

The Minutes of the **Conference Meeting** of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey on **March 5, 2019** at 7:03 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 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 comment portion of the meeting and asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing no comments, Mayor Giblin closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

Review Official Meeting Agenda

Discussion ensued regarding the large number of proclamations and administration of introduction of Agenda items.

2019 Municipal Budget

In regards to the proposed Tax Assessor Department salary increases, Administrator Jamie Cryan noted that the Tax Assessor was away until March 19th. A brief discussion ensued about the salary adjustment budget.

2019 Capital Budget

Discussion ensued regarding budgeting for Orchard Brook, prioritizing infrastructure over paving and parking lot improvements. Further discussion ensued regarding flood control, paving and affordable housing and whether and/or how these Township matters would be part of the upcoming bond ordinance for public improvements. Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Lavona Patterson briefly elaborated about the Township's debt (1.9 per cent of budget) and what the State allows (up to 3.5 per cent of budget.) Administrator Cryan noted that the debt percentage of municipal budget can affect a municipality's bond rating.

Mayor Giblin stated that the Township budget would be introduced at the next Township Committee meeting on March 26th.

The Township Committee moved to Council Chambers at 7:27 p.m. to conduct the Official Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 5, 2019

Patricia Donahue
Municipal Clerk