The Minutes of the **Official Meeting** of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey on **October 27, 2020** at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Per the Agenda:

"The Township Committee of the Township of Cranford will conduct the October 27<sup>th</sup> Official Meeting in person. For members of the public who wish to attend the Township Committee Meetings, please enter the Township Building at the Police Dispatch entrance. Residents can view the Official Meeting on TV-35, and via livestream on <u>TV-35's Facebook Page</u>. "

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

Mayor Giblin mentioned the loss of a Cranford resident earlier in the week who was a Word War II veteran, Steven Ozl. Stated that he was a member of the Army's 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division and earned a Victory Metal and a Bronze Star for his heroic service. He went on to own a night club which he named after a friend that was killed in action and retired from the Ford Motor Company. Thanked him for his service and wanted everyone to take a moment to remember him during tonight's invocation.

### **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 Meeting of October 13, 2020 and Official Meeting of October 13, 2020, were approved by indicated vote of the Township Committee: <u>Recorded vote:</u> 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 O'Connor and passed, the Bill List dated October 27, 2020, totaling \$332,132.25 was approved for payment by indicated vote of the Township Committee and is on file in the Office of the Township Clerk: <u>Recorded vote:</u> Aye: Mayor Giblin, Deputy Mayor Prunty, Commissioners Hannen, Maisonneuve and O'Connor Nay: None

Abstained: None Absent: None

#### **INFORMAL MEETING**

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

<u>James Carvalho, 9 Orange Avenue</u>, spoke during the Public Comments portion of the agenda that appeared at the end of the September 22, 2020 Township Committee Official Meeting. Discussed technical difficulties TV35 had with airing the September 22, 2020 meeting. Asked if the current meeting was being aired live and recorded for the public to view.

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

# **RESOLUTIONS – <b>By Consent Agenda**

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

### Resolution No. 2020-337:

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Cranford community has been and continues to be significantly affected by potential flooding along the Rahway River, including millions of dollars in property and other damage, increased flood insurance costs, and disruptions to the community; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayors Council on Rahway River Flood Control ("Mayors Council") has been formed among Rahway River communities to work on long-term solutions to flooding within the Rahway River watershed; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayors Council has identified a plan to provide upstream storage within the City of Orange at the Orange Reservoir during peak flood conditions that would lower river elevations and permit other improvement s to be constructed downstream that would protect downstream communities (the "Upstream Storage Plan"); and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Cranford supports the Upstream Storage Plan and the Rahway River communities' requests to study and find a solution to flooding; and

**WHEREAS**, the Upstream Storage Plan requires study by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and U.S. Army Corp. of Engineers (USACE);

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that the Township Committee hereby requests that the New Jersey Department Environment Protection (NJ DEP) fund the studies needed to properly evaluate the Upstream Storage Plan and present the plan to the USACE for further study and approval; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be sent under cover letter from the Mayor urging the NJ DEP to fund the needed studies, with copies to all of the affected Rahway River communities.

### Resolution No. 2020-338:

**BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of October 2020 that the Tax Collector has been authorized to refund tax payments for the reason noted: **County Board Judgement** 

County Board Judgement Block 310 Lot 10 Spector Foerst & Associates 159 Millburn Avenue Millburn, NJ 07041

# **Resident Tax Overpayment**

Block 178 Lot 1.03 Demetrio, Sascha Gerd & Carmen C 6 Estelle Place Cranford, NJ 07016

Block 471 Lot 13 Schroder, Karl & Chin Yin 39 Lenhome Drive Cranford, NJ 07016 **<u>Refund \$ 12,146.26</u>** (0-01-55-000-010-028)

<u>Refund \$ 885.58</u> (0-01-55-000-010-025)

Refund \$ 3,692.77 (0-01-55-000-010-025)

### Resolution No. 2020-339:

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of October 2020 that the following checks will be refunded by the Tax Collector to the lien holder according to statutory requirements:

### **Redemption of Certificate# 19-00001**

Block 109 Lot 4 – 1592 Springfield Avenue Carlos Turner 2048 Ostwood Terrace Union, NJ 07083 <u>Refund:</u> \$141.77 (0-01-55-000-010-029) <u>Premium:</u> \$200.00 (T-15-00-000-106-000)

