

The Minutes of the **Official Meeting** of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey on **February 11, 2020** at 7:37 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 Town Hall 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 Patrick F. Giblin
Deputy Mayor Kathleen Prunty
Commissioner Thomas H. Hannen, Jr.
Commissioner Jean-Albert Maisonneuve
Commissioner Mary O’Connor

ABSENT: None

INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE

The invocation was led by Deputy Mayor Prunty, followed by the flag salute.

MINUTE APPROVAL

On motion of Commissioner O’Connor, seconded by Commissioner Hannen and passed, the minutes of the Workshop Meetings of December 16, 2019 and January 7, 2020, the Conference Meeting of December 17, 2019 and Official Meeting of January 28, 2020 were approved by indicated vote of the Township Committee:

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Giblin, Deputy Mayor Prunty, Commissioners Hannen, Maisonneuve and O’Connor

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

PAYMENT OF BILLS

On motion of Deputy Mayor Prunty, seconded by Commissioner Maisonneuve and passed, the Bill List dated February 11, 2020, totaling \$5,598,183.84 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 Giblin, Deputy Mayor Prunty, Commissioners Hannen, Maisonneuve and O’Connor

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Proclamation-Retirement of Dottie Baniewicz

WHEREAS, Dottie Baniewicz has lived in Cranford for almost 40 years. Ms. Baniewicz and her husband, Charlie, raised their daughter, Megan, on Hillcrest Avenue; and

WHEREAS, Dottie Baniewicz has contributed to the Cranford community with her many years of service with various organizations including the Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs) at Walnut Avenue School, Livingston Ave School, Hillside Avenue School and Cranford High School. Ms. Baniewicz contributed to Project Home of Cranford for over ten (10) years. Such service included her coordination of an annual successful fundraiser, Ladies Night Out as well as the Town-wide Garage Sale. Ms. Baniewicz volunteered with Cranford Family Care, serving in senior positions, for over fifteen (15) years; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Baniewicz and her husband owned and operated the store, “Back to Nature” for over thirty-seven (37) years on Walnut Avenue in downtown Cranford; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Baniewicz just concluded her tenure as the Cranford Chamber of Commerce Chair where her two decades of service to the Cranford business community has made the Chamber of Commerce one of the most respected in Union County. Ms. Baniewicz has served as a Director on the Board of the Cranford Chamber of Commerce since 2005. In 2014, Ms. Baniewicz was named Executive Director of the Cranford Chamber of Commerce.

She has engaged and enlisted help from all types of community leaders including business owners and residents; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Baniewicz’s love of her family and the Cranford community inspired her tremendous contributions to providing the Cranford community with lively, interesting and fun events such as the Chamber of Commerce-sponsored Breakfast with Santa and Breakfast with the Easter Bunny, Trolley Rides, the Downtown Tree Lighting, Street Fairs, Cruiser Nights, the Circus and networking events for business people; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Baniewicz was instrumental in organizing the Cranford World Trade Center Memorial Committee after the September 11, 2001 tragic events. With this Committee, Ms. Baniewicz has organized Cranford's annual 9/11 ceremony commemorating the Cranford residents who lost their lives on this day.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford thank and commend Dottie Baniewicz for her dedication to the Cranford community and to her work as a leading advocate for the business community and wishes her much success in all her future endeavors.

100th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage

WHEREAS, the year 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution, guaranteeing and protecting women's right to vote; and

WHEREAS, this centennial offers an opportunity to commemorate a milestone of democracy; that the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the federal or state governments on account of gender; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has had a long, storied history in the suffrage movement with New Jersey women playing a crucial role in pursuing the rights of women to vote; and

WHEREAS, in 1776 women property owners were enfranchised under the New Jersey State Constitution, which was unique in the nation at the time. However, in 1807, the New Jersey Legislature eliminated the property requirement for voting rights and limited the ballot to white males; and

WHEREAS, in 1867 New Jersey residents Lucy Stone and Harry Blackwell organized the New Jersey Woman Suffrage Association (NJWSA), devoted to gaining women's suffrage; and

WHEREAS, in 1909 New Jersey's first open air suffrage rallies were held in Orange and Newark, led by Dr. Emma O. Gantz and Martha Klatshchken with NJWSA collecting 5,000 signatures for a petition in support of the federal amendment guaranteeing and protecting a women's constitutional right to vote; and

