

The Minutes of the **Official Meeting** of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey on **November 29, 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 led by Brownie Troop No. 40252.

MINUTE APPROVAL

On motion of Commissioner Hannen, seconded by Deputy Mayor O’Connor and passed, the minutes of the Workshop Meeting of November 14, 2016 and Official Meeting of November 14, 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 Commissioner Mallon and passed, the Bills List dated November 29, 2016 totaling \$361,642.62, 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

MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Appointment to the Environmental Commission

Appointment of Frank Klapinski as an Alternate No. 2 Member of the Environmental Commission to fill an unexpired term ending December 31, 2017.

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. 2016-24:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2016-24 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 28 FIRE DEPARTMENT AND CHAPTER A266 (FIRE DEPARTMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS) OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD”

Said ordinance having been advertised and posted in accordance with law, Commissioner Mallon opened the public hearing. Hearing no comments, Deputy Mayor O’Connor closed the public hearing. On motion of Deputy Mayor O’Connor seconded by Commissioner Giblin and passed, said ordinance was adopted by indicated vote of the Township Committee:

Recorded vote:

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

Nay: None

Abstained: Commissioner Hannen

Absent: None

Ordinance No. 2016-25:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2016-25 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 172 PROPERTY MAINTENANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD CODE ”

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

ORDINANCES – Introduction

Ordinance No. 2016-27:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2016-27 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE GENERAL CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY CHAPTER 216 “TREE PRESERVATION” ”

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

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Kalnins, Deputy Mayor O’Connor and Commissioner Mallon

Nay: Commissioners Giblin and Hannen

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Final Reading and Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 2016-27 to be held December 13, 2016.

RESOLUTIONS – By Consent Agenda

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

Resolution No. 2016:356:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, at a meeting held November 29, 2016, that the resignation of Robert Hudak as Director of Planning and Zoning be and hereby is accepted, with regrets, effective December 16, 2016.

Resolution No. 2016-357:

A RESOLUTION APPROVING SALARY STEP PROGRESSION FOR EMPLOYEES PURSUANT TO THE TOWNSHIP’S SALARY ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, at a meeting held May 24, 2016, the Township Committee adopted Ordinance No. 2016-06, 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. 2016-06, 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; and

WHEREAS, the Township has appropriated funds in the 2016 municipal budget sufficient to offset the costs of any salary adjustments effectuated hereby.

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 November 1, 2016:</i>				
Name	Title	Range #	Step #	Salary
Carol Cole	Executive Secretary	12	N/A	\$63,194
Melissa Marotta	Executive Secretary	12	N/A	\$58,513
Catherine Cook	Assistant Chief Financial Officer	11	N/A	\$60,848
Monika Koscova-Jencik	Registered Environmental Health Specialist	11	N/A	\$74,460
Catherine Hendrickson	Tax Collector	10	N/A	\$70,313
Erik Hastrup	Assistant Supt. Public Works	9	COLA	\$83,232
Kathleen Miller Prunty	Director – Downtown Management Corp./Economic Development	9	Maximum	\$81,600
Terence Wall	Township Administrator	2	Maximum	\$164,309

Resolution No. 2016-358:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that the salary for Suzanne Welsh, Office Assistant/Receptionist within the Township Clerk's Office, be and hereby is set at \$43,376 effective November 1, 2016.

Resolution No. 2016-359:**RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL OF ITEMS OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION – N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-87**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and

WHEREAS, the Director may also approve the insertion of an appropriation for the equal amount;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford in the County of Union, New Jersey hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget of the year 2016 in the sum of \$60,000.00 which is now available as a revenue from, pursuant to the provision of the statute; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the like sum of \$60,000.00 is hereby appropriated under the caption "KIDS Recreation Grant Memorial Field"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above is a result of a grant of \$60,000.00 from

Resolution No. 2016-360:

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-58 provides for appropriation transfers during the last two (2) months of the year, when it has been determined it is necessary to expand for any of the purposes specified in the budget an amount in excess of the sum appropriated therefore and where it has been further determined that there is an excess in any appropriation over and above the amount deemed to be necessary to fulfill the purpose of such appropriation, the Governing Body may, by Resolution setting forth the facts, adopted by not less than two-thirds vote of the full membership thereof, transfer the amount of such excess to those appropriations deemed to be insufficient.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, in the County of Union and State of New Jersey, that the Chief Financial Officer be and the same is hereby authorized to make transfers among the 2016 budget appropriations in accordance with the following schedule of transfers.