### Resolution No. 2020-340:

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Cranford required an expert 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 <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 19:44A-20.4 et seq.; 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,** at a meeting held February 11, 2020, the Township Committee adopted Resolution No. 2020-132, authorizing a contract to Carlin and Ward P.C. for the aforementioned service at a fee not to

exceed \$10,000.00; and

**WHEREAS,** at a meeting held July 14, 2020, the Township Committee adopted Resolution No. 2020-240, authorizing an amendment to said contract for an additional amount of \$20,000.00 not to exceed \$30,000.00; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to amend said contract for an additional amount of \$10,000.00 not to exceed \$40,000.00; 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 Carlin and Ward P.C., 25A Vreeland Road, P.O. Box 751, Florham Park, NJ 07932, for redevelopment legal services via issuance of purchase orders in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that said contract amount shall be charged to Account No. 0-01-20-155-100-214.

### Resolution No. 2020-341:

**WHEREAS,** the Township of Cranford requires an expert to provide construction administration (engineering) services in connection with the New Jersey Department of Transportation FY2020 Various Roads – Retford Avenue and Linden Place 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 <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 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 construction administration (engineering) services in connection with the aforementioned project at a fee not to exceed **\$37,750.00**; 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 (<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 19:44A-20.5 et seq.).

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that said contract amount shall be charged to Account No. C-04-20-006-000-S22.

#### Resolution No. 2020-342:

# RESOLUTION AWARDING CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FY2020 VARIOUS ROADS (RETFORD AVENUE AND LINDEN PLACE) PROJECT FUNDED BY A BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDED BY THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

**WHEREAS**, on Thursday, October 15, 2020 at 10:00 a.m., bids were opened in the presence of the Purchasing Agent and the Township Clerk; and

**WHEREAS**, there were twelve (12) bids received with the low bidder for the project being American Asphalt & Milling Services, LLC, 96 Midland Avenue, Kearny, NJ 07032, with a base bid price of **\$372,609.10**, Alternate Bid' A' amount of \$74,325.44, Alternate Bid 'B' amount of \$150,188.44 for a Total Bid Amount of \$597,122.98; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Engineer and other appropriate Township Officials have reviewed the bids and recommend an award of contract for base bid only for this project to American Asphalt & Milling Services, LLC; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer reviewed the available funding for the improvements and has certified that sufficient funds are available within the current and/or previously adopted budget for said purpose by way of Cranford (Bond) Ordinance No. 2020-06; and

**WHEREAS**, this Project is funded by way of a capital improvements bond ordinance stated herein as provided by Township of Cranford; and

**WHEREAS**, this project is in the best interest of the health, safety and welfare of the general public in the Township of Cranford.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, Union County, New Jersey that the above referenced construction project is awarded to American Asphalt & Milling Services, LLC, 96 Midland Avenue, Kearny, NJ 07032 for the **Base Bid only** in the amount of **\$372,609.10**; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

### Resolution No. 2020-343: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CANCELLATION OF UNEXPENDED BALANCES IN THE GENERAL CAPITAL FUND

**WHEREAS**, there remains unexpended balances on certain General Capital Improvement appropriations of capital projects that have been completed; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to formally cancel said balances to credit the General Capital fund balance. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, in the County of Union, that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to cancel the balances from the records of the Township outlined as follows:

| Ordinance Number | Improvement Authorization Description       | Funded Balance |
|------------------|---|----------------|
| 1991-26          | DMC and Hansen Park                         | 2,454.43       |
| 1997-08          | Various Improvements                        | 74,569.28      |
| 1998-02          | Community Center                            | 40,658.99      |
| 2000-13          | Technology                                  | 19,086.00      |
| 2001-02          | Various Improvements                        | 4,078.06       |
| 2002-09          | Various Public Improvements                 | 23,107.30      |
| 2004-15          | Various Capital Improvements                | 2,824.00       |
| 2005-12          | Various Capital Improvements                | 83,297.19      |
| 2007-07          | Various Public Improvements                 | 93,395.58      |
| 2007-16          | Reconstruction of High Street Footbridge    | 122,379.50     |
| 2008-18          | Various Public Improvements                 | 28,880.82      |
| 2009-11          | Installation of Turf Field                  | 16,523.93      |
| 2009-34          | Various Public Improvements                 | 155,804.07     |
| 2010-42          | Hillside Avenue Tunnel                      | 37,327.20      |
| 2011-10          | Refunding                                   | 3,765.34       |
| 2011-30          | Various Public Improvements, Replace Equip. | 16,434.60      |
| 2012-01          | Refunding                                   | 9,067.12       |
|                  |   | 733,653.41     |

