerns over unanswered questions.

Deirdre Koczur, 207 Edgar Avenue – spoke about the severe and catastrophic flooding in her neighborhood and asked why the South side of Cranford was selected to receive the \$1.8 million funding for stormwater improvements and flood mitigation procedures. Mayor Miller Prunty

responded and included an explanation about the newly-funded project. Ms. Koczur also spoke about Resolution No. 2022-295 which pertained to the repair of the Nomahegan Dikes. She requested de-snagging of the Rahway River and elaborated. Deputy Mayor Gareis responded and spoke about funding for flood mitigation, dykes and project work. Ms. Koczur requested assistance for the Northeast quadrant of Cranford.

Chrissa Stulpin, 356 Retford Avenue – discussed the recent \$1.8 million funding of the flood mitigation project. Ms. Stulpin expressed her frustration with pitting the North side of Cranford against the South side of Cranford. She also expressed her frustration with the actions of members of the Township Committee and that transparency and communication were imperative.

Mayor Miller Prunty stated that flood work was a priority for the Township and noted that flood mitigation efforts were discussed each week at the Township’s Engineering Meeting.

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

PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS

Township Administrator Jamie Cryan

- Announced that there were funds allocated in the Capital Budget for the desilting of the Rahway River;
- Thanked the Township Committee for voting to authorize the promotion of Gary Gonzalez to the position of Road Foreman within the Department of Public Works;
- Welcomed Nicholas Hughes as a Laborer/Driver within the Department of Public Works.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS/COMMENTS

Commissioner Gina Black

- Spoke about flood mitigation and the importance of funding for these types of projects;
- Mentioned a recent resolution that was voted on and passed unanimously by the Township Committee that would appropriate funding for the continuation of various flood projects in the Northeast quadrant of Cranford;
- Discussed the State budget’s appropriation for a project on South Avenue and Chestnut Street;
- Spoke about members of the Township Committee working with each other;
- Stated that she will continue to speak out when she feels the process is not supporting the best interest of the residents of Cranford.
- Spoke about a discussion held at the previous night’s Workshop meeting regarding proposed usage and pricing for the 375 Centennial Avenue facility.
- Complimented Township Administrator Jamie Cryan and Township Department Heads for their work on gathering information for the 375 Centennial Avenue facility pricing;
- Announced that the Centennial Village Group would be hosting a Music Fest on September 24th;
- Wished everyone a happy summer.

Commissioner Mary O’Connor

- Stated that the fight for flood mitigation had been ongoing for many years;
- Discussed her work in Washington, D.C. and stated that the Township should refocus their work there;
- Spoke about residents who would not have insurance coverage despite FEMA and private insurance coverage; spoke about the challenge of insurance coverage that many residents face due to severe repetitive losses;
- Spoke about the replacement of trench drains within the Township and various other drainage projects;
- Discussed the obstacles faced by residents living in the Northeast quadrant of town;
- Described the role of the members of the Township Committee, noted that each of the Commissioners were equal, and discussed the By-laws that govern the Township Committee;
- Announced that she fully supported the flood and stormwater management system project authorized for High Street and Chestnut Street but stated that more discussion should have been held about such project;
- Spoke about Commissioner Black’s efforts pertaining to Resolution No. 2022-260 and support of Assembly Bill 253 and Senate Bill 2431;

- Urged members of the public to shop local and support local businesses and restaurants;
- Reminded residents to sign up for a pool membership;
- Congratulated Gary Gonzalez on his promotion to the position of Road Foreman;
- Congratulated and welcomed Nicholas Hughes to the Department of Public Works as a Laborer/Driver
- Wished everyone a happy and safe summer.

Commissioner Brian Andrews

- Spoke about a number of paving and curbing projects that would be taking place throughout the year; stated that the Township Committee had adopted a curbing policy;
- Addressed resident concerns regarding the issue of flooding in town and stated that more needed to be done to combat the problem; spoke about getting to a regional solution;
- Discussed specific Engineering projects such as Orchard Brook, Inflow and Infiltration and other major drainage improvements; Spoke about the Kensington Avenue and Edgar Avenue Drainage Improvements project;
- Discussed the importance of prioritizing home elevation;
- Spoke about the flooding in the area of Casino Brook and Wadsworth Terrace;
- Stated that he was happy to see the authorization of the South Avenue and Chestnut Street project;
- Spoke about the Riverfront project and noted that funding received by the developers was not spent on flood mitigation;
- Thanked Deputy Mayor Gareis for discussing the issue of ghost guns; Commended Police Chief Ryan Greco for his work with the ghost gun problem; Stated that he raised the issue of ghost guns to Governor Murphy;
- Thanked the Cranford Police and Fire Departments for their work with the Story Time Program and noted that such program would be held every Thursday throughout the Summer;
- Announced that the “Summer Sounds” program would continue every Thursday;
- Spoke about the Annual Lego Night which was scheduled for July 13th;
- Stated that “Pizza Week” would begin in the upcoming week;
- Announced that the Township would be partnering with the Turtle Back Zoo and the Cranford Theater on the release of the film “DC League of Super-Pets”;
- Stated that Cranford would be a recipient of the 2022 Union County Public Art Mural Grant Program Award.

Deputy Mayor Jason Gareis

- Recognized the bravery of Sergeant Timothy O’Brien, Patrolman Christian Pasternak, Officer Christopher Folinusz, Officer Antonio Bellomo, and Trooper Crespo of the New Jersey State Police for their actions pertaining to a recent multi-vehicle car crash on the Garden State Parkway;
- Thanked the Cranford Fire Department, Fire Chief Daniel Czeh and Battalion Chief Matthew Lubin for their work with the July 2nd Fireworks Display;
- Thanked the Cranford Police Department and other law enforcement agencies for their work with the July 2nd Fireworks Display;
- Thanked the Cranford First Aid Squad and other First Aid Squads for their work with the July 2nd Fireworks Display;
- Discussed a recent meeting with residents of Willow Street; spoke about the severe flooding which occurs in the Northeast Quadrant of Cranford; and spoke about his presence in Cranford, specifically, time walking his dog, running, biking and walking his son to Orange Avenue School.

Mayor Kathleen Miller Prunty

- Thanked everyone who worked to make the recent Fireworks Display at Nomahegan Park a success;
- Spoke about the recent tragedy in Highland Park, Illinois; elaborated about the importance of open, respectful and healthy debate.

On motion of Commissioner Andrews seconded by Deputy Mayor Gareis and passed, the Township Committee adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

7/7/2022

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 7, 2022

Patricia Donahue, RMC
Township Clerk