

The Minutes of the **Official Meeting** of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey on **March 24, 2015** at 8:00 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 MAILING THE ANNUAL SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS TO THE CRANFORD CHRONICLE, UNION COUNTY LOCAL SOURCE, AND THE STAR LEDGER, 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 Andis Kalnins
Deputy Mayor Lisa M. Adubato
Commissioner Robert D’Ambola
Commissioner Mary O’Connor
Commissioner Thomas H. Hannen, Jr.

ABSENT: None

INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE

The invocation was led by Commissioner O’Connor, followed by the flag salute led by Girl Scout Troop No. 40115.

MINUTE APPROVAL

On motion of Commissioner D’Ambola, seconded by Commissioner O’Connor and passed, the minutes of the Workshop Meeting of March 9, 2015, and the Conference and Official Meetings of March 10, 2015, were approved by the indicated vote of the Township Committee:

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Kalnins, Deputy Mayor Adubato, Commissioners D’Ambola, O’Connor and Hannen

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

PAYMENT OF BILLS

On motion of Deputy Mayor Adubato, seconded by Commissioner O’Connor and passed, the bills list dated March 24, 2015 totaling \$1,043,021.14, were approved for payment by recorded vote and are on file in the Office of the Township Clerk.

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Kalnins, Deputy Mayor Adubato and Commissioners D’Ambola, O’Connor and Hannen

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

INFORMAL MEETING

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

ORDINANCES – Final Reading and Public Hearing

Ordinance No. 2015-06:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2015-06 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 136, ATTACHMENT 1 OF SCHEDULE 1 OF THE “REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY (1988),” TO MODIFY THE MAXIMUM BUILDING COVERAGE FOR RESIDENTIAL USE”.

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

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Kalnins, Deputy Mayor Adubato, Commissioners D’Ambola, O’Connor and Hannen

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

ORDINANCES – Introduction

Ordinance No. 2015-09:

Removed from Agenda

Ordinance No. 2015-10:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2015-10 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE V, SECTION 219-73 OF CHAPTER 219 "REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY (1988)," BY AMENDING SCHEDULE XXIII AND INCLUDING CERTAIN PORTIONS OF ROADWAYS AS INDICATED IN SECTION 1 BELOW AND DESIGNATING SAME AS "PARKING METER ZONES"

Said ordinance was approved on first reading on motion of Commissioner O'Connor, seconded by Deputy Mayor Adubato, and passed by the indicated vote of the Township Committee:

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Kalnins, Deputy Mayor Adubato, Commissioners D'Ambola, O'Connor and Hannen

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Final Reading and Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 2015-10 to be held April 21, 2015.

Ordinance No. 2015-11:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2015-11 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE VIII, SECTION 219-67 OF CHAPTER 219 "REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY (1988)," BY AMENDING SCHEDULE XVII AND INCLUDING CERTAIN PORTIONS OF ROADWAYS AS INDICATED IN SECTION 1 BELOW AND DESIGNATING SAME AS "TIME LIMIT PARKING"

Said ordinance was approved on first reading on motion of Commissioner O'Connor, seconded by Deputy Mayor Adubato, and passed by the indicated vote of the Township Committee:

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Kalnins, Deputy Mayor Adubato, Commissioners D'Ambola, O'Connor and Hannen

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Final Reading and Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 2015-11 to be held April 21, 2015.

Ordinance No. 2015-12:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2015-12 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES AND WAGES OF CERTAIN OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY FOR TH YEAR 2015"

Said ordinance was approved on first reading on motion of Deputy Mayor Adubato, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor, and passed by the indicated vote of the Township Committee:

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Kalnins, Deputy Mayor Adubato, Commissioners D'Ambola, O'Connor and Hannen

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Final Reading and Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 2015-12 to be held April 21, 2015.

Ordinance No. 2015-13:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2015-13 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE RESCINDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD"

Said ordinance was approved on first reading on motion of Deputy Mayor Adubato, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor, and passed by the indicated vote of the Township Committee:

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Kalnins, Deputy Mayor Adubato, Commissioners D'Ambola, O'Connor and Hannen

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Final Reading and Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 2015-13 to be held April 21, 2015.

Ordinance No. 2015-14:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2015-14 entitled, "CALENDAR YEAR 2015-ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)"

Said ordinance was approved on first reading on motion of Deputy Mayor Adubato, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor, and passed by the indicated vote of the Township Committee:

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Kalnins, Deputy Mayor Adubato, Commissioners D'Ambola, O'Connor and Hannen

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Final Reading and Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 2015-14 to be held April 21, 2015.