# Resolution No. 2020-344:

**RESOLUTION SUPERSEDING RESOLUTION NO. 2020-319 AUTHORIZING APPOINTMENT OF BRYAN FLYNN AS TAX ASSESSOR EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 19, 2020** 

**WHEREAS,** the Township of Cranford ("the Township") has a need to fill a vacancy in the position of the Tax Assessor due to the retirement of the Township's Tax Assessor; and

**WHEREAS**, Bryan Flynn is a certified tax assessor in the State of New Jersey and is qualified to hold the position; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:9-146, the Township Committee wishes to appoint Bryan Flynn as the Township's new Tax Assessor to fill an unexpired term and to appoint Mr. Flynn to a new term; and **WHEREAS**, the parties have agreed upon the annual salary and funding is available;

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

- 1. Bryan Flynn is hereby appointed as the part-time Tax Assessor for the Township of Cranford to fill an unexpired term.
- 2. Mr. Flynn shall be paid an annual salary of \$80,000.00.
- 3. Mr. Flynn shall perform duties required of the Tax Assessor and shall work a minimum of thirty (30) hours in the office per week as per schedule determined by the Township Administrator.
- 4. The appointment shall take effect immediately on October 19, 2020 and such appointment will cover the period through June 30, 2021 as well as the period from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2025.

# Resolution No. 2020-345:

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee, in the past, has approved the temporary suspension of parking meter enforcement for shoppers during the holiday season, and this Township Committee wishes to the extend the free shopper period parking period; and

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford hereby authorizes free parking on Friday, November 27, 2020 and Saturday, November 28, 2020 for "Shop Small Saturday", a national campaign to support local businesses; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford hereby authorizes free parking at three-(3) hour metered spaces in the municipal parking lots, and four-(4) hour metered spaces in the municipal parking garage, and one and half (1.5) hour metered spaces for on-street parking from December 11, 2020 to December 25, 2020.

#### Resolution No. 2020-346:

### RESOLUTION SUPERSEDING RESOLUTION NO. 2020-228 AUTHORIZING THE EXTENSION OF THE CLOSURE OF THE LOWER PORTION OF MUNICIPAL LOT 7 ON MILN STREET AND AUTHORIZING THE CLOSURE OF EASTMAN STREET BETWEEN NORTH AVENUE AND MILN STREET

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that the Downtown Management Corporation is authorized to extend the closing of the lower portion of Municipal Lot 7 on Miln Street from 3 p.m. on Thursdays to 8 a.m. on Mondays, to assist downtown business dealing with operating restrictions from the on-going public health emergency through to and including November 30, 2020; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Downtown Management Corporation is authorized to close Eastman Street between North Avenue and Miln Street, from 3 p.m. on Thursdays to 8 a.m. on Mondays, to assist downtown business dealing with operating restrictions from the on-going public health emergency through to and including November 30, 2020.

#### **Resolution No. 2020-347:** Removed from the Agenda

#### 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 Deputy Mayor Prunty, seconded by Commissioner Maisonneuve and passed, the following resolution was adopted by **roll call vote**:

#### Resolution No. 2020-348:

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY, DESIGNATING A \$9,700,000 BOND ANTICIPATION NOTE, DATED OCTOBER 23, 2020, PAYABLE OCTOBER 22, 2021, AS A "QUALIFIED TAX-EXEMPT OBLIGATION" PURSUANT TO SECTION 265(b)(3) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986, AS AMENDED

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Cranford, in the County of Union, New Jersey (the "Township") intends to issue a \$9,700,000 Bond Anticipation Note, dated October 23, 2020, payable October 22, 2021 (the "Note"); and

**WHEREAS**, the Township desires to designate the Note as a "qualified tax-exempt obligation" pursuant to Section 265(b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code");

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

<u>SECTION 1</u>. The Note is hereby designated as a "qualified tax-exempt obligation" for the purpose of Section 265(b)(3) of the Code.