Account	From	To
Salary Adjustment Account	\$23,000.00	
Engineering Other Expenses		\$5,000.00
Zoning Other Expenses		\$5,000.00
Zoning and Planning Other Expenses		\$13,000.00
	<u>\$23,000.00</u>	<u>\$23,000.00</u>

Resolution No. 2016-361:

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford requires an expert to provide affordable housing planning services; and **WHEREAS**, the Township of Cranford advertised a Request for Proposals (RFP) for planning services through a fair and open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, at a meeting held April 12, 2016, the Township Committee authorized an award of contract to Matrix New World Engineering, PC for the aforementioned service; and

WHEREAS, an amendment to said contract is required for certain services that were provided and additional services that must be completed by December 31, 2016; 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. The agreement authorized for **Matrix New World Engineering, PC** be and hereby is amended for additional fees not to exceed \$12,422.50; and
2. The Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute any documents associated with said amendment; and
3. This contract is awarded pursuant to the "fair and open" process (N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.).

Resolution No. 2016-362:

Moved to Roll Call Vote (below)

Resolution No. 2016-363:

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 that Sanitation Truck Repair be and hereby is awarded a contract for the purchase of new truck body for Department of Public Works at a quoted price of \$23,849.00 under state contract # T2108 & T2085.

Resolution No. 2016-364:

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford advertised a Notice to Bidders for the provision of Municipal Property Lease in the Township of Cranford; and

WHEREAS, on November 22, 2016, one (1) bid was received in response to said Notice to Bidders.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that an agreement between the Township of Cranford and Cranford Florist for the lease of Municipal Property be and hereby is authorized; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Township Clerk be and hereby are authorized to execute a lease and any other documents necessary to effectuate the approval of said agreement.

Resolution No. 2016-365:

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford has a need to provide regular fire apparatus maintenance and repair services annually; and

WHEREAS, the Cranford Fire Department solicited quotes from two vendors and obtained pricing from one respondent: Fire and Safety Services, with an address located at 200 Ryan Street, South Plainfield, NJ 07080; and

WHEREAS, as result of the estimate provided by Fire and Safety Services, the Cranford Fire Department requested a blanket purchase order for annual services to be issued; and

WHEREAS, fire apparatus was delivered to authorities at the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) for inspection where it was deemed non-road worthy by NJDOT. Repairs needed to be made which were outside of the standard blanket purchase order that had been requested by the Cranford Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, as service vendor of record, Fire and Safety Services provided the NJDOT mandated repairs pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.26 and 40A:11-5(i); and

WHEREAS, the Cranford Fire Department has confirmed that the value of the services provided in the aggregate, will exceed the bid threshold for this vendor, and therefore shall be awarded only by resolution of the governing body; and

WHEREAS, Fire and Safety Services has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Fire and Safety Services 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 the Fire and Safety Services from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract, and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford authorizes the purchase of apparatus repair from Fire and Safety Services, with an address located at 200 Ryan Street, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 as described herein; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and be placed on file with this resolution.

