

The Minutes of the **Official Meeting** of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey on **May 23, 2017** 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 Thomas H. Hannen, Jr.
Deputy Mayor Patrick F. Giblin
Commissioner Ann Dooley
Commissioner Andis Kalnins
Commissioner Mary O’Connor

ABSENT: None

INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE

The invocation was led by Mayor Hannen, followed by the flag salute.

MINUTE APPROVAL

On motion of Commissioner O’Connor, seconded by Deputy Mayor Giblin and passed, the minutes of the Workshop Meeting of May 8, 2017 and Conference and Official Meetings of May 9, 2017 were approved by the indicated vote of the Township Committee:

Recorded vote:

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

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

PAYMENT OF BILLS

On motion of Commissioner Kalnins, seconded by Commissioner Dooley and passed, the Bill Lists dated May 23, 2017 totaling \$985,157.04, was approved for payment by indicated vote of the Township Committee and is on file in the Office of the Township Clerk:

Recorded vote:

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

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Preeclampsia

WHEREAS, Preeclampsia, including HELLP syndrome and eclampsia, is a dangerous condition of pregnancy that can, in its severest form, lead to maternal and/or infant mortality or premature birth with significant health risks for the mother and baby; and

WHEREAS, as many as 320,000 cases of preeclampsia are diagnosed in America every year with approximately 25% resulting in severe, life-threatening consequences to a pregnant woman and her baby; and

WHEREAS, public education as to the signs and symptoms of preeclampsia, HELLP syndrome and eclampsia can help women recognize the condition and seek appropriate medical care; and

WHEREAS, prenatal education should include recognition of those signs and symptoms (spikes in maternal blood pressure, sudden swelling of the face and hands, severe upper abdominal pain, blurred vision, persistent headaches, breathlessness); and

WHEREAS, many citizens of Cranford, NJ have joined with the Preeclampsia Foundation to raise public awareness in order to minimize maternal and infant illness and death due to preeclampsia.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford proclaim May, 2017 as **PREECLAMPSIA AWARENESS MONTH** in the Township of Cranford. By this action, let it be known that we support the Preeclampsia Foundation’s efforts to reduce maternal and infant illness and mortality due to the preeclampsia and related hypertensive disorders of pregnancy.

EMS Week

WHEREAS, emergency medical services is a vital public service; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, emergency medical services has grown to fill a gap by providing important, out of hospital care, including preventative medicine, follow-up care and access to telemedicine; and

WHEREAS, the emergency medical services system consists of first responders, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, emergency medical dispatchers, firefighters, police officers, educators, administrators, pre-hospital nurses, emergency nurses, emergency physicians, trained members of the public and other out of hospital medical care providers; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical services providers by designating Emergency Medical Services Week;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Thomas H. Hannen, Jr., in recognition of this event do hereby proclaim the week of May 21-27, 2017 as **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK** with the theme, EMS Strong: Always in Service, I encourage the community to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities.

National Gun Violence Awareness Day

WHEREAS, every day 91 Americans are killed by gun violence and hundreds more are injured; and

WHEREAS, Americans are 25 times more likely to be murdered with guns than people in other developed countries; and

WHEREAS, on January 29, 2013 Hadiya Pendleton, a teenager who marched in President Obama's second inaugural parade, was tragically shot and killed at a park near her school in Chicago just a few weeks later; and

WHEREAS, to commemorate her life, Hadiya's friends inspired her classmates to wear orange because it symbolizes human life and hunters wear orange to announce themselves to other hunters when out in the woods; and

WHEREAS, to honor Hadiya and all Americans whose lives are cut short by gun accidents and/or violence and those who are survivors that were injured, June 2, 2017 was designated the second annual National Gun Violence Awareness Day; and

WHEREAS, support for the Second Amendment rights of law abiding citizens goes hand-in-hand with keeping firearms out of the wrong hands, protecting public safety and encouraging responsible gun ownership to help keep our children safe;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford proclaim June 2, 2017 as National Gun Violence Awareness Day in the Township of Cranford.

