

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES
December 6, 2010

The regular meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranbury was held at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room. Answering present to the roll call were Township Committee members: David Cook, James Taylor and Mayor David Stout. Mr. Stannard arrived at 7:06 p.m. and Mr. Cody was absent. Also present were Steve Goodell, Esquire, Township Attorney, Denise Marabello, Administrator/Director of Finance and Kathleen R. Cunningham, Assistant Administrator/Clerk. Mr. Dan Mulligan, Committeeman-elect was also present. Mayor Stout led in the salute to the flag and Ms. Cunningham gave the following Open Public Meetings Act statement:

In accordance with Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, it is hereby announced and shall be entered into the minutes of this meeting that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided:

- (1) Posted on December 3, 2009 on the Bulletin Board of the Municipal Office at 23-A North Main Street, Cranbury, New Jersey and remains posted at that location.
- (2) Communicated to the Cranbury Press, Home News Tribune and Trenton Times on December 3, 2009.
- (3) Was filed on December 3, 2009 at the Cranbury Municipal Office, 23-A North Main Street, Cranbury, New Jersey, posted on the Township's web site and remains on file for public inspection, and
- (4) Sent to those individuals who have requested personal notice.

Resolution

On motion offered by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Cook, the following resolution was adopted by vote:

Ayes:

(Cook
(Stannard
(Taylor
(Stout

Abstain: (None
Absent: (Cody

Nays: (None

TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX

Cranbury Township Resolution # R 12-10-204

WHEREAS, Elizabeth Smith Wagner ("Betty") moved to Cranbury Township with her husband Bill in 1971; and

WHEREAS, Betty joined the Cranbury Historical & Preservation Society shortly after moving to Cranbury and immediately became involved in its many activities promptly volunteering to establish a Society library, organizing boxes of accumulated papers, documents, books, etc.; and

WHEREAS, she served as Society President for 11 years and continues to serve as a member of the Society's Preservation Committee; and

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Cranbury Township Resolution # R 12-10-204
(Continued)

WHEREAS, Betty was also a member of the Cranbury Township Planning Board from 1981 to 1992 and has also served as Township Historian from 1985 to the present (25 years); and

WHEREAS, through Betty's tireless efforts many of Cranbury's historic sites have been saved, including the Hess Farmstead, The Holland House and the Gristmiller's House; and

WHEREAS, she played a major role in the efforts needed for Cranbury to be placed on the State and National Registers of Historic Places; and

WHEREAS, over the years Betty has co-chaired and chaired the committees in charge of many of Cranbury's community celebrations: The U.S. Bicentennial, Middlesex County Tercentennial, and in Cranbury our Tercentennial and the Town Hall Dedication; and

WHEREAS, Betty received a Certificate of Merit from the League of Historic Societies in New Jersey, as well as a Certificate of Recognition from the Daughters of the American Revolution for her outstanding work on the Bicentennial and in 1993 was the recipient of the Local Historian's Award of Distinction, a statewide honor given to individuals for their outstanding contributions to local or regional historical programs and in addition in 1997 The New Jersey General Assembly recognized Betty for her outstanding achievements; and

WHEREAS, Betty has now made a decision to pass the baton as the Township's Historian after 25 years and as a member of the Cranbury Township Cultural and Heritage Committee;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranbury that Betty is thanked for her dedication and tireless efforts on behalf of Cranbury Township throughout the years; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranbury that Betty is wished good health and happiness in her semi-retirement.

Ms. Wagner made the following remarks after Mayor Stout presented her with the resolution:

"Thank you so very much for your recognition; as you well know, I did not achieve anything without your help, cooperation and encouragement. Therefore, you too share in this celebration. I am deeply grateful to all of the Township governing bodies with whom I worked and a special thank you to the Township's Office Staff who have always been cheerfully cooperative and assisted me over the years. I could not have accomplished anything without the support, loyalty and assistance of the Cranbury Historical Society and especially the Historic Preservation Committee for its know how and perseverance. I am especially grateful to my husband, Bill, for his encouragement, support and assistance. As the saying goes, I couldn't have done it without you! And, to all of you who have supported and assisted me along the way, I say thank you for our accomplishments and for my part I am so very grateful for the opportunity to work with you and serve this wonderful community".

Regular Township Committee Minutes of November 8, 2010

On motion by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Cook, with Mr. Cody absent and Mr. Stannard abstaining, the Regular Township Committee Minutes were adopted.

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Closed Session Committee Minutes of November 8, 2010

On motion by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Cook, with Mr. Cody absent and Mr. Stannard abstaining, the Closed Session Committee Minutes of November 8, 2010 were adopted.

Reports and Communications

--Mayor

Mayor Stout reported the Planning Board had met last week to continue discussions of the Master Plan and stated there is now a revised draft which is available for public review. The next meeting will be held next Thursday, December 16, 2010. Mayor Stout reported one issue which was discussed was the sidewalks in the Village area. He stated one of the issues that came up for discussion was the sidewalks in the Village area.