Resolution No. 2016-366:

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE WAIVER OF LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE FEE

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford supports the provision of affordable housing in a reasonable, rational and achievable way, consistent with economic realities and sound planning; and

WHEREAS the Township of Cranford desired to impose an ordinance which established standards for the collection maintenance and expenditure of development fees pursuant to the Council on Affordable housing regulations which fees shall be used for the sole purpose of providing low and moderate income housing; and

WHEREAS, a Development Fee Ordinance was approved by the Township of Cranford on December 10, 2013, which requires that a Development fee shall be imposed when an existing structure is expanded, renovated in any way or is demolished and replaced if the expansion results in an increase in the number of dwelling units on the property in question"; and

WHEREAS, Terrence and Kathleen Curren ("Currans") purchased the property known as 514 Lexington Avenue (the "Property") in the Township of Cranford; and

WHEREAS, the Property most recently contained a building used as a gathering and worship space which was not consistent with the zoning laws in the Township of Cranford and previously was a residential home;

WHEREAS, the Property was demolished by the Currans and a single-family home was constructed which was consistent with the zoning laws in the Township of Cranford; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford Zoning Official imposed the Development Fee Ordinance on the Property, however, the Currans objected on various basis including but not limited to fact that the purposed of the Development Fee Ordinance was not directed to the expansion of a single family home; and

WHEREAS, the Development Fee Ordinance applies to an increase in "density," where density is defined narrowly as an increase in "*dwelling* units per gross area of land," N.J.S.A. 40:55D-4; and

WHEREAS, the Currans are not increasing the Property's density but rather replacing a non-conforming structure with a conforming structure frequently-occupied building for another and which new structure is likely *decreasing* the Property's impact on the Township as there will be a reduction of the traffic in their neighborhood since the previous use of the Property was for regular church meetings, where large groups of people would congregate; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee agrees that the use of the Property as a single family home is a more consistent use with the Township of Cranford Master Plan and zoning code and that the demolition and construction of a single family home in these particular circumstances are not consistent with the application of the Development Fee Ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, that the Property is exempted from the applicability of the Development Fee Ordinance and the Mayor and Township Clerk are authorized to execute any documents necessary to effect the purpose of this Resolution

Resolution No. 2016-367:

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 extend the free shopper parking period.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED at a meeting held November 28, 2016 that the Township Committee be and hereby authorizes free parking at three (3) and four (4) hour metered spaces in the municipal parking lots and the municipal parking garage, and for on-street parking beginning December 8, 2016 through Sunday, Dec. 25, 2016.

Resolution No. 2016-368:

WHEREAS, at its regularly scheduled meeting of November 28, 2016 at 7:30 PM in the Municipal Building, 8 Springfield Avenue, Room 108, the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, Union County, New Jersey, held discussion regarding the proposal for funding Community Development Fiscal Year 2017-2018 (Year 43) programs; and

WHEREAS, said meeting was advertised in compliance with the “Open Public Meetings Act”; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford agrees with the prioritization of proposed programs as presented.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford at a meeting held November 29, 2016, that the Mayor and Township Clerk be, and hereby are, authorized to sign the Community Development Block Grant application for funding Fiscal Year 2017-2018 (Year 43) projects.

Resolution No. 2016-369:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford on this 29th day of November 2016 hereby authorizes the following holidays for Township employees for the year 2017;

<u>Holiday</u>	<u>Actual Date</u>	<u>Employee Holiday</u>
New Year's Day	Sunday, January 1 st	Monday, January 2 nd
Martin Luther King Jr.	Monday, January 16 th	Monday, January 16 th
Lincoln's Birthday	Sunday, February 12 th	Monday, July 3 rd
Washington's Birthday	Monday, February 20 th	Monday, February 20 th
Good Friday	Friday, April 14 th	Friday, April 14 th
Memorial Day	Monday, May 29 th	Monday, May 29 th
Independence Day	Tuesday, July 4 th	Tuesday, July 4 th
Labor Day	Monday, September 4 th	Monday, September 4 th
Columbus Day	Monday, October 9 th	Monday, October 9 th
Election Day	Tuesday, November 7 th	Friday, November 24 th
Veteran's Day	Saturday, November 11 th	Friday, November 10 th
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 23 rd	Thursday, November 23 rd
Christmas Day	Monday, December 25 th	Monday, December 25 th

Resolution No. 2016-370:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford on the 29th day of November 2016 that the following checks will be refunded by the Tax Collector to the lien holder according to statutory requirements:

