

The Minutes of the **Conference Meeting** of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey on **February 14, 2017** at 7:30 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 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 Thomas H. Hannen, Jr.  
Deputy Mayor Patrick F. Giblin  
Commissioner Ann Dooley  
Commissioner Andis Kalnins  
Commissioner Mary O'Connor

Absent: None

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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

### **Review Official Meeting Agenda**

All items were approved for action.

### **2017 Municipal Budget**

#### **TV35**

TV35 Director Edward Davenport presented TV35's proposed budget for 2017. Discussed funds requested for technology improvements. Also discussed budget requests related to outside professional expenses.

Discussion was held regarding the salary and wages budget for TV35.

TV35 Director Davenport thanked the Township Committee for their support during his absence.

#### **Library**

Library Director John Malar presented the Cranford Public Library's proposed budget for 2017. Discussed the minimum funding amount for the library as permitted by statute. Also discussed the salary and wages budget for 2017 and the need to begin collective bargaining negotiations for library employees.

Discussion was held regarding costs related to fringe benefits.

Deputy Mayor Giblin requested a breakdown by department of insurance and pension costs.

Commissioner Kalnins discussed the fact that insurance costs are outside of the CAP and if funds for these costs were included separately within each department's budget, it would appear that those costs would be subject to CAP requirements.

Chief Financial Officer Patterson stated that she could provide a spreadsheet with a breakdown of these costs per department.

Discussion was held regarding an increase in technology and digital books as opposed to hard copy books.

#### **Finance Department**

Chief Financial Officer Patterson presented the Tax Collector's budget for 2017. Explained that this budget is basically flat with the exception of postage and salary and wages.

Chief Financial Officer Patterson also presented 2017 budget requests for the Finance Department. Discussed an increase in payroll expenses related to the Affordable Care Act. Also discussed expenses related to credit card services.

The Township Committee moved to Council Chambers at 8:06 PM to conduct the Official Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Rowley, RMC  
Municipal Clerk

Dated: February 14, 2017