

The Minutes of the Workshop Meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey on **October 22, 2018** at **7:32 p.m.** in Room 108.

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 Ann Dooley
Commissioner Patrick F. Giblin
Commissioner Mary O'Connor

Absent: Commissioner Jean-Albert Maisonneuve

Public Comments

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

Ms. Barbara Krause of 20 Pittsfield Street thanked the Committee for the imminent paving of her street. She stated that she had a new request, specifically a new curb for her home. Ms. Krause provided members of the Township Committee with pictures of her property. Ms. Krause elaborated about damage to her property, i.e., tire tracks. Discussion ensued including comments about the storm water system, assessments in other areas of the Township and student driving. Deputy Mayor Dooley asked Mr. Masol if he could look into whether curbs would be helpful to the situation. Further discussion ensued.

Dr. Krause of 20 Pittsfield Street stated that he would like to add new information and elaborated about the need for curbs. He provided pictures of his property. Discussion ensued. Mr. Krause stated that he pleaded for support. Further discussion ensued.

Joanne Siragusa of 115 Elmora Ave inquired where should she go to learn about both the resale of her house and taxes. She asked when would she know what was going on. Ms. Siragusa stated that the Board of Education could tell her nothing. Discussion ensued. Ms. Siragusa stated that she has called the Board of Education four times for a bulk mailing. She spoke about keeping the "old people" here.

Ms. Loryn O'Brien of 214 Oak Lane stated that she had lived in Cranford for her whole life. Referring to the Board of Education initiative, she stated that this would affect everything she had known about this town. Ms. O'Brien stated that we need some backing from the Township. Deputy Mayor Dooley responded that there is no action for the Township Committee to take at this point. Discussion ensued. Ms. O'Brien stated that she wanted her voice heard and briefly elaborated.

Mr. Michael Mason of 217 Walnut Avenue stated that he had some good news. He stated with the assistance of Deputy Mayor Dooley and the County, 6 (six) benches had been installed between

Droescher Mill and South Avenue. Deputy Mayor Dooley noted that it was a great walk and encouraged others to take the walk.

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

Engineering Update

Mr. Bill Masol, Township Engineer, provided an update on the following matters:

2017 Municipal Paving Program, Phase 2

Mr. Masol stated that construction was scheduled to begin on Riverside Drive during the week of October 29th.

2018 Municipal Paving Program

Mr. Masol stated that the substantial completion date was set for December 23rd. He requested direction from the Committee regarding slate sidewalk versus concrete sidewalk at the ramp areas. Mr. Masol spoke about a resident who had inquired about whether the Township would use a stamped or tinted concrete sidewalk when replacing slate sidewalks at a handicap ramp. Mr. Masol informed the committee that to use a stamped concrete sidewalk, the cost would be about \$6,000 more since it was not considered ahead of time. Deputy Mayor Dooley said she had been informed that Plainfield uses a tinted grey sidewalk in these areas and inquired about the price difference for this type of treatment. Mr. Masol said he would follow up with the contractor. Commissioner Giblin asked what was done when Alden Street was completed. Mr. Masol stated that standard concrete was used in areas where sidewalks were replaced. Deputy Mayor Dooley stated that going forward replacement of slate sidewalks should be undertaken using the tinted concrete. Ms. Maureen Strazdon inquired whether dye (i.e., gray) could be used on Alden Street. She further elaborated about Holly Street and slate, as well as the character of Cranford and slate sidewalks.

Mr. Tom O'Brien inquired about tree roots sprouting through the sidewalk near 30 Springfield Avenue. Mr. Masol responded that this was a County issue and elaborated that the Township could remove the sidewalk, the County could remove the tree, and then the Township could replace the sidewalk. He noted that the first step was to contact the County.

Township Committee Airplane Noise Letter to the Port Authority

Referring to the draft letter which had been provided by Ms. Krause and was contained in the Workshop meeting materials, the Committee directed Municipal Clerk Patricia Donahue to use the letter's narrative to prepare a resolution objecting to the increase of low flying airplanes. Municipal Clerk Patricia Donahue inquired whether the resolution, not a cover letter, would then be mailed to the Port Authority. Mayor Hannen replied yes.

Cranford 150th Anniversary Celebration (2021) – Historic Preservation Advisory Board

Ms. Maureen Strazdon spoke about Cranford's upcoming 150th anniversary which would occur in 2021. She stated that the Historic Preservation Advisory Board was interested in the coordination of the anniversary celebration. Commissioner Giblin stated that we spoke about this in the Spring. He stated that Commissioner O'Connor and he would make this happen. Commissioner O'Connor stated that she thought the anniversary needed to be organized on the Township level and briefly elaborated about getting all involved. She stated that if there was a need for a sub-coordinating group, then the Historic Preservation Advisory Board could be the that group. Deputy Mayor Dooley noted that she agreed.

Proposed Cell Tower Ordinance

A brief discussion ensued regarding the proposed Cell Tower ordinance which had been prepared by Township Attorney Ryan Cooper. The Committee directed Ms. Donahue to add it to the next Official Meeting for introduction.

Review Official Meeting Agenda

Referencing Official Meeting Agenda item number 4, the resolution which would authorize the legal notice for the solicitation of 2019 professional services, Commissioner Giblin inquired whether there would be a receipt deadline. Referencing Official Meeting Agenda item number 12, the resolution which would authorize the salary step progression or COLA increases for various employees, Deputy Mayor Dooley stated that she would discuss this in closed session. Mr. O'Brien inquired about the parking ordinance, proposed Ordinance Number 2018-15.