Redemption of Certificate #16-00005

Block 218 Lot 8
TWR as Custodian/Ebury Fund 1 NJ, LLC
P.O. Box 37695
Baltimore, MD 21297-3695

Refund: \$ 204.04
(6-01-55-000-010-029)

Premium: \$ 400.00
(T-15-00-000-106-000)

Redemption of Certificate #16-00021

Block 493 Lot 10
TWR as Custodian/Ebury Fund 1 NJ, LLC
PO Box 37695
Baltimore, MD 21297-3695

Refund: \$ 325.25
(6-01-55-000-010-029)

Premium: \$1,400.00
(T-15-00-000-106-000)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tax Collector be and hereby is authorized to refund overpayments for the reasons noted below:

Overpayment of Taxes due to 100% Vet deduction

Block 414 Lot 41
 Bank of America
 P.O. Box 961230-BAC 32173
 Fort Worth, TX 76161-9810

Refund: \$2,199.15
 (6-01-55-000-010-025)

Resolution No. 2016-371:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, at a meeting held November 29, 2016, that the resignation of John Hrebin as an Alternate No. 2 member of the Environmental Commission be and hereby is accepted, with regrets, effective immediately.

Resolution No. 2016-372:

WHEREAS, there exists a need to engage experts to provide General Litigation Services for Prerogative Writ Action for the Township of Cranford; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford advertised a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for engineering 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 respondent satisfies the criteria set forth in the RFQ; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer and the Director of Finance have 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, New Jersey, as follows:

1. **Schenck, Price, Smith and King, LLP**, 351 Sparta Avenue, Sparta, New Jersey be and hereby is awarded a contract for General Litigation Services for Prerogative Writ Action at a fee not to exceed \$10,000.00; and
2. The Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract with **Schenck, Price, Smith and King, LLP** and;
3. This contract is awarded pursuant to the “fair and open” process (N.J.S.A. 19: 44A-20.5 et seq.).

Recorded vote:

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

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

On motion of Commissioner Hannen, seconded by Commissioner Giblin and passed, the following resolution was adopted by **roll call vote**:

Resolution No. 2016--362:

RESOLUTION AWARDING CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR THE SYNTHETIC TURF PORTION OF THE CRANFORD ATHLETIC FACILITY FIELD RENOVATION PROJECT FUNDED BY A BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDED BY THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford desires to utilize the services of the following purchasing cooperative for the purchase of synthetic turf:

ESCNJ Co-op - New Jersey State

Approved Co-op # 65MCESCCPS

1660 Stelton Road

Piscataway, NJ 08854; and

WHEREAS, the cooperative has previously bid the synthetic turf surfacing at under the bid items AEPA/MRESC IFB #016; and

WHEREAS, the pricing for FieldTurf USA, Inc., 7445 Côte-de-Liesse Road Suite 200, Montreal Quebec H4T, through the KPN bid process is \$414,312.09 for said synthetic turf purchase; and

WHEREAS, Maser Consulting P.A. and other appropriate Township Officials have reviewed the documents and recommend award of contract for this project to FieldTurf USA, Inc.; 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 and 2016 Ordinance, Soccer and Union County Grants and DPW Other Expenses

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 Council of the Township of Cranford, Union County, New Jersey that the above referenced purchase is awarded thru the ESCNJ Co-op - New Jersey State to FieldTurf USA, Inc., 7445 Côte-de-Liesse Road Suite 200, Montreal Quebec H4T, with a total contract price of **\$414,312.09**; and

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

Recorded vote:

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

Nay: None

Abstained: Commissioner Mallon

Absent: None

On motion of Commissioner Giblin, seconded by Commissioner Mallon and passed, the following resolution was adopted by **roll call vote**:

Resolution No. 2016--373:

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the Union County Freeholders will approve the 2017 Union County Deer Management Program which would authorize the removal of deer from various County and municipal park properties in an attempt to bring the population densities down to levels that are more in balance with the ecosystems by qualified licensed hunters; and