WHEREAS, although the 1912 state referendum on woman's suffrage was soundly defeated in the New Jersey Legislature, a corner was turned for the New Jersey suffrage movement; and

WHEREAS, in 1913 an automobile rally led by "General" Rosalie Jones traveled through New Jersey on the way to Washington D.C., in a Suffrage Parade of over 8,000 marchers with many New Jersey women including event organizer Alice Paul; and

WHEREAS, in 1915 a second suffrage constitutional referendum was pursued in New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts with active campaigns by many suffrage organizations, including the "Passing of the Torch of Liberty" via tug boats on the Hudson River from New York to New Jersey, but was defeated in all four states in October 1915; and

WHEREAS, in 1917 New Jersey suffragists Allison Turnbull Hopkins, Julia Hulburt, Beatrice Reynolds Kinkead, and Minnie D. Abbott picketed in front of the White House as part of the Silent Sentinels and subsequently were arrested and imprisoned; and

WHEREAS, on June 4, 1919 Congress passed the 19th Amendment guaranteeing all American women the right to vote; and

WHEREAS, on February 9, 1920, New Jersey became the 29th state to ratify the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote; and

WHEREAS, shortly after the ratification of the 19th Amendment, Margaret Laird and Jennie Van Ness were the first two women elected to the New Jersey Assembly in 1921. and in 1925, Rebecca Estelle Bourgeois Winston of Estell Manor was New Jersey's first woman mayor;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED in honor of the 100th Anniversary of the Ratification of the 19th Amendment, the Township of Cranford will light the municipal building in purple, one of the colors of the New Jersey Suffrage movement, for the week of February 10th; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township of Cranford supports the efforts of New Jersey's Suffrage Centennial NJ Women Vote and strongly encourages local celebrations of this historic milestone.

MAYORAL APPOINTMENT TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

Kinney Clerk as a Vice Chair for a one (1) year term ending December 31, 2020

INFORMAL MEETING

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

ORDINANCES – Introduction

Ordinance No. 2020-03:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2020-03 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, CHAPTER 340 SEWERS, PART II: RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL WASTES; RATE SCHEDULE, ARTICLE VII: CHANGES TO RESIDENTIAL AND NONRESIDENTIAL USERS. SECTION 340-31 APPEALS; CALCULATION OF USAGE; BILLING; LATE PAYMENTS; REBATES"

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

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Giblin, Deputy Mayor Prunty, Commissioners Hannen, Maisonneuve and O'Connor

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Final Reading and Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 2020-03 to be held March 10, 2020 and the publication will take place in the Westfield Leader on February 20, 2020.

Ordinance No. 2020-04:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2020-04 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, CHAPTER 306 PARKS AND RECREATION, ARTICLE III: COMMUNITY POOLS, SECTION 306-10 POOL MEMBERSHIP FEES"

Said ordinance was introduced and approved on first reading on motion of Deputy Mayor Prunty, seconded by Commissioner Hannen, and passed by the indicated vote of the Township Committee:

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Giblin, Deputy Mayor Prunty, Commissioners Hannen, Maisonneuve and O'Connor

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Final Reading and Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 2020-04 to be held March 10, 2020 and the publication will take place in the Westfield Leader on February 20, 2020.

RESOLUTIONS – By Consent Agenda

On motion of Commissioner Hannen, seconded by Commissioner Maisonneuve and passed, the following resolutions were adopted by consent agenda:

Resolution No. 2020-126:

REMOVED FROM AGENDA

Resolution No. 2020-127:

WHEREAS, an application has been filed by Milen Roussenov, 73 Winans Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey, for renewal of limousine/livery service vehicle licenses for Milen Roussenov; and

WHEREAS, the submitted vehicle license application form is complete in all respects, the fees have been paid, and a favorable recommendation has been provided by the Chief of Police; and

WHEREAS, the applicant has complied with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 48:16-13 et seq. with respect to proof of insurance.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford does hereby approve, retroactive to January 1, 2020, the issuance of limousine/livery service vehicle licenses to Milen Roussenov for a license term ending December 31, 2020.

Resolution No. 2020-128:

WHEREAS, an application has been filed by Zapryan Terziev, 73 Winans Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey, for renewal of limousine/livery service vehicle licenses for Zapryan Terziev; and

WHEREAS, the submitted vehicle license application form is complete in all respects, the fees have been paid, and a favorable recommendation has been provided by the Chief of Police; and

WHEREAS, the applicant has complied with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 48:16-13 et seq. with respect to proof of insurance.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford does hereby approve, retroactive January 1, 2020, the issuance of limousine/livery service vehicle licenses to Zapryan Terziev for a license term ending December 31, 2020.