Ordinance No. 2015-15:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2015-15 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 55 (ALARM SYSTEMS) OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD”

Said ordinance was approved on first reading on motion of Commissioner O’Connor, seconded by Deputy Mayor Adubato, and passed by the indicated vote of the Township Committee:

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Kalnins, Deputy Mayor Adubato, Commissioners D’Ambola, O’Connor and Hannen

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Final Reading and Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 2015-15 to be held April 21, 2015.

Ordinance No. 2015-16:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2015-16 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 168-3 (PEDDLING, CANVASING, SOLICITING AND ITINERANT VENDING) OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD”

Said ordinance was approved on first reading on motion of Commissioner O’Connor, seconded by Deputy Mayor Adubato, and passed by the indicated vote of the Township Committee:

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Kalnins, Deputy Mayor Adubato, Commissioners D’Ambola, O’Connor and Hannen

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Final Reading and Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 2015-16 to be held April 21, 2015.

RESOLUTION – By Roll Call Vote

On motion of Deputy Mayor Adubato, seconded by Commissioner O’Connor and passed, the following resolution was adopted by **roll call vote**:

Resolution No. 2015-153:

SEE MUNICIPAL BUDGET INSERT

Mayor Kalnins presented an overview of the 2015 Municipal Budget.

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Kalnins, Deputy Mayor Adubato, Commissioners D’Ambola and O’Connor

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Commissioner Hannen

Public Hearing for the 2015 Municipal Budget to be held April 21, 2015

RESOLUTIONS – By Consent Agenda

On motion of Commissioner D’Ambola, seconded by Commissioner Hannen and passed, the following resolutions were adopted by **consent agenda**:

Resolution No. 2015-154:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that a title change for Catherine Cook from Financial Specialist to Assistant Chief Financial Officer (CFO) be and hereby is approved, effective immediately.

Resolution No. 2015-155:

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, hereby authorizes the input and approval of wire transfers the Chief Financial Officer or official designees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, that the Township Administrator, Terence Wall, the Chief Financial Officer, Lavona Patterson, or official designee, Assistant to the Chief Financial Officer, Catherine Cook are hereby authorized to input or approve wire transfer of funds up to \$10,000,000.00.

Resolution No. 2015-156:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that the resignation of Kara Noesner as Municipal Alliance Coordinator be and hereby is accepted with regrets.

Resolution No. 2015-157:

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford required a qualified individual to provide Grant Administration Services in connection with the Local Hazard Mitigation Home Elevation Project to the Township of Cranford; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford advertised a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Grant Administration Services in connection with the Local Hazard Mitigation Home Elevation Project through a fair and open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, at a meeting held June 12, 2012, the Township Committee adopted Resolution No. 2012-213, authorizing an award of contract to Millennium Strategies for the aforementioned service at a fee not to exceed \$220,050.00; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend said contract for an additional amount not to exceed \$109,950; and

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, be and hereby amends the contract awarded to **Millennium Strategies, 60 Roseland Avenue, Caldwell, New Jersey 07006** for the provision of Grant Administration Services in connection with the Local Hazard Mitigation Home Elevation Project via issuance of purchase orders in an amount not to exceed \$109,950.

Resolution No. 2015-158:

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford required a qualified individual to provide Project Management Services in connection with the Local Hazard Mitigation Home Elevation Project to the Township of Cranford; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford advertised a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Project Management Services in connection with the Local Hazard Mitigation Home Elevation Project through a fair and open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, at a meeting held June 12, 2012, the Township Committee adopted Resolution No. 2012-212, authorizing an award of contract to A&A Construction & Management Consultants for the aforementioned service at a fee not to exceed \$229,950.00; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend said contract for an additional amount not to exceed \$100,050; and

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, be and hereby amends the contract awarded **A&A Construction & Management Consultants, 6 Gardner Road, Fairfield, New Jersey 07004** for the provision of Project Management Services in connection with the Local Hazard Mitigation Home Elevation Project via issuance of purchase orders in an amount not to exceed \$100,050.

Resolution No. 2015-159:

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford requires an expert to provide engineering services for Traffic Signal and Pedestrian Improvements at Route 28 and Alden Street in connection with the North Avenue Station Plaza Pedestrian 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, 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. **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 \$57,000; and
2. The Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract with 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.).