WHEREAS, The Deer Management Program, in the past, occurs on Mondays throughout January and February, in these park properties including Lenape and Nomahegan Parks located in the Township of Cranford; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford has legitimate concerns about the safety of its residents in Lenape and Nomahegan Parks during the Deer Management Program due to the existence of playground equipment in the park in the vicinity of hunters who carry or discharge weapons; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford requests that if the Deer Management Program occurs, the parking lots and playground area of Lenape and Nomahegan Parks shall be closed during the specific days of the 2017 Deer Management Program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Cranford respectfully requests that if the Union County Freeholders approve the 2017 Deer Management Program in Lenape and Nomahegan Parks, it is requested that the County of Union provide signage at all entrances to the Lenape and Nomahegan Parks stating ACTIVE HUNTING FIREARMS IN USE WARNING TO USE CAUTION AND TO STAY ON TRAILS OR PATHS and close the parking lot and playground area on all the days of the Deer Management Program.

Recorded vote:

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

Nay: Commissioner Hannen

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.

George Galan, 513 Lexington Avenue, discussed a letter that was distributed to several homes requesting that residents share their concerns with traffic issues in the Township. Feels there has been a good response to the letter and asked the Township Committee what would be required to have these issues addressed or resolved. Feels speed bumps and rumble strips are viable solutions. Also commended the Township for the quality of work of paving done on Lexington Avenue, but the improvements have resulted in speeding. Shared various concerns expressed by residents with the Township Committee, such as obstructions at intersections, motorists disregarding stop signs, and the potential for additional crossing guards. Feels there are solutions that could be implemented on a temporary basis and requested information as to the next step in the process.

Mayor Kalnins suggested that any letters/information be provided to the Township Committee, which would be forwarded to the Police Department for review. Also feels a discussion could be held with Lieutenant Davenport of the Traffic Division.

Mr. Galan also stated that he has been monitoring the speed bumps located on Willow Grove Road in Westfield. Feels they are a successful traffic calming measure and could be an option for Cranford. Commended the Police Department for its efforts and thanked the Township Committee for its time and consideration.

Mayor Kalnins thanked Mr. Galan for providing the Township Committee with possible solutions and stated that the information he provided would be forwarded to Lieutenant Davenport for review. Also suggested participation in the Citizens Police Academy, as it provides residents with an opportunity to work with the Police Department directly, through classroom lectures and hands on demonstrations in many areas.

Deputy Mayor O'Connor discussed efforts made by the Police Department to resolve traffic issues. Feels that one of the many benefits offered by Cranford is education, and discussed various educational programs conducted by the Police Department.

Commissioner Hannen thanked Mr. Galan and other residents for attending this evening. Discussed the Township Committee's review of various committees for 2017 and the high level of volunteerism in Cranford. Feels a new volunteer committee should be considered to address traffic issues.

Barbara Krause, 20 Pittsfield Street, thanked the Township Committee for their service in 2016. Also thanked Commissioner Mallon for his service. Commented on the tree preservation ordinance and feels Cranford should put itself among “forward thinking” communities in this regard. Feels trees are one of the main reasons people move to Cranford. Mentioned that this ordinance is basically for the protection and enhancement of Cranford’s environment and would be used as a mechanism to monitor trees that are being removed.

Mrs. Krause also requested clarification of Resolution No. 2016-373 and asked when the deer hunt would be conducted.

Commissioner Giblin stated that the deer hunt would be conducted on Mondays in January and February.

Mrs. Krause discussed her attendance at a recent luncheon at which many were discussing an issue with the deer population. Feels a deer management program is necessary because she feels the deer population creates safety issues.

Mayor Kalnins thanked Mrs. Krause for her comments.

Tina Helmstetter, 70 Burnside Avenue, thanked the Township Committee for their time and consideration on the tree preservation ordinance. Discussed the number of years in which the ordinance was discussed. Also discussed its benefits and thanked the Township Committee for moving forward with the ordinance.

