

The Minutes of the **Official Meeting** of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey on **October 4, 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 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 MAY BE TAKEN AT THIS MEETING.

PRESENT: Mayor Andis Kalnins
Deputy Mayor 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.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

On motion of Commissioner Giblin, seconded by Deputy Mayor O'Connor and passed, the Bills List A dated October 4, 2016 totaling \$4,251,569.74, was approved for payment by the indicated vote of the Township Committee and is on file in the Office of the Township Clerk:

Recorded vote:

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

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Bills List B was removed from the agenda.

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. 2016-24:

REMOVED FROM AGENDA

RESOLUTIONS – By Consent Agenda

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

Resolution No. 2016:314:

WHEREAS, the Cranford Department of Public Works and the Cranford Construction Code Office wish to acquire a Ford F250 Super Duty Pickup Truck for their respective departments; and

WHEREAS, on September 14, 2016 bids were received for the provision of police and administrative vehicles for the Township of Cranford Police Department's Cooperative Pricing System, System Identifier 47-CPCPS; and

WHEREAS, at a meeting held September 27, 2016, the Township Committee adopted Resolution No. 2016-306, authorizing an award of contract to Beyer Ford, 170 Ridgedale Avenue, Morristown, New Jersey 07962 for the provision of police and administrative vehicles for the Cranford Police Department's Cooperative Pricing System; 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 by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, on this 4th day of October 2016, that **Beyer Ford, 170 Ridgedale Avenue, Morristown, New Jersey 07962**, be and hereby is awarded a contract for the purchase of one (1) Ford F250 Super Duty Pickup Truck at a cost of \$25,933.00 for the Department of Public Works, and for a Three Year Lease with Purchase Option of one (1) Ford F250 Super Duty Pickup Truck for the Construction Code Office (\$8,644.33.year 1, \$8,644.33, year 2 and \$8,644.33.year 3); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Township Clerk be and are hereby authorized and execute an agreement with Beyer Ford in the form approved by the Township Attorney.

Resolution No. 2016-315:

WHEREAS, Local Public Contract Law 40A:11-6.1; “Award of Contracts” requires that every contract awarded by the contracting agent for the provision or performance of any goods or services, the cost of which in the aggregate exceeds the bid threshold, shall be awarded only by resolution of the governing body;

WHEREAS, The Township of Cranford is authorized by law to purchase goods or services from approved vendors who have been awarded by and have existing contracts with the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, NJ State Contract T-1316 # 80802 has been awarded to Johnston Communications, 322 Bellville Turnpike, Kearny, NJ 07032; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford ("Township") desires to authorize the purchase of goods and services from Johnston Communications as described attached from NJ State Contract T-1316 # 80802 that in the aggregate will exceed \$40,000.00 for the calendar year 2016; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that Johnston Communications is an approved vendor who has been awarded by and has an existing contract with the State of New Jersey.

Resolution No. 2016-316:**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP CLERK TO ADVERTISE FOR 2016 ENGINEERING PROJECTS**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, that the Township Clerk be, and hereby is, authorized to advertise for bids for the following 2016 Engineering Department projects:

1. Northeast Quadrant Stormwater Management Project, Riverside Drive North and South, Gravity Storm Sewer Interconnections Contract- 2B
2. Cranford Athletic Facility - Synthetic Turf Baseball/Soccer Field Improvements

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 Ordinance 2016-23 which relates to the Fire Department. Stated that he would support the ordinance if it involves employing more firefighters, and discussed his support of public safety personnel. Also discussed the loss of Cranford residents in the Vietnam War and feels Vietnam Veterans were not supported. Sang a song in support of the military. Urged legislators to reactive Muhlenberg Hospital and other hospitals in the area due to Cranford’s proximity to Ground Zero.

Commissioner Hannen thanked Mr. Pritchard for his attendance this evening. Explained that the ordinance related to the Fire Department was tabled and involves a change in the department’s reporting structure. Further explained that the proposed change in the Fire Department’s reporting structure would make it more consistent with the reporting structure of other departments. The ordinance was tabled to allow for the Fire Chief’s input. Stated that he disagrees with the decision to table the ordinance because it may put the Fire Chief in an awkward position by requesting that he provide input as to his reporting structure.

Mayor Kalnins stated that he disagrees with Commissioner Hannen’s comments concerning the Fire Chief’s review of Ordinance No. 2016-23. Explained that there is support for the proposed ordinance, but past practice has been to allow Department Managers an opportunity to review matters that impact his/her department and provide input. Introduction was postponed until the next meeting to allow the Fire Chief an opportunity to review the ordinance.

Ann Dooley, 113 Severin Court, Democratic Candidate for Township Committee, referred to a discussion that took place during the Workshop Meeting regarding the Orchard Brook project and the desilting of the Rahway River. Asked if the Township has submitted applications to the Department of Environmental Protection with respect to these projects.