Temple Beth-El Mekor Chayim 100th Anniversary

WHEREAS, Temple Beth-El Mekor Chayim is celebrating its 100th Anniversary with a concert and the dedication of a Community Wall; and

WHEREAS, the Synagogue was founded in 1917 and in 1999 Temple Beth-El of Cranford joined with Temple Mekor Chayim of Linden and became Temple Beth-El Mekor Chayim. It is also a member of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and are the recipient of several national awards for excellence; and

WHEREAS, the key to the synagogue is its educational programming which includes a nursery school program, an award winning religious school and a very active adult education program along with an active senior citizen group and a nationally affiliated youth group; and

WHEREAS, members also volunteer on a regular basis at the Union County Food Pantry and children from its religious school take part in senior citizen programs; and

WHEREAS, Temple Beth-El Mekor Chayim is an active member of the Cranford and Union County communities and is also a member of the Cranford Clergy Council, having hosted several of their program and take part in many community service events including the local CROP Walk and MS Walk;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford congratulate Temple Beth-El Mekor Chayim on its 100th Anniversary and extends its best wishes for many continued years of excellent service to the community.

Police Department Announcements

2017 POLICE DEPARTMENT AWARDS CEREMONY

FIVE MINUTE RECESS

INFORMAL MEETING

Mayor Hannen opened the informal meeting and asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing no comments, Mayor Hannen closed the informal meeting.

ORDINANCES – Final Reading and Public Hearing

Ordinance No. 2017-04:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2017-04 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, CHAPTER 136 LAND DEVELOPMENT"

Said ordinance having been advertised and posted in accordance with law, Commissioner Dooley opened the public hearing. Hearing no comments, Commissioner Dooley closed the public hearing. On motion of

Commissioner Dooley seconded by Commissioner Kalnins and passed, said ordinance was adopted by indicated vote of the Township Committee:

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Hannen, Deputy Mayor Giblin, Commissioners Dooley and Kalnins

Nay: Commissioner O'Connor

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Ordinance No. 2017-05:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2017-05 entitled, "BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF NEW ADDITIONAL OR REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY, NEW COMMUNICATION AND SIGNAL SYSTEMS EQUIPMENT, NEW INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT AND NEW AUTOMOTIVE VEHICLES, INCLUDING ORIGINAL APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT, IN, BY AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$3,988,500 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO APPROPRIATE VARIOUS GRANTS, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS"

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

Recorded vote:

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

Nay: Commissioner Kalnins

Abstained: None

Absent: None

ORDINANCES – Introduction

Ordinance No. 2017-07:

The Township Clerk read by title only Ordinance No. 2017-07 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, CHAPTER 98 DOGS AND OTHER ANIMALS"

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

Recorded vote:

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

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Final Reading and Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 2017-07 to be held June 27, 2017.

RESOLUTIONS – By Consent Agenda

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

Resolution No. 2017-203:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford at a meeting held May 23, 2017 that Madeline Colandro be and hereby is designated as Scribe for the Cranford Planning Board and Cranford Board of Adjustment effective immediately; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Committee be and hereby authorizes an annual stipend in the amount \$4,000 per board in connection with said designation.

Resolution No. 2017-204:

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY, DESIGNATING A \$9,500,000 BOND ANTICIPATION NOTE, DATED MAY 19, 2017, PAYABLE MAY 18, 2018, 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 \$9,500,000 Bond Anticipation Note, dated May 19, 2017, payable May 18, 2018 (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:

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

SECTION 2. 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 2017.

SECTION 3. 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 2017, viz:

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Dated - Due</u>
\$9,700,000 BAN	1/27/17 – 1/26/18
434,120 BAN	5/18/17 – 5/18/18

SECTION 4. 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.

SECTION 5. 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 2017 dated as of the date of delivery of the Note.

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

Resolution No. 2017-205:
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF STATUTORY BILLS THROUGH ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFERS

WHEREAS, it is necessary to provide authorization to pay statutory bills through electronic fund transfers in between the Township of Cranford's scheduled meetings to comply with payment deadlines.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, in the County of Union, that the Chief Financial Officer, Lavona Patterson, be and is hereby authorized to pay the following statutory bills through electronic fund transfers between the Borough's scheduled meetings in order to comply with deadlines:

- State of New Jersey Pension and Health Benefits Payments
- Debt Service Payments
- Union County Tax Payments
- Payroll

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a summary of each month's manual disbursements will be provided to Mayor and Council.