Resolution No. 2015-160:

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford requires an expert to provide engineering design services in connection with drainage improvements at High Street (Elm Street to Hawthorn Street) and Maple Place (Normandie Place to Central Avenue); 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, 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. **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 \$30,250; and
2. The Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract with 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.).

Resolution No. 2015-161:

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford requires an expert to provide engineering design and permitting services in connection with North Avenue Sanitary Sewer Improvements; 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, 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. **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 \$32,450; and
2. The Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract with 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.).

Resolution No. 2015-162:

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford requires an expert to provide construction administration services and closeout services in connection with the New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Financing Program (NJEIFP) for projects including Sanitary Sewer Reconstruction, Keith Jeffries Avenue and Orchard Street Sewer Reconstructions and South Avenue Sanitary Sewer Lining 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, 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. **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 \$32,450; and
2. The Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract with 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.).

Resolution No. 2015-163:**GOVERNOR’S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE FISCAL GRANT CYCLE JULY 2014-JUNE 2019 FORM 1B**

WHEREAS, the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey.

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford of the County of Union, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has applied for funding to the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Union.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey, hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Township Committee does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the Cranford Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2016 in the amount of:

DEDR	\$ 18,614.00
Cash Match	\$ 4,653.00
In-Kind	\$ 13,961.00

2. The Township Committee acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

Resolution No. 2015-164:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford on the 24th day of March 2015 that the following checks will be refunded by the Tax Collector to the lien holder according to statutory requirements:

Redemption of Certificate #14-00026

Block 419 Lot 13
US Bank Custodian for BV001 Trust
50 South 16th St. Suite 2050
Philadelphia, Pa. 19102-2513

Refund: \$ 365.18
Premium: \$ 100.00

Resolution No. 2015-165:

WHEREAS the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford has passed Resolution No 2015-151 on the 10th day of March authorizing a refund as a result of a successful state tax appeal for Block 202 lot 21; and **WHEREAS**, the Finance Department was made aware of a clerical error for the 2013 refund in the amount of \$4,063.09 and a refund in the amount of \$3,863.77 for 2014 a correction has been made and adjusted by the tax collector to show a refund in the amount of 4,063.09 for 2013 and a corrected amount of \$4,113.77 for 2014; and **WHEREAS**, the Finance Department has been made aware of these adjustments the original check #040633 has been voided and a new check will be issued for the corrected amount of \$ 8,176.86.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this is a corrected amendment to Resolution No 2015-151.

Resolution No. 2015-165a:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford be and hereby authorizes the closure of the eastern portion of Warner Plaza (adjacent to Cervantes) from 7:00 AM to 2:00 PM on April 19, 2015 for the Pedal, Paddle, Fun event.

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Kalnins, Deputy Mayor Adubato, Commissioners D’Ambola, O’Connor and Hannen
Nay: None
Abstained: None
Absent: None

RESOLUTION – By Roll Call Vote

On motion of Commissioner O’Connor, seconded by Deputy Mayor Adubato and passed, the following resolution was adopted by **roll call vote**:

Resolution No. 2015-166:

A RESOLUTION APPROVING SALARY STEP PROGRESSION FOR EMPLOYEES PURSUANT TO THE TOWNSHIP’S SALARY ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, the Township Committee adopted Ordinance No. 2015-05 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. 2015-05, 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.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee be and hereby approves the progression in steps for the following employees in the following job titles as recommended by the Township Administrator:

<i>Effective March 1, 2015 :</i>				
Name	Title	Range #	Step #	Salary
James Wozniak	Police Chief	1	2	\$155,400

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Kalnins, Deputy Mayor Adubato, Commissioners O’Connor and Hannen
Nay: None
Abstained: Commissioner D’Ambola
Absent: None

On motion of Commissioner O’Connor, seconded by Deputy Mayor Adubato and passed, the following resolution was adopted by **roll call vote**:

Resolution No. 2015-167:

WHEREAS, at a meeting held February 24, 2015, the Township Committee adopted Resolution No. 2015-140, appointing Captain Dean Russamano as Acting Fire Chief for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days; and **WHEREAS**, it is necessary to adjust Acting Fire Chief Russamano’s compensation for performing the duties of Acting Chief.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that a stipend in the amount of \$1,250.00 per month be and hereby is authorized for Dean Russamano for performing the duties of Acting Fire Chief.

