

The Minutes of the **Official Meeting** of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey on **March 10, 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.

MINUTE APPROVAL

On motion of Commissioner D’Ambola, seconded by Commissioner O’Connor and passed, the minutes of the Workshop Meeting of February 23, 2015, and the Conference and Official Meetings of February 24, 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 10, 2015 totaling \$4,611,824.42, 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

MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Youth Art Month

WHEREAS, art education contributes powerful educational benefits to all elementary, middle, and secondary students including the following:

- * art education develops students’ creative problem-solving and critical thinking abilities;
- * art education teaches sensitivity to beauty, order, and other expressive qualities;
- * art education gives students a deeper understanding of multi-cultural values and beliefs;
- * art education reinforces and brings to life what students learn in other subjects; and
- * art education interrelates student learning in art production, art history, art criticism, and aesthetics.

WHEREAS, our national leaders have acknowledged the necessity of including arts experiences in all students’ education; and

WHEREAS, MARCH is officially recognized as YOUTH ART MONTH, I endorse the observance of Youth Art Month and encourage the support of quality school art programs for children and youth.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Andis Kalnins, Mayor of the Township of Cranford proclaim March as ***YOUTH ART MONTH*** and endorse the observance of Youth Art Month and encourage the support of quality school art programs for children and youth.

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. 2015-01:**

The Deputy Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2015-01 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE RESCINDING ORDINANCE NO. 2011-15 AND CHAPTER 17 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, ESTABLISHING A CONSERVATION UTILITY”.

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 D’Ambola 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

Ordinance No. 2015-02:

The Deputy Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2015-02 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**” (South Union Avenue)”.

Said ordinance having been advertised and posted in accordance with law, Commissioner O’Connor opened the public hearing. Hearing no comments, Commissioner O’Connor closed the public hearing. On motion of Commissioner O’Connor, seconded by Deputy Mayor Adubato 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

Ordinance No. 2015-03:

The Deputy Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2015-03 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE VIII, SECTION 219-63 OF CHAPTER 219 "REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY (1988)," BY AMENDING SCHEDULE XIII AND INCLUDING CERTAIN PORTIONS OF ROADWAYS AS INDICATED IN SECTION 1 BELOW AND DESIGNATING SAME AS “**PARKING PROHIBITED AT ALL TIMES**” (South Union Avenue)”.

Said ordinance having been advertised and posted in accordance with law, Commissioner O’Connor opened the public hearing. Hearing no comments, Commissioner O’Connor closed the public hearing. On motion of Commissioner O’Connor, seconded by Deputy Mayor Adubato 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

Ordinance No. 2015-04:

The Deputy Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2015-04 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE VIII, SECTION 219-74 OF CHAPTER 219 "REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY (1988)," BY AMENDING SCHEDULE XXIV AND INCLUDING CERTAIN PORTIONS OF ROADWAYS AS INDICATED IN SECTION 1 BELOW AND DESIGNATING SAME AS “**PREFERENTIAL PARKING ZONES**” (South Union Avenue)”.

Said ordinance having been advertised and posted in accordance with law, Commissioner O’Connor opened the public hearing. Hearing no comments, Commissioner O’Connor closed the public hearing. On motion of Commissioner O’Connor, seconded by Deputy Mayor Adubato 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

Ordinance No. 2015-05:

The Deputy Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2015-05 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES AND WAGES OF CERTAIN OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY FOR THE YEAR 2015”.

Said ordinance having been advertised and posted in accordance with law, Deputy Mayor Adubato opened the public hearing. Hearing no comments, Deputy Mayor Adubato closed the public hearing.

On motion of Deputy Mayor Adubato, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor 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. 2015-07:

The Deputy Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2015-07 entitled, "ORDINANCE AMENDING THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD (VACATE A PORTION OF DIETZ STREET)"

Said ordinance was approved on first reading on motion of Commissioner D'Ambola, 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. 2015-07 to be held April 7, 2015.

Ordinance No. 2015-08:

The Deputy Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2015-08 entitled, "ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 172 PROPERTY MAINTENANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD CODE"

Said ordinance was approved on first reading on motion of Commissioner D'Ambola, 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. 2015-08 to be held April 7, 2015.