Resolution No. 2017-206:
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 approved cooperative pricing agreements; and
WHEREAS, Somerset County Co-op # CC0045-14 has been awarded to National Fuel Oil, Inc., 175 Orange Street, Newark, NJ 07103; and
WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford hereby authorizes the purchase of goods and/or services from National Fuel Oil, Inc.as outlined under the aforementioned NJ State Contract 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 National Fuel Oil, Inc. is an approved vendor who has been awarded by and has an existing contract with the State of New Jersey.

Resolution No. 2017-207:
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER FOR ADDITIONAL LETTERING FOR THE LINCOLN AVENUE BASKETBALL COURT RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
WHEREAS, All Surface Asphalt Paving, Inc., 528 Hardenburg Avenue, Point Pleasant, NJ 08742 was previously awarded a construction contract for the Lincoln Avenue Basketball Court Reconstruction Project with a total project price of \$97,929.10; and
WHEREAS, the project is currently on-going and it is understood that the Township of Cranford would like to add additional lettering to the Basketball Court, as shown in the Court Rendering (Option B) prepared by Maser Consulting last revised April 17, 2017;
WHEREAS, the Township Engineer has reviewed the Change Order prepared by All Surface Asphalt Paving, Inc. dated May 2, 2017 in the amount of \$7,750.00;
WHEREAS, the following summarizes the allocation of the \$7,750.00 Change Order:

- Utilize the available funding from Bond Ordinance 2016-12;

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that sufficient funds are available within the current and/or previously adopted budget for said purpose.
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Cranford, Union County, New Jersey that the above referenced Change Order for the Lincoln Avenue Basketball Court

Reconstruction Project is awarded to All Surface Asphalt Paving, Inc., 528 Hardenburg Avenue, Point Pleasant, NJ 08742 in the amount of \$7,750.00 (7.91% of the original contract amount of \$97,929.10).

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

Resolution No. 2017-208:

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford required an expert to provide engineering services to the Township of Cranford; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford advertised a Request for Proposals (RFP) 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 Township Committee of the Township of Cranford approved Resolution No. 2017-27 designating **Maser Consulting** as an expert to be engaged to provide engineering services.

WHEREAS, at a meeting held March 13, 2017, the Township Committee adopted Resolution No. 2017-155, authorizing an award of contract to Maser Consulting for the aforementioned service at a fee not to exceed \$30,000.00; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend said contract for an additional amount not to exceed \$60,000.00; 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 **Maser Consulting, 400 Valley Road, Suite 304, Mount Arlington, New Jersey 07856** for engineering services via issuance of purchase orders in an additional amount not to exceed \$60,000.00.

Resolution No. 2017-209:

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 general litigation services for prerogative writ action 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, at a meeting held November 29, 2016, the Township Committee adopted Resolution No. 2016-372, authorizing an award of contract to Schenck, Price, Smith and King, LLP for the aforementioned service at a fee not to exceed \$10,000.00; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend said contract for an additional amount not to exceed \$10,000.00; 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 **Schenck, Price, Smith and King, LLP, 351 Sparta Avenue, Sparta, New Jersey** for general litigation services for prerogative writ action via issuance of purchase orders in an additional amount not to exceed \$10,000.00.

Resolution No. 2017-210:

WHEREAS, there were 604 motor vehicle fatalities in New Jersey in 2016; and

WHEREAS, a large percentage of the motor vehicle occupants killed in traffic crashes were not wearing a seat belt; and

WHEREAS, use of a seat belt remains the most effective way to avoid death or serious injury in a motor vehicle crash; and

WHEREAS, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that 135,000 lives were saved by safety belt usage nationally between 1975-2000; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey will participate in the nationwide *Click It or Ticket* seat belt mobilization from May 22 – June 4, 2017 in an effort to raise awareness and increase seat belt usage through a combination of high visibility enforcement and public education; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Highway Traffic Safety has set a goal of increasing the seat belt usage rate in the state from the current level of 93% to 95%; and

WHEREAS, a further increase in seat belt usage in New Jersey will save lives on our roadways;

THEREFORE, BE IS RESOLVED that the Township of Cranford declares its support for the *Click It or Ticket* seat belt mobilization both locally and nationally from May 22 – June 4, 2017 and pledges to increase awareness of the mobilization and the benefits of seat belt use.