Recorded vote:

Aye: Deputy Mayor Adubato, Commissioners D’Ambola and O’Connor

Nay: None

Abstained: Mayor Kalnins and Commissioner Hannen

Absent: None

On motion of Commissioner D’Ambola, seconded by Deputy Mayor Adubato and passed, the following resolution was adopted by **roll call vote**:

Resolution No. 2015-168:

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 by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, this 24th day of March 2015 that the contract with Paley Construction Company at 154 Stelton Road, Suite #4, Piscataway, NJ 08854, for Contract entitled “Renovations to the Upper Level of the Municipal Building” be revised as follows:

CHANGE ORDER NO. 1

<u>ITEM NUMBER & DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>UNIT PRICE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
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ADD THE FOLLOWING NEW ITEMS TO THE CONTRACT:

Renovations to the Mayor’s bathroom	1	\$9,229.00	\$9,229.00
TOTAL ADDITIONS			\$9,229.00

ORIGINAL CONTRACT SUM.	\$766,708.00
NET CHANGE BY PREVIOUS CHANGE ORDERS	\$0.00
CONTRACT SUM PRIOR TO THIS CHANGE ORDER.	\$766,708.00
CONTRACT SUM DECREASED BY THIS CHANGE ORDER.	\$0.00
CONTRACT SUM ADDED BY THIS CHANGE ORDER.	\$9,229.00
NEW CONTRACT SUM INCLUDING THIS CHANGE ORDER	\$775,937.00
TOTAL OF THIS CHANGE ORDER (+)	\$9,229.00

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Kalnins, Deputy Mayor Adubato, Commissioners D’Ambola and O’Connor

Nay: Commissioner Hannen

Abstained: None

Absent: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

Tina Helmstetter, Tree Advisory Board, discussed the decision of the Township Committee to remove the Pepperidge Tree and concerns that the tree poses safety hazards. Feels the tree is a historic icon of Cranford and feels there are options available to the Township to make the tree safe. Discussed reports by experts concerning historic trees in New Jersey. Feels the tree should not be removed based on its aesthetics and discussed options she feels would make the area safer. Commended Commissioner D’Ambola for discussing the topic with the Township Committee because she feels it is an issue that needs to be addressed, but feels all facts should have been heard before the decision was made to remove the tree.

Ann Cusck, 102 South Union Avenue, discussed her support for the Pepperidge Tree and feels the Township Committee should carefully consider this matter before moving forward with removal of the tree.

Mayor Kalnins explained that the decision is not final regarding the removal of the tree and assured residents that the Township Committee is willing to listen to their concerns.

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

PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS

Township Administrator Wall

- Thanked the Girl Scouts for leading the flag salute;
- Thanked Deputy Mayor Adubato, Mayor Kalnins and the entire Township Committee for their support with the 2015 Municipal Budget. Also thanked Chief Financial Officer Lavona Patterson and her staff for their efforts with the budget. Discussed the budget process and various initiatives that were undertaken to increase efficiency and address costs. Also thanked Township Clerk Tara Rowley for her efforts regarding the budget process.

Township Attorney Dabulas

- Discussed the Superior Court's ruling on Affordable Housing regulations. Explained the general impact of the court's decision as well as the impact to Cranford. Also informed residents that the Director of Planning and Zoning would be completing the annual Affordable Housing Monitoring Report;
- Provided an update of litigation involving Cranford Development Associates (CDA). Informed residents that no date has been set for the appellate argument and an additional brief was filed by the Township.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS/COMMENTS

Commissioner Thomas H. Hannen, Jr.

- Discussed the Workshop meeting process. Explained that issues that affect the community are discussed and debated by the Township Committee during Workshop sessions. Discussed the decision to investigate the removal of the Pepperidge Tree. Feels safety measures could be taken by installing fencing around the tree. Also discussed the proposed tree ordinance which, if adopted, would have prevented removal of the Pepperidge Tree. Encouraged residents to attend the next Workshop Meeting and express opposition to the tree's removal;
- Discussed the snow sculptures created each year by a resident of Springfield Avenue. Thanked the Schott family for the sculptures and for making Cranford a special place;
- Discussed his attendance in Washington DC in connection with efforts to secure funding for flood control.