Mayor Stout reported the Township Committee had received a memo from the Environmental Commission giving its recommendations for the newly-acquired Reinhardt North parcel and endorsing the Township's keeping the parcel as open space.

Mayor Stout also reported members of the Turnpike Tree subcommittee are present this evening and announced the Township has received a letter stating the New Jersey Turnpike Authority will be conducting a public forum on December 13th on the "No Net Loss Reforestation Act for the Interchange 6-9 Widening Project".

Mayor Stout reported a letter was received from the Senior Fellowship thanking the Township for its continued support of both the Senior Exercise Program and Fellowship trips that occur on a monthly basis.

Mayor Stout indicated the Township has received a letter indicating the County has made an application to the D.E.P. for the Liberty Way Bridge to obtain a "Letter of Interpretation" to determine boundaries.

--Members of Committee

Mr. Taylor reported under Public Works, a new pressure solenoid valve backup level controller and backup emergency float at the Cranbury Pump Station this month had to be ordered totaling \$8,800.00. The November leaf collection yielded 2,130 cubic yards (about 71 truckloads) and Public Works is about $\frac{3}{4}$ completed on the third (3rd) pass for Cranbury. The chipping commenced on November 17th and there were no violations this month. Mr. Taylor reported last month there were no truck repairs. For the Construction Department there were 11 building permits issued for a total of \$6,728.00, 15 -electrical permits for a total of \$2,000 + change, 15-plumbing permits for \$964.00 and eight (8) fire for \$522.00. The total permit issued during the month was 49 permits totaling \$10,055.00. For inspections there were 85 building, 36 electrical, plumbing 28 and fire 17. There were 22-residential Certificates of Approval and five (5) non-residential.

Mr. Taylor reported he had met with the Fire Company on Sunday. There were 16 calls; four (4) during the day and 12 were in the evening. For the First Aid Squad there were 71 calls made; 34 were during the day through the paid squad and 26 through the volunteers. He reported there will be some changes with the fire siren shortly. Mr. Taylor was informed by the Squad about 70% of the calls will be silent and he reported during the week there is only a two-hour (2) paid span for the First Aid Squad which is the siren most residents are complaining about. The siren was one (1) minute in length and will be reduced to 30 seconds and seven (7) "whoops" instead of the present 13. In addition, the siren will potentially only sound for three (3) Monday through Friday between the hours of 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. and will only go off during the day if there is a need for a volunteer squad due to the paid squad being unable to respond.

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Reports and Communications

---Members of Committee (Continued)

Mr. Taylor (cont'd)

Mr. Taylor reported the Parks Commission Easement subcommittee had met. There will be a presentation to the Township Committee on the 20th of December to discuss its findings and present the recommendations to the Township Committee. He also mentioned the Township has received a memo from the New Jersey Civil War History Association who have concluded their plans and would like the Township Committee to move forward with its approval for the monument they wish to donate to the Township. The memorial ceremony will be held on June 11, 2011 at Memorial Park. The monument will be to honor Civil War Veterans from Cranbury and the immediate area. He stated the monument will read on the front, "To Honor Those Who Gave Their Last Full Measure of Devotion". The back of the monument will read, "Dedicated to All Who Served Their Country During the Civil War, Especially Company H of the 14th New Jersey, Many of Whom Were From Cranbury". Mr. Taylor reported the Association has asked the Township Committee to memorialize the approval so they may proceed and have the granite monument carving started. He added the only issue is there is an Eagle Scout who would like to do a walkway leading to the monument however, due to the timing with approvals; the Township may need to temporarily install a blue stone path in time for the dedication (about 3 to 4 feet). A motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Stannard, to approve the wording on the monument and authorize the New Jersey Civil War History Association to move forward with the monument and installation:

Ayes:

(Cook
(Stannard
(Taylor
(Stout

Abstain: (None
Absent: (Cody

Nays: (None

--Members of Committee (cont'd)

Mr. Cook

Mr. Cook reported he had attended earlier today, the swearing-in of Senator Linda Greenstein and had a conversation with her on affordable housing. Mr. Cook reported it is possible the Legislature could move very quickly on the legislation this year. The 10% component still stands and there is no momentum at this point to change that aspect of the legislation. He reported Cranbury is one of the few municipalities that is close to being compliant with its affordable housing plan.

Mr. Cook also reported Liberty Road Bridge had come up for discussion at the last Township Committee meeting. As a follow-up to that, Mr. Cook explained the idea was born approximately five (5) to six (6) years ago with the idea that Cranbury would split the cost with the County. The County now acknowledges how prices can escalate on items. In continually speaking with the County, the D.E.P.'s feeling is that there is no significant motivation now under the current environment to accelerate the project.