<u>SECTION 2</u>. It is hereby determined and stated that (1) said Note is not a "private activity bond" as defined in the Code and (2) the Township and its subordinate entities, if any, do not reasonably anticipate issuing in excess of \$10 million of new money tax-exempt obligations (other than private activity bonds) during the calendar year 2020.

<u>SECTION 3</u>. It is further determined and stated that the Township has, as of the date hereof, issued the following tax-exempt obligations (other than the Note) during the calendar year 2020, viz:

| Amount          | Dated - Due       |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| \$9,700,000 BAN | 5/15/20 - 5/14/21 |
| \$9,700,000 BAN | 6/26/20 - 6/25/21 |

<u>SECTION 4</u>. The Township will, to the best of its ability, attempt to comply with respect to the limitations on issuance of tax-exempt obligations pursuant to Section 265(b)(3) of the Code; however, said Township does not covenant to do so, and hereby expressly states that a covenant is not made hereby. <u>SECTION 5</u>. The issuing officers of the Township be and they hereby are authorized to deliver a certified copy of this resolution to the original purchaser of the Note and to further provide such original purchaser with a certificate of obligations issued during the calendar year 2020 dated as of the date of delivery of the Note.

SECTION 6. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

<u>Recorded vote</u>: Aye: Deputy Mayor Prunty and Commissioners Hannen, Maisonneuve and O'Connor Nay: None Abstained: Mayor Giblin Absent: None

# **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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

James Carvalho, 9 Orange Avenue, discussed a social gathering held by the Jaycees at the Cranford Canoe Club during the COVID-19 pandemic on July 16, 2020. Spoke about the consumption of alcohol on Township-owned property and questioned the proper protocol. Mentioned the Mayor's attendance at the gathering and the curious and questionable behavior taking place. Stated that he sent an email to the Township Committee, the Township Administrator and the Director of Recreation and Parks with documentation of what he had witnessed. Mentioned that he spoke to the contractor who operates the Canoe Club who said he was blindsided by the event. Asked who approved the event and the contractor stated the Commissioner that was in attendance. Stated that he spoke to the Chief of Police, Director of Office of Emergency Management (OEM,) the Township Administrator and the Director of Parks and Recreation who all stated that the event required their approval and the Township Committee's approval which was not granted. Discussed the areas that the Mayor liaises to within the Township. Stated that the Mayor participated in activities prohibited by his administration and other administrations. Spoke about ties the Mayor has with State government and corruption.

<u>Dr. Frank Krause, 20 Pittsfield Street, stated that there are six lots in town deemed detrimental by the</u> Planning Board which included Municipal Parking Lot 1<del>. Mentioned that the lot was detrimental</del> Spoke about the Lot's importance to the sight, health, morals and welfare of the community and further elaborated. Spoke about the virtual meetings held by the Township Committee and the Planning Board.

Mayor Giblin assured Dr. Krause that no decisions were made regarding Municipal Parking Lot 1. Explained that there was a study that was presented to the Township Committee which was accepted by three (3) of the Committee members. Stated that there is no desire to develop the lot.

Dr. Krause feels it is a vital parking lot that is used by numerous residents. Feels it would be difficult for Cranford residents to lose it. Mentioned that there is ample space for use of the lot by the Fire Department; noted that it also provides parking for shoppers and the public attending Township Committee meetings and then spoke about events that take place there.

Mayor Giblin assured Dr. Krause that there are no current plans to change the lot and stated that it will remain a parking lot.

Dr. Krause would like the three (3) commissioners that voted in favor of the study to withdraw their vote.

Discussion held regarding the study and other Township-owned properties.

Dr. Krause asked for the Township Committee's consideration to remove the Animal Hospital lot from the list.

Mayor Giblin explained that the Veterinarian Hospital has no parking and no room to expand. Stated that the owner is actively looking and is close to being under contract with another property in Cranford that would give them more options.

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

### **PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS**

#### Township Clerk Patricia Donahue

• Reminded everyone that General Election Day is November 3, 2020. Encouraged voters to vote by mail-in-ballot. Explained the procedure if voting in-person. Provided contact information for anyone with questions.

