

The following notice appeared on the Township Committee's January 12, 2021 Workshop Agenda

**TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD
SUNSHINE NOTICE
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
January 12, 2021**

Due to the ongoing public health emergency, and the Governor's Executive Orders related to the same, the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford will conduct the January 12th Workshop Meeting remotely and by electronic means.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 (the "Open Public Meetings Act") and consistent with the Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services guidelines, the Township Committee Meeting will be open to the public by electronic means. Residents can view the meetings on TV-35, YouTube CranfordTV35 and via livestream on [TV-35's Facebook Page](#).

Members of the public who wish to participate in the virtual meeting for purposes of making a public comment or to participate in any scheduled public hearing can access the videoconference at <https://meet.google.com/rkv-qdpj-nty>, or by telephone at 213-634-2478, with the access code: 367524470#

Members of the public may submit written comments in advance of a meeting, which will be read during the public portion of the meeting. Written public comments submitted prior to the meeting must identify the name and address of the commenter. No anonymous comments will be accepted. Written comments may be submitted via e-mail with the subject line "Public Comment-Township of Cranford Township Committee- Meeting Date of ____" to the Clerk of the Township Committee, Patricia Donahue at clerk@cranfordnj.org or by mail addressed to: Patricia Donahue, Municipal Clerk, Township of Cranford, 8 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, NJ 07016. E-mailed comments must be received at least eight (8) hours prior to the meeting. Mailed comments must be received by 12:00 p.m. the day before the meeting.

The Minutes of the Workshop Meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey on **January 12, 2021** at **6:39 p.m.** remotely and by electronic means.

THIS MEETING IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE “OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT” AS ADEQUATE NOTICE OF THIS MEETING HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY E-MAILING THE ANNUAL SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS TO THE WESTFIELD LEADER, THE UNION COUNTY LOCAL SOURCE, THE STAR LEDGER, AND TAP INTO CRANFORD, BY POSTING SUCH ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE ON A BULLETIN BOARD IN THE TOWN HALL RESERVED FOR SUCH ANNOUNCEMENTS AND THE FILING OF SAID NOTICE WITH THE TOWNSHIP CLERK OF CRANFORD. FORMAL ACTION MAY BE TAKEN AT THIS MEETING.

Present: Mayor Kathleen Miller Prunty
Deputy Mayor Brian Andrews
Commissioner Jason Gareis
Commissioner Thomas H. Hannen, Jr.
Commissioner Mary O’Connor

Absent: None

Township Attorney Ryan Cooper, Administrator Jamie Cryan and Township Clerk Patricia Donahue were present.

Public Comments

Mayor Miller Prunty opened the public comment portion of the meeting and asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing no comments, Mayor Miller Prunty closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

Electric Car Charging Station Use, Rules and Fees

Mayor Miller Prunty stated that she would seek feedback from both the Traffic unit in the Police Department and the Parking Committee regarding use, rules and fees associated with the Electric Car Charging Station installation. Commissioner O’Connor also suggested Police Department Traffic unit review of the Electric Car Charging Station matter. Discussion ensued.

Cranford 86 – World War II Flag display for Council Chambers

Administrator Jamie Cryan spoke about a proposal received from the Cranford 86 organization which entailed hanging a flag on the back wall of Council Chambers. He briefly elaborated about the significance of the flag. Discussion ensued. Township Committee consensus was reached to move forward with the proposal to hang such flag on the back wall of Council Chambers.

Recycling Update

Administrator Jamie Cryan spoke about the new recycling schedule for 2021. Noting that the newspapers and other information sources were contacted and updated in a time-sufficient manner, Mr. Cryan apologized that the recycling notices sent to residents hadn't reached their properties sooner. Commissioner Hannen provided a brief overview of the challenges in the recycling market, i.e., China was no longer receiving recycled product, the Township had received only one bidder for the "Recyclable Materials" bid and there was a supply of recycled materials with no place to send the materials. Mayor Miller Prunty stated that the cost of recycling had tripled. Commissioner O'Connor asked Administrator Jamie Cryan to check that recycling would occur on the upcoming Monday in light of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority (RVSA) Commissioner Appointment

Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority (RVSA) Commissioner Louis Lambe was present.

Mayor Miller Prunty spoke about the request from the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority (RVSA) to appoint a Commissioner to RVSA for the period of five (5) years as current Commissioner Lambe's term was set to expire. Mayor Miller Prunty stated that she had spoken with Mr. Louis Lambe and he was willing to serve another five (5) year term on the RVSA. Mr. Lambe spoke about his work with RVSA and his experience with flooding at his home. He then provided a brief overview of upcoming RVSA goals and initiatives. Committee consensus was reached to appoint Mr. Louis Lambe as Township representative to the RVSA for another five (5) year term.