Resolution No. 2017-211:

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 Winterizing and Startup of the Centennial Avenue and Orange Avenue Pools for 2017-2018 season.

Resolution No. 2017-212:

Moved to roll call vote (see below)

Resolution No. 2017-213:**Moved to roll call vote (see below)****Resolution No. 2017-214:****BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford on the 23rd day of May 2017 that the Tax Collector be and hereby is authorized to expunge the following 2017 real estate taxes for reasons noted:**100% Disabled Veteran-As of May 1, 2017**

Block 496 Lot 1 – 607 High Street

Expunged: \$2,322.26

Andrew & Elizabeth Burns

607 High Street

Cranford, N.J. 07016

Resolution No. 2017-215:**WHEREAS**, Cranford Township has created and established as a municipal public utility the Swim Pool Utility (the “Utility”); and**WHEREAS**, the Director of Swim Pool Utility (the “Director”) is responsible to the Township Committee, through the Township Administrator, for the operation and administration of the Utility; and**WHEREAS**, the Director is responsible for coordinating financial activities of the Utility, and such other matters as may be assigned from time to time; and**WHEREAS**, Chapter 179, Article I, of the Township of Cranford Municipal Code sets forth guidelines for the use and operation of the Township of Cranford swimming pool, as may be promulgated by the Township Committee by resolution; and**WHEREAS**, the Director has recommended to the Township Committee that it would be advisable to have a resident membership rate for certain senior citizen members who have been residents of the Township for decades, and have been long time members of the Utility, and who have recently moved out of the Township but retain strong ties to the Township and its community;**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford authorizes the Director to offer Resident rates for the 2017 summer season to individuals who: i.) have been Utility members for five consecutive years immediately preceding the 2017 summer season; ii) are seniors 65 years of age or older; and iii.) who have resided in the Township of Cranford for 20 years or more immediately preceding the 2017 summer season.**Resolution No. 2017-215A:****BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford hereby authorizes the Mayor to execute an Operating Agreement between Hyatt Hills Golf Course Commission and Revitalizing Auto Communities Environmental Response Trust and Racer Properties LLC (RACER), in connection with the operation of the Hyatt Hills Golf Course.**Resolution No. 2017-215B:****SETTLEMENT OF THE 2011, 2012 AND 2013 TAX APPEALS ARE AUTHORIZED AND SETTLED, ENTITLED, EXCEL-CARE INC. V. CRANFORD TOWNSHIP, DOCKET NOS.: 006359-2011, 008336-2012 AND 003363-2013, BLOCK 292, LOT 3.01, COMMONLY KNOWN AS 205 BIRCHWOOD AVENUE.****WHEREAS**, an appeal of the real property tax assessment for tax years 2011, 2012 and 2013, Block 292, Lot 3.01 has been filed by the taxpayer, Excel-Care Inc.; and**WHEREAS**, the Township of Cranford desires to settle the tax appeal for the tax years 2011, 2012 and 2013, and the proposed settlement agreement has been reviewed and recommended by the Township Special Tax Counsel and Tax Assessor; and**WHEREAS**, settlement of said matter as more fully set forth below is in the best interests of the Township of Cranford;**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that the tax appeal settlement for the property and tax years herein are hereby authorized as follows:

1. Settlement of the 2011, 2012 and 2013 tax appeals are hereby authorized as follows:

205 Birchwood Avenue**Block 292****Lot 3.01****Year 2011**

	<u>Original Assessment</u>	<u>County Board Judgment</u>	<u>Requested Tax Court Judgment</u>
Land	\$ 3,348,000	N/A	WITHDRAWN
Improvements	\$ 2,352,000		
Total	\$ 5,700,000		

Year 2012

	<u>Original Assessment</u>	<u>County Board Judgment</u>	<u>Requested Tax Court Judgment</u>
Land	\$ 3,348,000	N/A	\$ 3,348,000
Improvements	\$ 2,352,000		\$ 1,462,000
Total	\$ 5,700,000		\$ 4,810,000