RESOLUTIONS – By Consent Agenda

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

Resolution No. 2015-143:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that the following individuals be and hereby are appointed as per diem Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT's), subject to the results of a background investigation:

Karolyn Buckridee
David Ozga
Jason Cruz
Charles Hallax
Ronald Roberts
Robert Dougher

Resolution No. 2015-144:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, at a meeting held March 10, 2015, that the resignation of Jason C. Kardel, Probationary Firefighter within the Fire Department, be and hereby is accepted effective March 2, 2015.

Resolution No. 2015-145:

REMOVED FROM THE AGENDA

Resolution No. 2015-146:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford hereby authorizes the advertisement of bids for projects in connection with the Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Program.

Resolution No. 2015-147:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, at a meeting held March 10, 2015, that the Chamber of Commerce be and hereby is authorized to hold various events on Township property; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Cranford Chamber of Commerce be, and hereby is, permitted to hold “Classic Cruiser Nights”, including music from 5:00 PM to 10:00 PM on the following dates:

- May 13, 2015
- June 10, 2015
- July 8, 2015
- August 12, 2015; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that “Classic Cruiser Nights” will require the designation of approximately one hundred and fifty (150) parking spaces as “No Parking” and closing of various streets as follows:

- Parking Restriction and the closure of North Union Avenue from North Avenue to the Springfield Avenue;
- Alden Street from North Avenue to Miln Street; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Committee hereby authorizes the closure of Municipal Lot No. 1 from 9:00 AM to 11:00 PM and the front right side of Parking Lot No. 7 from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM on November 27, 2015 in connection with the Annual Tree Lighting and on December 19, 2015 from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM in connection with its Trolley Rides; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Cranford Chamber of Commerce has been permitted and is authorized to post approximately ten (10) signs on municipal property for each event, 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. 2015-148:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, that the Chamber of Commerce be, and hereby is, authorized to hold its annual Spring Festival on Sunday April 26, 2015, its annual Fall Festival on Sunday, October 18, 2015, and a “Children’s Expo” on Sunday, August 23, 2015; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these events will be held on the aforementioned dates, rain or shine; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the festivals will require the closing of various streets from 8:00 AM to 6:30 PM as follows:

North Union Avenue from Springfield Avenue to the railroad;
Entire length of Warner Plaza, and a portion of Municipal Lot No. 3;
Eastman Street Clock Plaza;
Walnut Avenue from Chestnut Street to South Avenue; and
Alden Street from North Avenue to Miln Street.

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. 2015-149:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford on the 10th day of March 2015 that the Tax Collector be and hereby is authorized to refund the following payments of 2015 real estate/sewer taxes for reasons noted:

Overpayment of Taxes:

Block 229 Lot 6

Refund: \$ 71.03

Jeffrey S. & Hope L. Townsend

503 Central Ave.

Cranford, N.J. 07016

Block 324 Lot 10

Refund: \$ 49.72

William H. & Marcelle S. Aldredge

5 Carol Court

Cranford, N.J. 07016-2525

Block 414 Lot 8

Refund: \$106.54

Janet A. Leary

153 Hillcrest Ave.

Cranford, N.J. 07016-2664

Resolution No. 2015-150:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford on the 10th 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 #14-00031

Block 500 Lot 9
 US Bank Custodian for FNA Jersey BOI. LLC
 50 South 16th St. Suite 2050
 Philadelphia, Pa. 19102

Refund: \$ 476.91
Premium: \$ 900.00

Resolution No. 2015-151:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford on the 10th day of March 2015 that the Tax Collector had been and hereby was authorized to refund overpayments for reason noted:

State Tax Court Judgments:

Block 202 Lot 21
 Krevsky, Silber & Bergen
 PO Box 99
 Cranford, N.J. 07016

Refund 2013: \$4063.09
Refund 2014: 3863.77

Block 563 Lot 1
 Mc Carter & English
 Four Gateway Center
 PO Box 652
 Newark, N.J. 07102-0652

Refund 2013: \$5421.19
Refund 2014: 6613.84

Resolution No. 2015-152:

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY AND ENDORSING THE SUBMITTAL OF AN APPLICATION WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND THE NEW JERSEY INFRASTRUCTURE TRUST FOR PHASE 2B: NORTHEAST STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROJECT LOAN NO. S340858-04

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford intends to file an application with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust for the Phase 2B: Northeast Stormwater Management Project (Loan No. 340858-04); and

WHEREAS, the application includes the construction of storm sewers along Riverside Drive and Claremont Place to improve drainage and flooding conditions; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Terence Wall be authorized to act as the Authorized Representative to represent in all matters relating to the project undertaken pursuant to the above referenced New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Loan to be executed with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust. The Authorized Representative may be contacted at the following address: Municipal Building, Cranford, NJ 07016-2199 and phone number: 908-709-7205.

Recorded vote:

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

Nay: None

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

PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS**Township Attorney Dabulas**

- Provided an update of litigation involving Cranford Development Associates (CDA). Mentioned that no hearing dates have been scheduled. Stated that the decision that was reached this afternoon by the Supreme Court regarding COAH will be analyzed along with its impact to CDA.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS/COMMENTS**Commissioner Thomas H. Hannen, Jr.**

- Hopes Township Clerk Rowley gets well soon;
- Wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Month.

Commissioner Robert D'Ambola

- Provided an update regarding road resurfacing. Various paving projects are scheduled to begin next month. Discussed all the potholes that resulted from the winter. Explained how the SeeClickFix App works and urged residents to use it;

- Discussed parked cars on snow covered roads. Feels it is obvious that several cars have not been moved in at least a month. Discussed the proposed ordinance which would restrict parking on snow covered roads. Explained that there is a State statute that states that cars that are not moved within a 48 hour period are considered abandoned and will be towed. Hopeful the proposed ordinance will be in place by next winter.

Commissioner Mary O'Connor

- Announced that the Environmental Commission will be hosting a Rain Barrel Building Workshop at the Cranford Community Center. It is a great way to help the environment and stormwater management. Provided information for those interested in attending;
- Reminded residents to correspond the changing of batteries in smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors with daylight savings time;
- Discussed an emergency call from a concerned resident regarding a possible slip and fall into the ice covered river on Riverside Drive. Commended the Fire Department and Police Department on their efforts. Feels Cranford's public safety professionals reacted with incredible skills and expertise;
- Congratulated Commissioner Hannen for being nominated as Irishman of the Year by the Cranford Knights of Columbus;
- Read an Irish quote and wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day.

Deputy Mayor Lisa M. Adubato

- Stated that the 2015 Municipal Budget is on target to be introduced at the next Township Committee Official meeting. The Capital Budget process has begun and is moving forward;
- Congratulated Commissioner Hannen for being nominated as Irishman of the Year;
- Urged residents to vote for Kilkenny House on NJ.com for best Irish Pub in New Jersey.

Mayor Andis Kalnins

- Announced that the Chamber of Commerce is hosting a business owner's forum on March 18, 2015 at the Cranford Community Center. Feels this is a great opportunity for businesses to join the community and share ideas and express issues they may have;
- Announced that several Mayors from the Rahway River Flood Control will be going to Washington DC on March 19, 2015 to meet with legislatures to thank them for their support and for getting funds to complete the Army Corp of Engineer study and to let them know the effort is not over;
- Discussed a joint training session that was held between the Planning and Zoning Boards regarding the Land Development Ordinance. This was part of the continuing efforts to keep appointed officials as knowledgeable as possible on the process and the laws;
- Commended everyone on the 2015 Municipal budget process especially Deputy Mayor Adubato, Township Administrator Wall and Chief Financial Officer Patterson for their efforts. Explained that there will be a modest tax increase but feels there has been a significant increase in public services which provides a balance. The 2015 Municipal Budget should be introduced at the next Township Committee Official Meeting;
- Congratulated Commissioner Hannen and his wife for being recognized by the Cranford Knights of Columbus as Irish Couple of the Year;
- Wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day.

On motion of Deputy Mayor Adubato, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor and passed, the Township Committee adjourned at 8:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 10, 2015

Heather Capone, RMC
Deputy Township Clerk