Mayor Kalnins stated that he recently returned to his hometown and noticed that many trees have been removed.

Jessica Orr, 7 Mitchell Place, thanked Commissioner Hannen and Commissioner Giblin for donating the pedestrian safety stanchion. Also thanked the Police Department and the Township Committee for efforts made with the implementation of recent pedestrian safety measures.

Mayor Kalnins referred to Commissioner Hannen’s comment regarding the creation of a new committee to address traffic safety issues, and encouraged residents to volunteer.

Anthony Durante, 100 Bloomingdale Avenue, thanked the Township Committee for their service and efforts regarding pedestrian safety. Also discussed the suspension of parking meter fees during the holiday season and asked the Township Committee to consider keeping the fees in place next year. Feels the fees collected at that time could be dedicated funding for downtown projects/initiatives.

John Nowakowski, 507 Lexington Avenue, discussed issues with traffic on Lexington Avenue, such as speeding and vehicle damage, and feels it is a safety issue for residents of the area. Also discussed poor lighting on the roadway. Feels a four-way stop should be considered at the corner of Denman Road and Lexington Avenue.

Mayor Kalnins assured Mr. Nowakowski that his request would be considered and PSE&G would be contacted to address the lighting issue.

Patricia Gallagher, 15 Alan Okell Place, discussed the intersection at Walnut Avenue and Chester Lang Place. Feels the intersection is dangerous and pedestrian safety measures should be considered.

Mayor Kalnins explained that Walnut Avenue is a Union County road and Union County would need to be contacted.

Ms. Gallagher also discussed issues with the corner of South Union Avenue and Lexington Avenue. Feels a flashing stop sign should be considered.

Mayor Kalnins discussed traffic data that is reviewed to determine if pedestrian safety measures are required and if necessary, the type that should be installed.

Ms. Gallagher also asked who coordinates the placement of speed signs on roadways. Feels there is no point in having the signs if they are not used.

Deputy Mayor O’Connor explained that the signs are not used continuously because complacency can occur.

Commissioner Mallon also explained that the speed signs run on battery power and need to be used on a schedule.

Ms. Gallagher discussed the potential for obtaining solar powered speed signs.

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

PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS-None

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

- Thanked residents for attending the meeting this evening and for expressing their thoughts and ideas.

Commissioner Patrick Giblin

- Thanked residents for attending the meeting this evening;
- Stated that he hopes everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. Discussed various ways residents have come together over the past couple of weeks and feels this is an example of why Cranford is a special community.

Commissioner John V. Mallon

- Thanked residents for attending the meeting this evening and for their suggestions;
- Discussed a video that was broadcasted on TV35 and posted to the Police Department's Facebook page regarding pedestrian safety and encouraged residents to view the video.

Deputy Mayor Mary O'Connor

- Thanked those who supported Shop Small Saturday. Also discussed the holiday open house that the DMC would be hosting and encouraged residents to support local businesses;
- Announced that the Annual Holiday Decorating Contest would be held in the near future and informed residents that details are available on the Township's website;
- Announced that the Fire Department is asking residents to check that smoke detectors are working properly as there have been a few minor house fires in the past couple of weeks;
- Discussed the "No Shave November" fundraiser, in which members of the Police Department participated. Announced that approximately \$5,000 was raised for cancer awareness and men's health issues. Provided information for those interested in donating;
- Thanked residents for attending the meeting this evening. Feels Cranford is a unique community because of its residents.

Mayor Andis Kalnins

- Thanked Brownie Troop No. 40252 for leading the flag salute this evening;
- Discussed the resignation of Planning and Zoning Director Robert Hudak. Thanked him for his years of service to the Township and wished him well in his future endeavors;
- Thanked residents for sharing their ideas this evening.

On motion of Commissioner Hannen, seconded by Deputy Mayor O'Connor and passed, the Township Committee returned to Conference Meeting at 9:01 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Rowley, RMC
Township Clerk

Date: November 29, 2016