Year 2013

	<u>Original Assessment</u>	<u>County Board Judgment</u>	<u>Requested Tax Court Judgment</u>
Land	\$ 3,348,000	N/A	\$ 3,348,000
Improvements	\$ 2,352,000		\$ 1,462,000
Total	\$ 5,700,000		\$ 4,810,000

2. The Township Special Tax Counsel and Tax Assessor are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver such agreements, pleadings stipulations or other documentation as is reasonably necessary and/or appropriate to memorialize the settlement authorized herein;

Resolution No. 2017-215C:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SETTLEMENT OF THE 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 AND 2017 TAX APPEALS ENTITLED, H-CRANFORD CREDIT LTD PARTNERSHIP/BANK OF AMERICA V. CRANFORD TOWNSHIP, DOCKET NOS.: 009324-2013, 006145-2014, 001614-2015, 003261-2016 AND 006391-2017, BLOCK 541, LOT 2, UNIT C02, C03 AND C04 COMMONLY KNOWN AS 750 WALNUT AVENUE

WHEREAS, an appeal of the real property tax assessment for tax years 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017, Block 541, Lot 2, Unit C02, C03 and C04 has been filed by the taxpayer, H-Cranford Credit LTD Partnership/Bank of America; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford desires to settle the tax appeal for the tax years 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017, and the proposed settlement agreement has been reviewed and recommended by the Township Special Tax Counsel and Tax Assessor; and

WHEREAS, settlement of said matter as more fully set forth below is in the best interests of the Township of Cranford;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that the tax appeal settlement for the property and tax years herein are hereby authorized as follows:

2. Settlement of the 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 tax appeals are hereby authorized as follows:

**750 Walnut Avenue
Block 541
Lot 2
Unit C02**

Year 2013

	<u>Original Assessment</u>	<u>County Board Judgment</u>	<u>Requested Tax Court Judgment</u>
Land	\$ 2,933,400	N/A	WITHDRAW
Improvements	\$ 1,120,400		
Total	\$ 4,053,800		

Year 2014

	<u>Original Assessment</u>	<u>County Board Judgment</u>	<u>Requested Tax Court Judgment</u>
Land	\$ 2,933,400	N/A	WITHDRAW
Improvements	\$ 1,120,400		
Total	\$ 4,053,800		

Year 2015

	<u>Original Assessment</u>	<u>County Board Judgment</u>	<u>Requested Tax Court Judgment</u>
Land	\$ 2,933,400	N/A	WITHDRAW
Improvements	\$ 1,120,400		
Total	\$ 4,053,800		

Year 2016

	<u>Original Assessment</u>	<u>County Board Judgment</u>	<u>Requested Tax Court Judgment</u>
Land	\$ 2,933,400	N/A	\$ 2,933,400
Improvements	\$ 1,120,400		\$ 952,500
Total	\$ 4,053,800		\$ 3,885,900

Year 2017

	<u>Original Assessment</u>	<u>County Board Judgment</u>	<u>Requested Tax Court Judgment</u>
Land	\$ 2,933,400	N/A	\$ 2,933,400
Improvements	\$ 1,120,400		\$ 777,100
Total	\$ 4,053,800		\$ 3,710,500

**750 Walnut Avenue
Block 541
Lot 2
Unit C03**

Year 2013

	<u>Original Assessment</u>	<u>County Board Judgment</u>	<u>Requested Tax Court Judgment</u>
Land	\$ 4,587,800	N/A	WITHDRAW
Improvements	\$ 2,412,200		
Total	\$ 7,000,000		

Year 2014

	<u>Original Assessment</u>	<u>County Board Judgment</u>	<u>Requested Tax Court Judgment</u>
Land	\$ 4,587,800	N/A	WITHDRAW
Improvements	\$ 2,412,200		
Total	\$ 7,000,000		

Year 2015

	<u>Original Assessment</u>	<u>County Board Judgment</u>	<u>Requested Tax Court Judgment</u>
Land	\$ 4,587,800	N/A	WITHDRAW
Improvements	\$ 2,412,200		
Total	\$ 7,000,000		