Commissioner Mallon stated that he cannot answer Ms. Dooley’s at this time and needs to defer to Township Engineer O’Brien.

Ms. Dooley discussed the lead time needed with respect to Department of Environmental Protection permits and asked when the Township last applied for desilting permits.

Mayor Kalnins stated that the Township applied for permits approximately two (2) to three (3) years ago, but a desnagging project was done in the interim.

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

PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS

Township Attorney Diane U. Dabulas

- Discussed a complaint filed against the Township with respect to the ordinance to regulate hours of operation. Informed residents that the Township Committee would be discussing this matter in closed session at the conclusion of tonight's official meeting. Stated that no action would be taken.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS/COMMENTS

Commissioner Thomas H. Hannen, Jr.

- Stated that the Township Committee has several items to address in closed session this evening;
- Announced that October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and the Cranford Fire Department is wearing pink shirts in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Feels most people have been touched by this disease in one way or another, and asked that everyone keep those affected in their prayers.

Commissioner Patrick Giblin

- Discussed the Cranford Jaycees Oktoberfest event. Feels it was successful and thanked all involved for their efforts. Explained that funds were raised for the First Aid Squad and various Cranford charities;
- Announced that the Cranford High School Project Gradation Committee would be sponsoring a Food Truck and Music Fest fundraiser on October 29, 2016 in Nomahegan Park. Encouraged residents to support the event;
- Announced that the Halloween Parade and Great Pumpkin Drop would be held on October 30, 2016;
- Discussed recent reports of attempted luring in the area and encouraged parents to be cautious when posting about Halloween and plans for trick or treating on social media;
- Discussed an upcoming Town Hall meeting regarding pedestrian safety. Explained that the Police Department was not invited to attend the meeting and expressed concern that pedestrian safety issues would not be addressed. Also discussed a request to install pedestrian safety stanchions in the Township, which he recently learned is a Township Committee policy decision. Assured residents that this would be addressed at the next Township Committee meeting.

Commissioner John V. Mallon

- Discussed the Bloomingdale Avenue paving project and informed residents that it has been completed in time for the reopening of schools tomorrow. Thanked everyone involved in completing the project;
- Announced that the 2016 Paving Project schedule has been posted on the Township's website. Listed roadways to be paved during the months of October and November and asked residents to be aware and alert during this time. Feels it is a sign of progression once the sidewalks and curbs are cut;
- Discussed the agreement that was reached regarding the Transportation Trust Fund and its impact to Cranford projects, which were delayed while the fund was shut down. Feels that while the agreement has resulted in an increase in the gasoline tax, some of those funds will come back to Cranford for local projects.

Deputy Mayor Mary O'Connor

- Announced that October is Fire Prevention Month and discussed this year's campaign "Can't Wait, Check the Date". Encouraged residents to change smoke detectors every ten years. Explained that this represents the final year of a three-year initiative to educate the public about basic and essential elements of smoke alarm safety. Provided contact information for those needing assistance with smoke detectors;
- Mentioned that the Fire Department would be recognizing Breast Cancer Awareness Month by wearing pink shirts. Provided contact information for those interested in buying a pink supporter t-shirt or sweatshirt and encouraged residents to support this effort;
- Discussed the Pedestrian Safety presentation to be held on October 6, 2016 and explained that the focus is on Downtown Cranford. Feels residents will find the presentation interesting and all residents are invited to attend;
- Discussed pedestrian safety issues raised by residents at the last meeting. Provided an overview of a recent meeting with the Traffic Division concerning these issues, stating that the speed limit signs requested for Walnut Avenue have been installed, and the crosswalk by Lenhome Drive would be investigated. Also discussed a traffic study that was conducted on Springfield Avenue and increased enforcement on Walnut Avenue and Springfield Avenue to deter speeding has been requested. Provided recent facts regarding fatal incidents on Springfield Avenue. Feels drivers and pedestrians need to be more aware. Discussed a request to install pedestrian safety stanchions on various roadways for increased pedestrian safety. Informed residents that the Police Department would be working on the installation but stressed to residents that the safest place to cross is at the cross walk with a crossing guard. Discussed her support for the Cranford Police Department and their efforts and feels residents should support the Police Department.

Mayor Andis Kalnins

- Announced that the next Official Meeting would be held on October 25, 2016 and explained that the schedule was changed in October because of holidays;
- Wished those celebrating Rosh Hashanah a Happy New Year;
- Explained that the Township Committee would resume its Workshop Meeting to discuss the Best Practices Checklist and various closed session items. Stated that no official action would be taken.

On motion of Deputy Mayor O'Connor, seconded by Commissioner Mallon and passed, the Township Committee returned to Conference Meeting at 8:41 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 4, 2016

Tara Rowley, RMC
Township Clerk