Resolution No. 2020-129:

WHEREAS, an application has been filed by Joseph Kalamaras, 1 Retford Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey, for renewal of limousine/livery service vehicle licenses for JK Limousine; and

WHEREAS, the submitted vehicle license application form is complete in all respects, the fees have been paid, and a favorable recommendation has been provided by the Chief of Police; and

WHEREAS, the applicant has complied with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 48:16-13 et seq. with respect to proof of insurance.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford does hereby approve, retroactive to January 1, 2020, the issuance of limousine/livery service vehicle licenses to JK Limousine for a license term ending December 31, 2020.

Resolution No. 2020-130:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A RIGHTS-OF-WAY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE
TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD AND CROSS RIVER FIBER LLC**

WHEREAS, Cross River Fiber LLC was approved by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities to provide local exchange and interexchange telecommunications services throughout the State of New Jersey by Order of Approval in Docket No. TE11050320 on July 14, 2011, Docket No. TE12040297 on June 18, 2012 and Docket No. TM14080906 on October 22, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Cross River Fiber LLC intends to provide telecommunications services in accordance with that Order and the rules and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission and the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to such authority granted by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities, Cross River Fiber LLC may locate, place, attach, install, operate and maintain facilities within Public Rights-of-Way for purposes of providing telecommunications services; and

WHEREAS, Cross River Fiber LLC proposes to place its telecommunication facilities aerially on utility poles or in underground conduit in the Public Rights-of-Way within the Township for the purpose of owning, constructing, installing, operating, repairing and maintaining a telecommunications system; and

WHEREAS, the Township consents to Cross River Fiber LLC to occupy said Public Rights-of-Way within the Township for this purpose; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, in the County of Union, New Jersey does hereby approve a Rights-of-Way Agreement, in substantially the form proposed, granting Cross River Fiber LLC a non-exclusive use of the Public Rights-of Way within the Township for the purposes of owning, constructing, installing, operating and maintaining a telecommunications system.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor, Township Administrator and Township Attorney are authorized to execute the Rights-of-Way Agreement, in substantially the form proposed, and related documents.

Resolution No. 2020-131:

MOVED TO ROLL CALTE VOTE

Resolution No. 2020-132:

WHEREAS, there exists a need to engage experts to provide redevelopment legal services for the Township of Cranford; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for redevelopment legal 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 has deemed that the background, experience and qualifications of the following respondents satisfy the criteria set forth in the RFQ; and

WHEREAS, at a meeting held January 2, 2020, the Township Committee adopted Resolution No. 2020-12, designating Carlin and Ward P.C. as an expert to be engaged to provide redevelopment legal services; 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 per adoption of the 2020 Municipal Budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, New Jersey, as follows:

1. **Carlin and Ward P.C., 25A Vreeland Road, P.O. Box 751, Florham Park, NJ 07932**, be and hereby is awarded a contract to provide redevelopment legal services at a cost not to exceed \$10,000.00;
2. The Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract with **Calin and Ward P.C.**;
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. 0-01-20-155-100-214.

Resolution No. 2020-133:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford on the 11th day of February, 2020 that the Tax Collector has been authorized to refund tax overpayments for the reason noted:

Assessor’s Special Petition – County Board Judgement

Block 403 Lot 50, 57 Johnson Ave
Dzendzo, Patricia
57 Johnson Avenue
Cranford, NJ 07016

Refund \$ 2,916.30
(0-01-55-000-010-025)

Added Assessment Appeal -County Board Judgement

Block 184 Lot 1, 122 Eastman Street
Matthew Wasserman & Jessica Jia
122 Eastman Street
Cranford, NJ 07016

Refund \$ 609.04
(0-01-55-000-010-025)

Resolution No. 2020-134:

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A11-5(1) (q), the Township may, by resolution and without advertising for bids, purchase Library and Educational goods or services, and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford is in need of acquiring Library and Educational Goods and Services from Baker & Taylor, 251 Mount Olive Church Road, Commerce, GA, 30599-2300 for the Township of Cranford Public Library; 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., Baker & Taylor LLC has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Baker & Taylor LLC 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 Baker & Taylor LLC from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract.