Year 2016

	<u>Original Assessment</u>	<u>County Board Judgment</u>	<u>Requested Tax Court Judgment</u>
Land	\$ 4,587,800	N/A	\$ 4,587,800
Improvements	\$ 2,412,200		\$ 1,551,300
Total	\$ 7,000,000		\$ 6,139,100

Year 2017

	<u>Original Assessment</u>	<u>County Board Judgment</u>	<u>Requested Tax Court Judgment</u>
Land	\$ 4,587,800	N/A	\$ 4,587,800
Improvements	\$ 2,412,200		\$ 1,274,200
Total	\$ 7,000,000		\$ 5,862,000

750 Walnut Avenue
Block 541
Lot 2
Unit C04

Year 2013

	<u>Original Assessment</u>	<u>County Board Judgment</u>	<u>Requested Tax Court Judgment</u>
Land	\$ 426,100	N/A	WITHDRAW
Improvements	\$ 322,900		
Total	\$ 749,000		

Year 2014

	<u>Original Assessment</u>	<u>County Board Judgment</u>	<u>Requested Tax Court Judgment</u>
Land	\$ 426,100	N/A	WITHDRAW
Improvements	\$ 322,900		
Total	\$ 749,000		

Year 2015

	<u>Original Assessment</u>	<u>County Board Judgment</u>	<u>Requested Tax Court Judgment</u>
Land	\$ 426,100	N/A	WITHDRAW
Improvements	\$ 322,900		
Total	\$ 749,000		

Year 2016

	<u>Original Assessment</u>	<u>County Board Judgment</u>	<u>Requested Tax Court Judgment</u>
Land	\$ 426,100	N/A	\$ 426,100
Improvements	\$ 322,900		\$ 251,900
Total	\$ 749,000		\$ 678,000

Year 2017

	<u>Original Assessment</u>	<u>County Board Judgment</u>	<u>Requested Tax Court Judgment</u>
Land	\$ 426,100	N/A	\$ 426,100
Improvements	\$ 322,900		\$ 221,300
Total	\$ 749,000		\$ 647,400

2. The Township Special Tax Counsel and Tax Assessor are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver such agreements, pleadings stipulations or other documentation as is reasonably necessary and/or appropriate to memorialize the settlement authorized herein

Recorded vote:

Aye: Mayor Hannen, Deputy Mayor Giblin, Commissioners Dooley, Kalnins and O'Connor
Nay: None
Abstained: None
Absent: None

RESOLUTIONS – By Roll Call Vote

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

Resolution No. 2017—212:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that the salaries for the following Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT's) be and hereby are set at \$17.00 per hour effective immediately:
Cassandra Kinney
Yassmin Yaghooti

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that the salaries for the following Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT's) be and hereby are set at \$18.00 per hour effective immediately:

Brad Bisset
Eric Taylor

Recorded vote:

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

Nay: None

Abstained: Commissioner Dooley

Absent: None

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

Resolution No. 2017—213:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford on the 23rd day of May 2017 that the Tax Collector has been authorized to refund tax and/or sewer overpayments:

TAX OVERPAYMENT

Block 296 Lot 9 – 284 Bloomingdale Ave.
Republic Title Agency
226 Chestnut Street
P.O. Box 149
Roselle Park, NJ 07204

Refund: \$ 66.45
(7-01-55-000-010-025)

Block 458 Lot 24 – 3 Chester Lang Place
Milton S. & Ernestine P. Fox
3 Chester Lang Pl.
Cranford, NJ 07016

Refund: \$ 727.83
(7-01-55-000-010-025)

SEWER OVERPAYMENT

Block 599 Lot 8-Acnt# 7707-0 – 14 Mc Clellan St.
Errol & Lisa Petgrave
14 Mc Clellan Street
Cranford, NJ 07016

Refund: \$ 140.00
(7-01-55-000-010-026)

Recorded vote:

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

Nay: None

Abstained: Commissioner Dooley

Absent: None

On motion of Deputy Mayor Giblin, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor and passed, the following resolution was adopted by **roll call vote**:

Resolution No. 2017—216:

THEREFORE, BE IS RESOLVED that the Township of Cranford authorizes an increase in the stipend for the Fire Official from 1st Grade base salary \$1,255.38 to 2nd Grade base salary \$1,569.23 per Article 25 Section 4.a of the Firefighters Mutual Benevolent Association (FMBA) Local 37 contract.

