

The Minutes of the **Official Meeting** of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey on **February 23, 2016** 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 Mary O’Connor  
Commissioner John Mallon  
Commissioner Patrick F. Giblin  
Commissioner Thomas H. Hannen, Jr.

**ABSENT:** None

#### **INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE**

The invocation was led by Deputy Mayor O’Connor, followed by the flag salute.

#### **MINUTE APPROVAL**

On motion of Commissioner Hannen, seconded by Commissioner Mallon and passed, the minutes of the Workshop Meeting of February 8, 2016 and the Conference and Official Meetings of February 9, 2016, were approved by the indicated vote of the Township Committee:

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Kalnins, Deputy Mayor O’Connor, Commissioners Mallon, Giblin and Hannen

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

#### **PAYMENT OF BILLS**

On motion of Commissioner Giblin, seconded by Deputy Mayor O’Connor and passed, the bills list dated February 23, 2016 totaling \$418,797.65, 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 O’Connor and Commissioners Mallon, Giblin 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 – Introduction**

**Ordinance No. 2016-02:**

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2016-02 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE I (CRANFORD COMMUNITY POOLS) IN CHAPTER 179 (RECREATION FACILITIES; FEES) OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD TO REVISE POOL MEMBERSHIP FEES ”

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

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Kalnins, Deputy Mayor O’Connor, Commissioners Mallon, Giblin and Hannen

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

**Final Reading and Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 2016-02 to be held March 22, 2016.**

**RESOLUTIONS – By Consent Agenda**

On motion of Deputy Mayor O’Connor, seconded by Commissioner Mallon and passed, the following resolutions were adopted by consent agenda:

**Resolution No. 2016:139:**

**WHEREAS**, land-use is an essential component of overall sustainability for a municipality;

**WHEREAS**, poor land-use decisions can lead to and increase societal ills such as decreased mobility.

High housing costs, increased greenhouse gas emissions, loss of open space and the degradation of natural resources;

**WHEREAS**, well planned land-use can create transportation choices, provide for a range of housing options, create walkable communities, preserve open space and allow for continued use of vital natural resources;

**WHEREAS**, given New Jersey’s strong tradition of home rule and local authority over planning and zoning, achieving a statewide sustainable land-use pattern will require municipalities to take the lead;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, resolve to take the following steps with regard to our municipal land-use decisions with the intent of making Cranford a truly sustainable community. It is our intent to include these principles in the next master plan revision and to update our zoning accordingly:

- I. ***Facilities Siting*** – to the extent feasible, to take into consideration factors such as walkability, bikability, access to transit and proximity to other uses when siting new or relocated municipal facilities. The actions of a municipality when locating their own facilities can set a positive precedent and encourage other public and private sector entities to consider sustainable land-use considerations into account when locating their own facilities.
- II. ***Housing Variety*** – through the use of our zoning and revenue generation powers, to foster a diverse mix of housing types to meet the needs of people from all ages and walks of life. A variety of housing options, from single family homes to one-bedroom apartments, including housing affordable to people with low, moderate and middle incomes, is vital to allow residents to live and work in a municipality through various stages of their lives.
- III. ***Natural Resource Preservation*** - to preserve open space and create recreational opportunities within our municipality. As the most densely populated state in the nation, open space in New Jersey is at a premium. Preserving what is left of our open space, for its ecological and recreational value, is critical for a sustainable future, FURTHER, if feasible, we pledge to complete a Natural Resources Inventory to identify and assess the extent of our natural resources and to link natural resource management and protection to carrying capacity analysis and land use planning and zoning.
- IV. ***Transportation Choices*** - to create transportation choices within our municipality by considering all modes of transportation, including walking, biking, transit and automobiles, when planning transportation projects. Given that emissions from transportation, mainly passengers cars, make up the largest share of the state’s carbon footprint, creating transportation alternatives at the local level is critical to reducing the state’s overall carbon footprint.
- V. ***Mix of Uses*** - to use our zoning power to allow for a mix of uses in areas that make the most sense of our municipality and the region. Development is not needed in every municipality. But where development makes sense, land-use patterns that segregate uses such as commercial and residential create an environment where the only feasible mode of transportation is the automobile. Allowing for a mix of compatible land uses, residential units above retail stores for example, can help reduce the necessity of driving by allowing people to walk to various destinations.
- VI. ***Green Design*** - to incorporate the principles of green design and renewable energy generation when updating our site plan and subdivision requirements. Green design strategies not only improve the environmental performance of buildings but lessen the impact of those buildings on the surrounding environment. Such strategies include

- energy efficiency, water conservation, indoor environmental quality, use of recycled renewable materials, construction waste reduction, reduced auto use, tree preservation, native planting, and avoidance of environmentally sensitive features.
- VII. **Regional Cooperation** - to reach out to administrations of our neighboring municipalities concerning land-use decisions, and to take into consideration their concerns when making regional level land-use decisions. Local land-use decisions can often have regional impacts, even though they are decided exclusively by one municipality. For example, a large mall build in one municipality can affect traffic and retail opportunities in neighboring towns.
- VIII. **Parking Regulations** – to reevaluate our parking requirements with the goal of promoting shared parking. Promote transportation alternatives to individual automobile use. Evaluate areas to install safe and secure bicycle parking. Evaluate parking revenues, where fee for parking may be implemented or needs to be implemented.