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 Baker & Taylor LLC 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. 2020-135:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that the Township Clerk be and hereby is authorized to advertise for the solicitation of Proposals and Qualifications for Custodial Services for the Municipal Building, Community Center and Centennial Avenue Pool Facility.

Resolution No. 2020-136:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, that the Township Clerk be and hereby is authorized to advertise for the solicitation of Proposals and Qualifications for Construction Management Services in connection with the FEMA-FMA Fiscal Year 2017 Elevation Project, Under (FMA-PJ-02-NJ-2017-005).

Resolution No. 2020-137:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that the Township Clerk be and hereby is authorized to advertise for the solicitation of Proposals and Qualifications for Website Design and Content Management Services.

Resolution No. 2020-138:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, that the Township Clerk be and hereby is authorized to advertise for the solicitation of Proposals and Qualifications for Architectural Services in connection with the FEMA-FMA Fiscal Year 2017 Elevation Project under (FMA-PJ-02-NJ-2017-005).

Resolution No. 2020-139:

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD SUPPORTING AND PARTICIPATING IN THE VOLUNTEER TUITION CREDIT PROGRAM (P.L. 1998, c. 145)

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford deems it appropriate to enhance the recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters and emergency medical volunteers in the Township of Cranford; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has enacted P.L. 1998, c. 145 which permits municipal governments to allow their firefighting and emergency medical volunteers to take advantage of the Volunteer Tuition Credit Program at no cost to the municipal government.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford in the County of Union that the Volunteer Tuition Credit Program as set forth in P.L. 1998, c.145 is herewith adopted for the volunteer firefighters and emergency medical volunteers in the Township; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Administrator is herewith delegated the responsibility to administer the program and is authorized to enter into all agreements and to maintain files of all documents as may be required under the P.L. 1998, c. 145, a copy of which is herewith made part of this resolution.

**VOLUNTEER TUITION CREDIT PROGRAM
P.L. 1998, CHAPTER 145**

C.18A: 71-78.1 Tuition-free enrollment in postsecondary program for certain volunteers, family members.

- I. A person who is an active member of a volunteer fire company or volunteer first aid or rescue squad or association in good standing and the dependant children and spouse of a volunteer shall be allowed to enroll in a postsecondary program on a tuition-free basis in county college, county vocational school or county technical institute and be eligible to receive tuition credit in an amount not to exceed a maximum of \$2,400 for the member, children and spouse; provided that available classroom space permits and that tuition paying students constitute the minimum number required for the course. Nothing herein shall preclude a county college, county vocational school or county technical institute from requiring registration and lab fees for individuals attending courses pursuant to this act.

C.ISA:71-78.2 Eligibility for tuition credit.

2. In order to be eligible to receive tuition credit at a county college, county vocational school or county technical institute, a person shall agree to serve as a member of a volunteer fire company or volunteer first aid or rescue squad or association for a minimum of four years and sign an agreement with the municipality in which the squad or association is located pledging four years of service in exchange for the tuition credit. Following each year of volunteer service performed, the volunteer or the spouse or dependant children shall be entitled to receive tuition credit of up to \$600, not to exceed a maximum of \$2,400 for the member, children and spouse over a four-year service period.

C.ISA:71-78.3 Verification of service, transcript records.

3. Upon being accepted and enrolled in a county college, county vocational school or county technical institute, the volunteer, dependant child or spouse shall provide verification to the institution that the volunteer has performed the service required for the tuition credit. Upon completion of each semester, the volunteer shall submit a transcript to the municipality to be maintained in a permanent record. The volunteer or the dependant child or spouse shall maintain a "C" grade average in order to continue eligibility for the tuition credit program.

C.ISA:71-78.4 Issuance of letter of eligibility.

4. A municipality which chooses to participate in the tuition credit program shall issue a letter of eligibility to the volunteer, to be presented to the appropriate institution, stating that the individual is a member in good standing of a volunteer fire company, volunteer first aid or rescue squad or association.
5. This act shall take place immediately.