Recorded vote:

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

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Recused: Mayor Hannen

On motion of Deputy Mayor Giblin, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor and passed, the following resolution was adopted by **roll call vote**:

Resolution No. 2017—217:

BE IS RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford that Timothy Meyer be and hereby is appointed as Fire Mechanic within the Cranford Fire Department effective January 25 2017; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Committee authorizes 1st Level Mechanic Stipend in the amount of \$1,255.38 in connection with said appointment as per Article 26 Section 4.b of the FMBA Local 37 Contract.

Recorded vote:

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

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Recused: Mayor Hannen

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Hannen 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 the Police Department awards presented earlier this evening and stated that he was pleased that these officers were recognized. Also commended the Fire Department for their efforts. Discussed police officers and firemen who lost their lives on 9/11. Announced that Armed Forces Day and Memorial Day are in the month of May and feels residents should always remember those who served our country and those who were lost during war. Sang a song in support of the military. Urged the Township Committee to request that legislators reactivate Muhlenberg Hospital and other hospitals in the area due to their proximity to Ground Zero.

Frank Krause, 20 Pittsfield Street, discussed safety issues he believes exists along Springfield Avenue and feels the Township Committee should consider investigating a reduction in the speed limit from 35 mph to 25 mph.

Dr. Krause also discussed the role of the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment and the role of the Zoning Officer. Feels the Planning Board's operations are acceptable because the Mayor and a Commissioner are members.

Dr. Krause discussed the role of the Zoning Board of Adjustment and the role and authority of the Zoning Officer. Stated that all major decisions concerning variances are made by the Zoning Board of Adjustment rather than the Zoning Officer. Also discussed the Zoning Board of Adjustment's decisions with respect to specific applications. Feels the Zoning Board of Adjustment does not have the right to plan and feels certain decisions were made because of input of residents. Discussed the application submitted by 7-Eleven and stated that residents opposed to this application were upset with the cost they incurred to oppose the application.

Mayor Hannen explained that the Township Committee is not permitted to comment due to pending legal matters.

Dr. Krause feels the Township Committee has the ability to appeal decisions of the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Also feels notice to residents of applications to be heard by the Zoning Board of Adjustment needs to improve.

Commissioner Dooley discussed the appointment of a new Zoning Officer and efforts to reorganize the Office of Planning and Zoning. Feels improvements will occur in this area. Also discussed noticing requirements, and although discussion has been held concerning potential changes to noticing requirements, there is little that can be done because they are set by statute. Also discussed the potential for having more applications heard by the Planning Board, in an effort to remove some of the burden from the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Informed Dr. Krause that this has been considered but requires a legal analysis by attorneys to determine those applications that can be heard by the Planning Board

Dr. Krause asked Commissioner Dooley to clarify the definition of variance.

Commissioner Dooley explained that she cannot comment on a particular application but explained that a use variance must be heard by the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

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

PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS

Township Clerk Tara Rowley

- Reminded residents that the Primary Election is scheduled for June 6, 2017 and that polls are open from 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM. Provided contact information for those with questions.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS/COMMENTS

Commissioner Mary O'Connor

- Congratulated Temple Beth-El Mekeor Chayim on its 100th Anniversary;
- Thanked Moms Demand Action for its efforts in promoting national gun violence awareness;
- Discussed EMS Week and extended her appreciation to all first responders;
- Thanked the Preeclampsia Foundation for their efforts and discussed the loss of her daughter to complications from eclampsia. Feels their work is extremely important and. Discussed the need for awareness and education concerning this disease;
- Congratulated the police officers recognized this evening. Feels Cranford is fortunate to have these officers representing the Township and thanked the entire Police Department for its professional service to Cranford;
- Announced that the Mayors Council on the Rahway River Watershed would be meeting tomorrow night at the Cranford Municipal Building to discuss the status of the regional flood mitigation project;
- Discussed the Cranford Family Weekend and thanked members of the Municipal Alliance, the Hanson Park Conservancy, Police Department, Cranford Canoe Club and everyone involved. Also discussed the Cranford Family Weekend Barbeque and feels this event would not be a success without the support of the Police Department, Fire Department, Department of Public Works and Recreation and Parks Department. Thanked Mayor Hannen, Deputy Mayor Giblin and Commissioner Dooley for supporting the event. Also extended a special thanks to Commissioner Kalnins for volunteering for the event;
- Discussed Memorial Day and the scheduled plan of events.