Commissioner Robert D'Ambola

- Thanked the Girl Scouts for leading the flag salute;
- Provided an Engineering update on the following projects:
 - Plans for the North Avenue Station Pedestrian Improvement Project have been submitted to the Department of Transportation (DOT). Once the plans are approved by DOT, a notice to bidders would be advertised. Also discussed the potential for discretionary aid to assist in Cranford's portion of the project and efforts for an informative process throughout this project with all impacted;
 - Paving of remaining roadways that were included in the 2014 Road Resurfacing Program are to begin. Discussed the schedule that would be followed and repairs that are needed;
 - The 2015 Road Resurfacing Program would be considered as part of the 2015 Capital Budget and the list of roadways to be included in the program would be reevaluated. Also discussed an award of \$35,000.00 to the Township for handicap ramp/curb cuts through the Union County Community Development Block Grant Program;
 - Discussed the on-line system for reporting potholes;
- Discussed various events being hosted by the Friends of the Public Library and provided contact information for those interested in attending;
- Discussed the decision to remove the Pepperidge Tree. Discussed reports from several experts that examined the tree. Explained that the Township would be moving forward with the installation of new playground equipment at Lincoln Park and cannot risk potential injury from falling limbs. Stated that he understands why residents do not want the Pepperidge Tree to be taken down, but according to Cranford's risk management consultant, the Township would not have a defensible position in the event someone is injured or something is damaged from the tree's falling limbs. Stated that he would be meeting with the Recreation and Parks Committee, the Cranford Historical Society and the Tree Advisory Board in an effort to develop a plan for the park. Stated that he welcomes any suggestions regarding the site. Also informed residents that several options as to the potential carving of the tree's trunk are being considered. Also discussed the potential for constructing benches from the tree's limbs.

Commissioner Mary O'Connor

- Thanked the Girl Scouts for leading the flag salute;
- Announced that the Mayors Wellness Campaign would be sponsoring the annual Pedal, Paddle Fun Event. Provided information for those interested in participating;
- Discussed the success of the Artisan Market and announced that it would continue for a few more weeks. Encouraged residents to support this event and its vendors;

- Commended public safety personnel Sergeant Finney and Officer Holcomb for their efforts in two (2) separate incidents. Both were commended by citizens for going above and beyond and were noted for their judgement, compassion and professionalism under very trying circumstances;
- Congratulated the Cranford Fire Department for prevailing over the Police Department in the Dodge Ball Challenge;
- Thanked Deputy Mayor Adubato, Township Administrator Wall, Chief Financial Officer Patterson and support staff for their efforts regarding the 2015 Municipal Budget. Extended special thanks to Mayor Kalnins for his guidance in the budget process and for his presentation this evening;
- Wished everyone a Happy Passover and a Happy Easter.

Deputy Mayor Lisa M. Adubato

- Congratulated the Cranford Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) for receiving an award in connection with the restoration of the historic murals. Feels it was a very inspiring ceremony that was well deserved;
- Discussed the decision to take down the Pepperidge Tree. Explained that the consequences are not only safety related but the financial consequences would be devastating to the Township if someone were injured. Discussed the fact that many experts have rendered opinions and feels the tree must come down;
- Thanked everyone involved in the 2015 Municipal Budget process;
- Discussed the passing of her uncle.

Mayor Andis Kalnins

- Announced that the Cranford Jaycees would be hosting its annual Easter Egg Hunt and its annual Pancake Breakfast and provided information for those interested in attending;
- Discussed his attendance in Washington DC with Commissioner Hannen, various Union County Mayors and other officials to thank federal representatives for their support and for authorizing funding to complete the Army Corps of Engineers' Study. The objective was to continue efforts to obtain funding to complete the study and to move to the construction phase. Explained that there is still a lot of work that needs to be done. Assured residents that the Township Committee is doing as much as possible to be proactive in helping the Army Corps of Engineers complete the study. Extended his thanks to Senator Menendez, Senator Booker, Congressman Lance, Congressman Payne and Congressman Frelinghuysen for their constant support with this initiative;
- Discussed his attendance at the Cranford Business Owners Forum and thanked the Chamber of Commerce for sponsoring these types of programs;
- Discussed the Daughters of the American Revolution's (DAR) award presentation to Cranford for the restoration of the historic murals. Stated that he was privileged to accept the award on the Township's behalf. Also announced that Former Mayor Puhak, Deborah Leber, and Township Historian Larry Fuhro (posthumously) were presented with awards for their efforts with the restoration. Also extended thanks to the Board of Education, as owners of the murals, for allowing the Township to restore them. Lastly, extended thanks to Mrs. Krause for her efforts and for making the award ceremony possible;
- Wished everyone a Happy Passover and a Happy Easter.

On motion of Commissioner O'Connor, seconded by Commissioner Hannen and passed, the Township Committee adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Rowley, RMC
Township Clerk

Date: March 24, 2015