Resolution No. 2020-140:

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR STUDY COMMISSION TO REVIEW THE OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS ACT

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford strongly believes in and supports open transparent government, and that citizens and residents have the right to be informed about the workings of government in order to best participate in a democracy; and

WHEREAS, on January 8, 2000, then Acting Governor DiFrancesco signed into law the Open Public Records Act (OPRA) which mandates that government records shall be available, with limited exceptions, for public access and simplifying the procedures for requesting such specific records; and

WHEREAS, the intent of the law was to provide the public with easy access to government records with an uncomplicated process for obtaining the records and eliminating bureaucratic red tape; and

WHEREAS, over the course of 18 years, OPRA has been a positive light, but it has also been fraught with abuse and misuse, and has become an unanticipated financial cost to the taxpayers of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford has labored under a well-intended law that has spiraled out of control, due to the volume and nature of requests, the cost to taxpayers in responding to the requests, and the potential liability in having to pay disproportionate prevailing party attorney's fees should the requests turn into litigated matters, as well as the liability in determining which documents shall be released, with or without redaction, while attempting to maintain individual privacy; and

WHEREAS, it is not only the volume of OPRA requests that challenge our resources, but it is also the cost associated with reviewing, retrieving, and processing the OPRA request(s) by public entity personnel and counsel and possibly defending our action(s) before the Government Records Council or in Superior Court; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford received and responded to 450 OPRA requests in 2017, 449 OPRA requests in 2018, 560 OPRA requests in 2019 and to date, has received and responded to 67 OPRA requests as of February 2, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford's municipal staff has spent numerous hours responding to OPRA requests received since 2017; and

WHEREAS, due to the often-conflicting case law and Government Record Council decisions, as well as the unique characteristics of OPRA request, the Township of Cranford must often times rely on the municipal attorney to review certain OPRA requests, resulting in additional fees in response to OPRA requests.

WHEREAS, with limited exceptions, OPRA has not been amended to address the clear and apparent advancement in technology that has changed the way government records are created, stored, and/or transmitted; the various interpretive decisions; privacy concerns; abuse for commercial gain; and/or the ever-increasing cost to taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, as the current law approaches its twentieth (20th) anniversary, it has outgrown its original intended use and has become ripe for comprehensive review and reform;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the governing body of the Township of Cranford appeals to the legislature to form a Commission comprised of Mayors, Municipal Clerks, Municipal Managers, Attorneys, Police Chiefs, open government advocates, privacy experts, members of the media, citizens and other appropriate stakeholders, to review and examine the effects of OPRA on local government and the needs to be fulfilled by the law, and use the Commission's findings to perform a comprehensive reform of OPRA; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to Assemblyman Jon Bramnick, Assemblywomen Nancy Munoz, Senator Thomas Kean Jr., Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, Senate President Stephen Sweeney, Senator Weinberg, Executive Director of the Government Records Council, the Governor of the State of New Jersey, the Municipal Clerks Association of New Jersey and New Jersey State League of Municipalities.

Resolution No. 2020-141:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Cranford Chamber of Commerce be, and hereby is, permitted to hold "Cranford Street Fairs", with music, from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., rain or shine, on the following dates:

- Sunday, April 26, 2020
- Sunday, August 23, 2020
- Sunday, October 11, 2020

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that "Cranford Street Fairs" will require the designation of approximately one hundred and fifty (150) parking spaces as "No Parking" and closing of various streets and locations as follows:

- Parking Restriction and the closure of North Union Avenue from Springfield Avenue to North Avenue
- Eastman Street Clock Plaza
- Alden Street from North Avenue to Parking Lot #11
- Municipal Lot #1
- A portion of Lot #11

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Cranford Chamber of Commerce is permitted to post approximately fifteen (15) signs on municipal property in connection with the aforementioned events, and that said signs shall be posted not more than ten (10) days prior to each event, and shall be removed the day following each event.

Resolution No. 2020-142:

WHEREAS, distracted driving is a serious, life-threatening practice that is preventable; and

WHEREAS, distracted driving can result in injuries and deaths to all road users (including motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists); and

WHEREAS, distracted driving occurs when drivers divert their attention away from the task of driving to focus on another activity instead; and

WHEREAS, in 2017 alone distracted driving-related crashes resulted in 3,166 deaths and driver inattention was listed as a contributing circumstance in 51 percent of the state's crashes; and

WHEREAS, in New Jersey, distracted driving was listed as a contributing circumstance in more than 800,000 crashes between 2012 and 2016; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey will participate in the nationwide *2020 Distracted Driving Crackdown* from April 1st through April 21, 2020 in an effort to raise awareness and decrease driver distraction through a combination of enforcement and education; and

WHEREAS, the national slogan for the campaign is *UDrive. UText. UPay*; and

WHEREAS, a reduction in distracted driving in New Jersey will save lives on our roadways;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Cranford declares its support for the *2020 Distracted Driving Crackdown* both locally and nationally from April 1st through April 21, 2020 and pledges to increase awareness of the dangers of distracted driving.