Township Administrator Jamie Cryan

- Thanked the Committee for adopting the holiday parking resolution;
- Reminded residents that the fourth quarter taxes are due November 1, 2020 with a 10-day grace period. Mentioned all options available to the residents to pay their taxes;
- Discussed the Best Practices Inventory. Explained that Cranford received 23 points out of a possible 24.5 points.

Township Attorney Ryan Cooper

• Discussed the Township's Affordable Housing matters. Stated that the Fairness and Compliance Hearing on the Township's settlement with the Fair Share Housing Center has been adjourned to

January. The order adjourning the settlement hearing noted that the Township and Hartz Mountain have been in settlement negotiations. Stated that meaningful progress is being made toward a potential compromise with Hartz Mountain toward future development of 750 Walnut Avenue. Hartz Mountain has made significant concessions on the size of the project and the Township is exploring retaining commercial use of the property. Explained that there are still significant issues outstanding because a settlement is not certain. Future updates will be provided as things progress.

# **COMMISSIONER REPORTS/COMMENTS**

# Commissioner Mary O'Connor

- Announced that the General Election is November 3, 2020. Feels the most secure drop-off for a mail-in-ballot is at the Dropbox at the Community Center. Reminded everyone that there is also a local election and a School Board election. Encouraged everyone to vote;
- Discussed the creation of a volunteer Arts Council. Feels this would be positive for the town moving forward;
- Stated that she will be working on a Government Internship Program with the Township Administrator for high school and college students;
- Announced that the Cranford Flu Clinic will take place on November 9, 2020. Provided information for those interested;
- Discussed Halloween and the new COVID-19 guidelines;
- Reminded everyone that daylight savings time is this weekend. Encouraged everyone to also change the batteries in the smoke and carbon monoxide detectors;
- Expressed condolences to the Superintendent of Public Works on the passing of his father.

# Commissioner Thomas H. Hannen

• Discussed the number of years he has served on the Township Committee. Stated that he has never encountered a committee member that was inept or corrupt. Feels a reckoning will happen after Election Day and is hopeful that the country will become more unified.

### Commissioner Jean-Albert Maisonneuve

- Feels the comments made by Mr. Carvalho regarding ineptitude and corruption were concerning;
- Announced that three (3) new businesses will be opening up in Cranford. Urged residents to continue to support the local businesses. Stated that the parklets have been extended;
- Expressed condolences to Superintendent of Public Works Erik Hastrup on the passing of his father.

# Deputy Mayor Kathleen Miller Prunty

- Thanked Commissioner Hannen for his comments regarding the Committee members. Provided background information on her years of involvement with the Township. Feels honored to be serving Cranford and does not appreciate the comments that were made this evening;
- Discussed the tax freeze for senior citizens and assured everyone that the tax-free reimbursement program has been fully funded. Spoke about a booklet which homeowners should have received in February. Provided contact information for anyone that has questions;
- Discussed the Cranford Newsletter which was created in March and had been published every day regarding COVID-19 updates. Announced that starting October 29, 2020 the Township will launch the official Cranford Newsletter which will be emailed twice a month. Provided information for those interested in subscribing;
- Provided the Township website address for the public;
- Wished everyone a Happy Halloween.

# Mayor Patrick Giblin

- Stated that he had the privilege of helping out the Cranford Jaycees, the Fire Department and the Recreation Department with their annual Pumpkin Chunkin' Contest which was done virtually along with the costume contest. Provided the website for those interested in viewing the events;
- Announced that he participated in the second Equity Inclusivity Initiative event that was created by Police Chief Greco, Board of Education Superintendent Rubin, Dr. Christopher Chapman and several other residents. Stated that approximately 50 people attended the event. Felt the event was successful and announced that another event will be held in November. More details will be provided in the future;
- Spoke about the upcoming election. Stated that fifty (50) % of Cranford's ballots have been received. Urged everyone to exercise their right to vote. Informed voters of the secure Dropbox at the Community Center.

On motion of Commissioner Hannen, seconded by Deputy Mayor Prunty and passed, the Township Committee adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 27, 2020

Patricia Donahue, RMC Township Clerk