Proposed Ordinance regarding Sewer Payment Late Fees

Mr. Cooper provided an overview of the proposed ordinance's changes to the Township Code, and specifically spoke about the proposed changes in the interest fee charged on late sewer fees. Mr. Cooper stated that his recommendation was not to adopt the ordinance. Deputy Mayor Dooley inquired whether there was anything the Township could do to incentivize (timely) payment. She stated that she did not see a need for the proposed change. Commissioner Giblin stated that he would like to hear the Finance Department's view on the proposed ordinance. Ms. Donahue spoke about the current rate of interest charged to late payments (i.e., 1.5 per cent.)

Minute Approval – Closed Session Minutes of May 22nd, September 24th, September 25th, October 2nd and October 9th

Committee consensus was reached to review the Closed Session minutes during the following evening's meetings.

Proposed Agreement with Boxcar

Discussion ensued regarding the proposed Boxcar Agreement. Mayor Hannen and Deputy Mayor Dooley requested that the Parking Committee review the proposal. Commissioner Giblin noted that he would meet with the Parking Committee regarding this issue.

Marijuana Stores – Commissioner O'Connor

Referring to the possibility of legalized marijuana, Commissioner O'Connor suggested that the Township get ahead of the situation, instead of reacting to the situation. Commissioner O'Connor distributed a list of New Jersey towns that had already worked to eliminate marijuana establishments in their municipalities. She inquired whether there was interest in the Township to authorize something similar to what the Borough of Chatham had done and referred to Chatham's ordinance which had been provided via email. Mayor Hannen requested that we get the Police Department's view on this matter. Deputy Mayor Dooley provided comments on the Chatham ordinance, the role of the FDA and suggested waiting to see 1) what the rest of the country does and 2) the actual law. She inquired if Commissioner's O'Connor's proposal

referred to just retail. Commissioner Giblin noted 1) the proposed law would address issues, 2) the money which would be associated with the marijuana business, and 3) that we ask for businesses to be creative. Commissioner O'Connor noted the Township's existing non-permitted uses and elaborated briefly about the pain management clinic. She stated that the Township has the right to determine its retail. Mayor Hannen requested that the Police Chief Greco be contacted regarding this situation.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Deputy Mayor Dooley stated that her report would be presented in closed session. Mayor Hannen stated that he had recently met with the Mayors of Scotch Plains and Fanwood to discuss affordable housing legislation.

Public Comments

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

Ms. Krause thanked Commissioner O'Connor regarding the Committee's decision to move forward with the Airplane resolution. She asked that it also be forward to the FAA.

Ms. Krause stated that she followed the Committee's instructions and called Leonard Lance's office about the maintenance issues at the Cranford Post Office. Ms. Krause stated that within one day, Congressman Lance's office called her back, and within 3 (three) days, debris had been picked up and the area looked better. She noted that the trees still needed help. Ms. Krause noted that the mums at the Post Office triangle looked gorgeous.

Referencing Commissioner O'Connor's comments regarding marijuana establishments in Cranford, Ms. Krause noted that she agreed with Commissioner O'Connor and was against it. She elaborated.

Referencing the tattoo store, Ms. Krause stated that the Township had an ordinance 15 (fifteen) years ago. She noted that our planner stated that he had never seen it. Ms. Krause suggested we make another ordinance. She elaborated.

Mr. Tom O'Brien of 30 Springfield Avenue spoke about Land Ordinances and the term "permissible." He further elaborated and stated that he thought that what was not permitted was not allowed. Mr. O'Brien spoke about a Tattoo Parlor ordinance from many years ago.

Mr. O'Brien noted that he spent as much time as he could in Cape Cod. He spoke about Massachusetts' recent legalization of marijuana. Mr. O'Brien noted that Commissioner O'Connor was right on the issue but it was correct to wait out it out, (i.e., the process.)

Dr. Krause spoke about the zoning of North Avenue West. He noted how nice the street was and spoke about the property setbacks. Mr. Krause further elaborated about the Planning Board and needed steps. Mr. Krause commented about the Post Office and poles.

Mr. Tom O'Brien stated that Dr. Krause was correct about the zoning on North Avenue.

Ms. Allison Mennor of North Avenue West stated that she was ecstatic doing business in her home and spoke about the zone classification in which she operated. She spoke about the process she undertook to

open her business. Ms. Mennor noted that she did not charge breast cancer survivors any fee. Ms. Mennor stated that art studios were permitted in Cranford and elaborated that her art was custom body art. She encouraged Mr. and Mrs. Krause to visit her studio. Ms. Mennor stated that they had invested \$250,000 into her property. She noted that her home was 100 years old and spoke about the love she and her husband had for their home. She further elaborated about her work as a tattoo artist and the constitutionality of such business.

Closed Session

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

Resolution No. 2018-94.33

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:

Personnel

- Fire

Real Estate

- Abandoned Property Act

Legal Matters

- Legal update
- Swan Cleaners

Minute Review

- Closed Session Minutes of May 22nd, September 24th, September 25th, October 2nd and October 9th

Personnel

- Downtown Management Corporation
- Collective Bargaining Negotiations Update
- Various Departments
- Department of Public Works
- Salary Ordinance
- Administration

Recorded Vote:

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

On motion of Commissioner O'Connor, seconded by Deputy Mayor Dooley and passed, the Township Committee returned to open session at 10:19 p.m.

On motion of Commissioner O'Connor, seconded by Deputy Mayor Dooley and passed, the Township Committee adjourned at 10:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: October 22, 2018

Patricia Donahue
Municipal Clerk