Resolution No. 2020-143:

WHEREAS, Erik Hastrup is the Assistant Superintendent of Public Works for the Township of Cranford; and

WHEREAS, since November 1, 2019 and upon the retirement of Steve Wardell, Mr. Hastrup has assumed the additional responsibilities of Superintendent of Public Works; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford wishes to compensate Mr. Hastrup for the additional work of Superintendent of Public Works; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that retroactive to November 1, 2019 and until a new Superintendent of Public Works is named, a stipend

in the amount of \$2,000.00 per month be and hereby is authorized for Erik Hastrup for performing the additional responsibilities associated with the role of Superintendent of Public Works.

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Giblin, Deputy Mayor Prunty, Commissioners Hannen, Maisonneuve and O'Connor

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

RESOLUTION – By Roll Call Vote

On motion of Commissioner Maisonneuve, seconded by Deputy Mayor Prunty and passed, the following resolution was adopted by roll call vote:

Resolution No. 2020-131:

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE PLANNING BOARD TO EVALUATE
CERTAIN PROPERTIES ON NORTH AVENUE TO DETERMINE IF THEY SHOULD BE
DESIGNATED AS A CONDEMNATION AREA IN NEED OF REDEVELOPMENT**

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-4(a), a municipal governing body has the power to cause a preliminary investigation to be made by the Planning Board pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A 12A-5; and **WHEREAS**, the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford desires to have a preliminary investigation made on certain lands and premises within the Township of Cranford (“Township”) known Block 193, Lots 6.01, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14 on the Township Tax Map to see if the area is in need of redevelopment; and **WHEREAS**, the Township intends to use all those powers provided by the Legislature for use in a redevelopment area, including the power of eminent domain. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, in the County of Union, New Jersey does hereby, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-4, request and authorize the Planning Board of the Township of Cranford to undertake a preliminary investigation as to whether the land identified as Block 193, Lots 6.01, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14 on the Township of Cranford Tax Map be classified as a condemnation area in need of redevelopment; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Planning Board of the Township of Cranford shall conduct the aforesaid investigation in accordance with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-6; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the redevelopment area determination, if such a determination is made, shall authorize the municipality to use all those powers provided by the Legislature for use in a redevelopment area, including the power of eminent domain; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that in making its preliminary investigation, the Planning Board shall make its recommendations based upon a finding that the conditions as set forth in N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-5 are found to be present.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Hannen

stated that he does not support the resolution in its current form because he believes the Township can accomplish its goals without the use of condemnation in an area in need of redevelopment. Feels a plan is needed to enhance the appearance of one of the gateways to the downtown. The Affordable Housing requirements leaves Cranford with limited options on places that the Town can provide for those needs. Explained that developers look at these properties as just block and lot numbers with buildings. Feels it is the value of the land and the work and sweat equity that each of the property owners has put into making their businesses successful which is not a tangible asset that the developers can understand. Stated that the Township of Cranford has an affordable housing obligation that it is required to meet. Recognizes and supports the Township’s efforts to meet those obligations but feels the requirements can be met without condemnation. Discussed the Riverfront Redevelopment area that was developed without using condemnation. Spoke about the condemnation designation for this same area that was proposed two years ago. Does not believe in using condemnation for economic development purposes and feels eminent domain should only be used at the expense of the good of the community in extreme circumstances.

Commissioner Maisonneuve

Stated that he will be supporting the resolution. Explained that condemnation is a last resort option in this case. Stated that the intent of the Township is to show that it is looking progressively to meet the affordable housing requirement and to provide for the businesses in that area and work with them as the town has proven to do so in the past. Assured the public that the decisions made by the Township Committee are in the best interest of everyone in this community. It is a difficult decision but the town needs to progress and all options must be looked at.