Centennial Village Membership

Commissioner O'Connor requested the appointment of Ms. Jackie Carr to the Centennial Village Committee. She briefly elaborated about Ms. Carr's prior Centennial Village Committee service. Commissioner Hannen stated that he agreed with Commissioner O'Connor. Deputy Mayor Brian Andrews stated that he agreed with Commissioner O'Connor. Committee consensus was reached for the Township Committee to appoint Ms. Jackie Carr to the Centennial Village Committee.

Mayors Council Rahway River Watershed Flood Control Agreement for 2021

Administrator Jamie Cryan provided an overview of the 2021 Mayors Council Rahway River Watershed Flood Control Agreement. Commissioner Hannen spoke about Cranford's contribution (\$20,000) and other municipalities' contributions as stipulated by the Agreement. Mayor Miller Prunty inquired how Cranford benefitted more than other communities from the Mayors Council. Commissioner Hannen spoke about 1) how the Mayors Council's Engineering and Planning services benefitted Cranford and 2) how the (advocacy) work in Congress benefitted Cranford. Deputy Mayor Andrews inquired about Millburn serving as the lead agency for the Mayors Council and whether Cranford should assume that role.

Review Official Meeting Agenda

Commissioner Hannen inquired whether the Township Committee could discuss proposed Ordinance No. 2021-01 (which was referred to as the nepotism ordinance.) He inquired whether the Commissioners had discussed the proposed ordinance with their (assigned) department heads. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Hannen noted that his son, who was an Eagle Scout and a Rutgers University graduate, would not have become the Cranford career firefighter that he was, if this ordinance had previously been in effect. Referring to the proposed adoption of Ordinance No. 2021-01, Commissioner O'Connor stated that a good candidate should not be denied a job with the Township. Commissioner Hannen asked Administrator Cryan whether the proposed ordinance was a requirement for the State of New Jersey. Commissioner Hannen suggested that the consideration of this ordinance be delayed until the next Township Committee meeting and that discussions occur between the Township Committee and department heads regarding the proposed ordinance. Deputy Mayor Andrews stated that he was cognizant of hiring challenges but noted that it would take a lot for him not to support this ordinance. Discussion ensued. Mayor Miller Prunty noted that the nepotism ordinance had been a Workshop Agenda item for at least two prior Workshop Meetings. Mayor Miller Prunty requested that Administrator Jamie Cryan discuss this ordinance with department heads. She requested that members of the Township Committee speak to their assigned department heads regarding this matter.

Minute Approval – Closed Session Minutes of November 23rd, December 14th and December 15, 2021

Township Clerk Patricia Donahue noted that there had been an edit earlier in the day to the November 23rd Closed Session Minutes. Commissioner Hannen requested that consideration of the November 23rd Closed Session Minutes be delayed until he had time to review the suggested edit. Commissioner O'Connor made a motion to adopt the December 14th and December 15, 2020 Closed Session Minutes. Commissioner Hannen seconded the motion. Mayor Miller Prunty and Commissioners Hannen and O'Connor voted to approve the Closed Session minutes of December 14th and December 15, 2020. Deputy Mayor Andrews and Commissioner Gareis abstained from the vote.

Public Comments

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

Mr. Brian Lopez of 29 Wade Avenue asked how long Ms. Jackie Carr had served on the Centennial Village Committee. Commissioner O'Connor responded that Ms. Carr had served on the Committee for approximately five (5) or six (6) years. Mr. Lopez inquired why Ms. Carr had not been appointed to the Centennial Village Committee. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Lopez inquired why Dr. Chris Chapman had been removed from OEM (the Emergency Management Council.) Mayor Miller Prunty responded that Dr. Chapman had not been removed. She stated that he had not been re-appointed. Discussion ensued.

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

Minute Approval – Closed Session Minutes of November 23rd, December 14th and December 15, 2021

Commissioner Hannen stated that he was now ready to consider the November 23rd Closed Session Minutes. Commissioner Hannen made a motion to adopt the November 23rd Closed Session Minutes. Commissioner O'Connor seconded the motion. Mayor Miller Prunty and Commissioners Hannen and O'Connor voted to approve the Closed Session minutes of November 23, 2020. Deputy Mayor Andrews and Commissioner Gareis abstained from the vote.

The Township Committee moved (virtually) at 7:38 p.m. to conduct the Official Meeting.

On motion of Commissioner Hannen, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor and passed, the Township Committee returned to open session at 8:27 p.m.

Closed Session

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

Resolution No. 2021-98.1

BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee will go into closed session to discuss the following, the minutes of which will be released at some time in the future at the discretion of the Township Committee:

Legal

- Legal Update
- Affordable Housing -Fair Share Housing Settlement

Personnel

- Department of Public Works

Minute review

- Closed Session Minutes of November 23rd, December 14th and December 15, 2021

On motion of Commissioner Hannen, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor and passed, the Township Committee returned to open session at 9:09 p.m.

On motion of Commissioner Hannen, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor and passed, the Township Committee adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Donahue
Township Clerk

Dated: January 12, 2021