Commissioner Andis Kalnins

- Congratulated the police officers that were recognized this evening and thanked the entire Police Department and the Fire Department for keeping the community safe;
- Discussed the proclamation in recognition of National Gun Violence Day. Feels Moms Demand Action is a great organization that takes a common sense approach toward gun control and applauded them for their efforts;
- Discussed the Preeclampsia Walk that took place last weekend. Stated that many lives are touched by this disease and discussed the symptoms related to this condition;
- Discussed the Memorial Day Parade and provided information for those interested in attending events planned for the weekend. Encouraged residents to support veterans and to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice;
- Discussed the events held during Cranford Family Weekend;
- Discussed the Annual Service Academy Fair to be hosted by Senator Leonard Lance and provided information for those interested in attending;
- Stated that he has received many inquiries regarding the application submitted for 750 Walnut Avenue and explained that the applicant is requesting that the Township consider rezoning the property.

Commissioner Ann Dooley

- Congratulated the police officers recognized this evening;
- Discussed the capital budget as respects road repaving and the replacement of DPW equipment. Discussed the road resurfacing program and explained that she is not convinced that the five-year road re-pavement plan developed in 2014/2015 is appropriate for Cranford's current needs, and feels these needs were exasperated by the challenging years of recession and the financial impact it had on the Township. Explained that the plan resulted in a thirty (30%) percent reduction in funding for road resurfacing for 2017 and 2018, and feels this needs to be readdressed during the 2018 budget process. Explained that some additional funding was identified during the 2017 budget process for roadwork and the replacement of DPW equipment, and discussed the age of current DPW equipment. Also explained that the DPW equipment selected for replacement is used for the repair and preservation of roads. Stated that the increase over last year's capital budget is \$300,000, which calculates to less than a \$14 increase per residence. Also assured residents that the selection of roadways for paving would be based on engineering, construction and maintenance assessments. Feels the 2018 budget should be more strategic and less ad hoc, with the goal of improving the sequence and efficiency of work. Thanked everyone who voted in favor of the capital budget.

Deputy Mayor Patrick Giblin

- Discussed the Memorial Day Parade and the number of Cranford residents lost in various wars. Provided information for those interested in attending Memorial Day events;
- Discussed the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) meeting to be broadcasted on TV35 and encouraged residents to watch the meeting when it is aired. Explained that OEM meetings are held to prepare Cranford for any and all emergencies it might face. Mentioned that OEM is seeking volunteers with experience and provided contact information for those interested;
- Discussed various events being hosted by the Friends of the Public Library and provided contact information for those interested in participating;

- Thanked Commissioner O'Connor, the Municipal Alliance, the Police Department and the Fire Department for hosting a successful Cranford Family Weekend;
- Discussed the "public piano" program that was approved by the Township Committee. Thanked the family that donated a piano and the municipal employees involved. Mentioned that Cranford High School students would be painting the piano for public use at Eastman Plaza;
- Announced that the Jaycees Firecracker Four-Miler is open for registration and provided information for those interested in participating;
- Thanked Police Chief Wozniak and the entire Police Department for keeping the community safe. Also thanked the police officers that were recognized earlier this evening;
- Discussed the proclamation that was presented in recognition of National Gun Violence Day and discussed how a family he knows was directly affected by gun violence. Encouraged residents to learn more about Moms Demand Action.

Mayor Thomas H. Hannen, Jr.

- Thanked the Police Department for their efforts;
- Discussed the Memorial Day Parade and thanked everyone involved in organizing the festivities;
- Thanked Moms Demand Action for attending the meeting this evening and for accepting the proclamation recognizing National Gun Violence Day;
- Discussed the induction of Cranford High School students to the National Honor Society, and feels there is a very promising group of young men and women that will make Cranford proud. `

On motion of Commissioner Kalnins, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor and passed, the Township Committee adjourned at 9:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 23, 2017

Tara Rowley, RMC
Township Clerk