Mayor Giblin

Stated that over a year ago the Township Committee and Planning Board approved a Housing Element and Fair Share Plan that proposed redevelopment of the north side of North Avenue as part of the Township’s plan to satisfy its affordable housing obligation. That specific project was retained in the settlement the town reached four months ago with the Fair Share Housing Center. That settlement was

approved unanimously by the Township Committee. Stated that the Township Committee met with the affected property owners making them fully aware of tonight's resolution and the Township Committee will continue to keep them up-to-date on the process. Looks forward to a fully transparent process with multiple opportunities for the public to weigh in on what may eventually take shape. Will keep the public updated throughout the process.

Commissioner O'Connor

Stated that she struggled with the resolution because she has a hard time with the condemnation and the eminent domain part of the resolution. Understands how important it is to move forward with the affordable housing plan. Feels this is a real fine edge because it does go against some of her fundamental principles but believes in the long run, this is the way to move forward. She will very reluctantly support the resolution.

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Giblin, Deputy Mayor Prunty, Commissioners Maisonneuve and O'Connor

Nay: Commissioner Hannen

Abstained: None

Absent: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Giblin opened the public comments 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.

PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS

Township Clerk Patricia Donahue

- Announced that Joan Holler from the Health Department has joined the Clerk's Office effective February 3, 2020. We are delighted to have her and we welcome her.

Mayor Patrick Giblin thanked the Township Clerk and her staff for providing a nice send-off for Dottie Baniewicz.

Township Administrator Jamie Cryan

- Thanked Dottie Baniewicz for her service to the Township of Cranford. She was the first to welcome him and made his life every day much easier. Always greeted him with a smile and was always willing to help out in any way she could. She will be missed greatly.
- Discussed the adoption of Resolution No. 2020-139. Thanked the Township Committee for adopting the resolution which allows for volunteer EMTs and volunteer firefighters to be able to obtain tuition credits at Union County College.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS/COMMENTS

Commissioner Thomas H. Hannen

- Congratulated Dottie Baniewicz on her retirement from the Cranford Chamber of Commerce. Thanked her for her service to the Cranford community.

Commissioner Mary O'Connor

- Congratulated Dottie Baniewicz on her retirement from the Cranford Chamber of Commerce. Thanked her for her service to the Cranford community. She is a positive force for the Township. Wished her much success in her future endeavors;
- Discussed the 100th anniversary for Women's Right to Vote. Having the right to vote is a serious privilege that everyone should take advantage of. Is honored to be part of the Township Committee;
- Discussed events to take place over the weekend in Downtown Cranford. Encouraged residents to support the local businesses;
- Announced that the Cranford Police Department and Prevention Links will be hosting an event regarding the overuse of cell phones and social media at the High School;
- Wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day.

Commissioner Jean-Albert Maisonneuve

- Welcomed two new businesses to the downtown (Oasis Restaurant and Delice Macarons Inc.) Encouraged the public to come out and support them;
- Discussed various events that will be taking place in the downtown;
- Thanked Dottie Baniewicz for her service to the town;

- Wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day.

Deputy Mayor Kathleen Miller Prunty

- Thanked the Township Committee for supporting the 100th Anniversary of Women's Right to Vote. Stated that there are dynamic, bright women who continue to set an example in their communities, schools, businesses and politics. Women have to continue to set an example for the young girls and boys to show we are better off when there is equal opportunity;
- Paid a special tribute to Dr. Deborah Cannon Partridge Wolfe. Spoke about the dedication ceremony for the Cranford High School library. Provided a brief history of Dr. Wolfe. Encouraged everyone to watch the dedication ceremony on TV35. Thanked the Cranford Board of Education for the gesture of naming the library in Dr. Wolfe's honor.

Mayor Patrick Giblin

- Congratulated Dottie Baniewicz on her retirement from the Cranford Chamber of Commerce;
- Recognized Board of Education President Kurt Petschow and Board of Education Vice President Lisa Carbone for all their efforts with the town;
- Congratulated Cranford High School and Livingston Avenue School on being named New Jersey's best schools;
- Discussed the 2020 Capital Budget meeting that was held last Tuesday. Expects the Capital Budget to be within the range of \$4.3 million. Explained that \$3 million would be for infrastructure and paving road projects. Thanked the Township Committee, CFO Lavona Patterson and Township Administrator Jamie Cryan for all their efforts with the Budget;
- Announced that the next Township Committee meeting is a Combined meeting and will be held on February 25, 2020.

On motion of Commissioner Maisonneuve, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor and passed, the Township Committee adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 11, 2020

Patricia Donahue, RMC
Township Clerk