**Resolution No. 2016-140:**  
**Removed from the agenda**

**Resolution No. 2016-141:**  
**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford on the 23rd day of February, 2016 that the Tax Collector has been authorized to refund overpayment for reason noted:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b><u>State Appeal Judgments</u></b>      |  |
| Block 541 Lot 1                           | <b><u>Refund for 2011: \$15,094.28</u></b> |
| Garippa, Lotz, & Giannuario Trust Account | <b>2012: \$36,709.31</b>                   |
| c/o Adam R. Jones                         | <b>2013: \$48,661.65</b>                   |
| 66 Park Street                            | <b>2014: \$15,119.83</b>                   |
| Montclair, New Jersey 07042               | <b><u>2015: \$26,000.08</u></b>            |
|   | <b>TOTAL: \$141,585.15</b>                 |

**Resolution No. 2016-142:**  
**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 May 1, 2016, its annual Fall Festival on Sunday, October 16, 2016, and a “Children’s Expo” on Sunday, August 21, 2016; 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 7:30 AM to 6:30 PM as follows:  
     North Union Avenue from Springfield Avenue to North Avenue;  
     Entire length of Warner Plaza, and a portion of Municipal Lot No. 3;  
     Eastman Street Clock Plaza;  
     Walnut Avenue from Chestnut Street to North 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. 2016-143:**  
**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, at a meeting held February 23, 2016, 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 9:00 PM on the following dates

- May 11, 2016
- June 8, 2016
- July 13, 2016
- August 10, 2016; 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 on November 5, 2016 from 9:00 AM to 11:00 PM in connection with the Annual Tree Lighting and on December 17, 2016 from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM in connection with its Trolley Rides; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Township Committee hereby authorizes the closure of Municipal Lot No. 1 on November 5, 2016 from 9:00 AM to 11:00 PM and a portion of Lot No. 7 from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM in connection with the Annual Tree Lighting and on December 17, 2016 from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM in connection with its Trolley Rides.

**Resolution No. 2016-144:**  
**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, 2016 :</i> |              |         |        |           |
|----------------------------------|--------------|---------|--------|-----------|
| Name                             | Title        | Range # | Step # | Salary    |
|                                  |              |         |        |           |
| James Wozniak                    | Police Chief | 1       | 3      | \$161,616 |

Recorded vote:  
Aye: Mayor Kalnins, Deputy Mayor O’Connor, Commissioners Mallon, Giblin 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.

John Pritchard, 42-44 West Holly Street, discussed his support for military personnel. Discussed military personnel from Cranford lost during Vietnam. Sang a song in support of the military. Also discussed his support for the reactivation of Muhlenberg Hospital and other hospitals in the area due to their proximity to Ground Zero. Encouraged the Township Committee to urge the President to address Homeland Security.

Mayor Kalnins discussed recently proposed legislation that would be more detrimental to hospitals and the service they provide.

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

**PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS**

**Township Administrator Terence Wall**

- Thanked the Township Committee for their well wishes.

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS/COMMENTS**

**Commissioner Thomas H. Hannen, Jr.**

- Wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick’s Day.

**Commissioner Patrick F. Giblin**

- Discussed the budget presentations that took place during the February 22, 2016 Workshop Meeting;
- Announced that the Cranford Fund for Educational Excellence would be hosting its first annual Team Trivia Night. Provided information for those interested in attending;
- Discussed various events being hosted by the Friends of the Public Library and provided contact information for those interested in attending.

**Commissioner John Mallon**

- Congratulated the Cranford High School Hockey Team on winning the county championship and the Wrestling Team for winning its district championship;
- Discussed the upcoming capital budget process, in which funding for street paving and other engineering projects would be considered.

**Deputy Mayor Mary O'Connor**

- Discussed resident Alan Davies who is a member of the Police and Fire Explorer Program and is a world champion in his age group in American Tae Kwon Do. Stated that she would be working with the Police Department through the School Resource Officer to develop a program that would recognize students like Alan Davies for their achievements;
- Discussed an existing program held at the Community Center that offers assistance to senior citizens with preparation of income tax returns. Also discussed the development of a new volunteer program to be comprised of various professionals to help senior citizens navigate different legal and financial issues. Provided contact information for those interested in volunteering;
- Commended the Police Department and Lieutenant Davenport for their efforts in obtaining reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in connection with Superstorm Sandy. Also stated that additional reimbursements are pending with respect to the 2007 Tax Day Storm and Hurricane Irene;
- Discussed Cranford's ranking in NJ Magazine. Discussed efforts to provide exceptional services while keeping tax increases minimal. Extended her appreciation to the residents of Cranford for making Cranford one of the best towns in the state;
- Discussed her visit to Washington DC to meet with legislators regarding regional flood control. Stated that it is impossible to prevent natural disasters, but feels flooding is something that could be corrected. Explained that although the Township is currently working on local projects to prevent catastrophic events, it still needs help from other levels of government. Discussed the need for support from state legislators for regional flood control;
- Discussed hours she is available to meet with residents to discuss issues or concerns they might have;
- Congratulated the Cranford High School Wrestling Team and Hockey Team on winning their championships;
- Commended the Police Department and the Board of Education on their handling of the issue at Orange Avenue School.

**Mayor Andis Kalnins**

- Congratulated the Cranford High School Hockey Team on winning the county championship;
- Congratulated the Cranford High School Wrestling Team on winning its division in the state championship;
- Discussed his trip to Washington DC to meet with legislators on regional flood control. Thanked all of the representatives for their support and for pledging assistance to help Cranford get through the bureaucracy in order to keep focus on the project.

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

Respectfully submitted,

---

Tara Rowley, RMC  
Township Clerk

Date: February 23, 2016