Mr. Cook reported on the costs of maintaining the Brainerd Dam. He stated at this point it is unknown. The engineering costs are covered by the County by 100%. Mr. Cook reported any construction costs will be split with the Township 50/50. However, there should be a need for any land acquisition that cost will be born by Cranbury 100% and indicated he did not think that will be necessary.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES
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Ordinances
First Reading

Cranbury Township Ordinance # 12-10-19

An Ordinance entitled, "Cranbury Township Ordinance # 12-10-19, AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING CHAPTER 5.8, **"PRIVATE DUTY SERVICE"**, was introduced for first reading. On motion by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Cook, the Ordinance was passed on first reading by vote:

Ayes:

(Cook
(Stannard
(Taylor
(Stout

Abstain: (None
Absent: (Cody

Nays: (None

Public Hearing: December 20, 2010

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranbury, Middlesex County, State of New Jersey, that the "Code of the Township of Cranbury ("Code") be amended as follows:

5.8 "PRIVATE DUTY SERVICE" (Additions are underlined and deletions are [bracketed])

A. Police officers of the Cranbury Township Police Department shall be available for private duty service for special events, road closings, traffic duties, security at private parties or events or similar functions. Payment for services shall be as follows:

- (1) The fee to be paid to the Township for such services shall be \$80 per hour [\$60 per hour]. Of this amount, \$65 per hour [\$50 per hour] shall be paid to the police officer providing the service and \$15 per hour [\$10 per hour] shall be retained by the Township
- (2) The minimum amount of time for which police officers may be hired shall be four hours per officer, except that the minimum shall only be three hours per officer for services rendered on behalf of the Cranbury School. Employees who work in excess of eight (8) hours per day for the same person shall be paid one and one half (1 ½) times the rate for hours worked in excess of eight (8) hours.
- (3) A request for a marked or unmarked Police vehicle is \$50.00 per day up to eight (8) hours and an additional \$25.00 for over eight (8) hours.

B. A four hour (4) charge at \$80.00 per hour will be assessed if a job cancellation notice is not received and time stamped by the Cranbury Township Police Headquarters at least three (3) hours prior to the scheduled starting time. [Any person who has requested private duty service and cancels the private duty three hours or less before the agreed upon start time shall be responsible for payment of the four-hour minimum per officer,] except that the Cranbury School shall only be responsible for the payment of the three-hour minimum per officer in such instances.

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Cranbury Township Ordinance # 12-10-19
(Continued)

This ordinance shall be effective upon adoption and publication, as provided by the law.

Ordinance
First Reading

Cranbury Township Ordinance # 12-10-20

An Ordinance entitled, "Cranbury Township Ordinance # 12-10-20, BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TOWNSHIP'S SHARE OF THE COSTS OF THE EASEMENT PURCHASE OF THE TOSCANO FARM IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$11,000 THEREFORE AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$10,450 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF, was introduced for first reading. On motion by Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Stannard, the Ordinance was passed on first reading by vote:

Ayes:

(Cook	Abstain: (None
(Stannard	Absent: (Cody
(Taylor	
(Stout	

Nays: (None

Public Hearing: December 20, 2010

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The several improvements described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance is hereby authorized to be undertaken by the Township of Cranbury, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey (the "Township") as a general improvement. For the several improvements or purposes described in Section 3, there is hereby appropriated the sum of \$11,000, including the sum of \$550 as the down payment required by the Local Bond Law. The down payment is now available by virtue of provision for down payment or for capital improvement purposes in one or more previously adopted budgets.

Section 2. In order to finance the cost of the improvement or purpose not covered by application of the down payment, negotiable bonds are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount of \$10,450 pursuant to the Local Bond Law. In anticipation of the issuance of the bonds, negotiable bond anticipation notes are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to and within the limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.

Section 3. (a) The improvements hereby authorized and the purpose for which the bonds are to be issued is the remainder of the Township's share of the cost of the easement purchase of the Toscano Farm necessary therefore and incidental thereto.

(b) The estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued for the improvement or purpose is stated in Section 2 hereof.

(c) The estimated cost of the improvement or purpose is equal to the amount of the appropriation herein made therefore.

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Cranbury Township Ordinance # 12-10-20
(Continued)

Section 4. All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder shall mature at such times as may be determined by the chief financial officer; provided that no note shall mature later than one year from its date. The notes shall bear interest at such rate or rates and be in such form as may be determined by the chief financial officer. The chief financial officer shall determine all matters in connection with notes issued pursuant to this ordinance, and the chief financial officer's signature upon the notes shall be conclusive evidence as to all such determinations. All notes issued hereunder may be renewed from time to time subject to the provisions of the Local Bond Law. The chief financial officer is hereby authorized to sell part or all of the notes from time to time at public or private sale and to deliver them to the purchasers thereof upon receipt of payment of the purchase price plus accrued interest from their dates to the date of delivery thereof. The chief financial officer is directed to report in writing to the governing body at the meeting next succeeding the date when any sale or delivery of the notes pursuant to this ordinance is made. Such report must include the amount, the description, the interest rate and the maturity schedule of the notes sold, the price obtained and the name of the purchaser.

Section 5. The Township hereby certifies that it has adopted a capital budget or a temporary capital budget, as applicable. The capital or temporary capital budget of the Township is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith. To the extent that the purposes authorized herein are inconsistent with the adopted capital or temporary capital budget, a revised capital or temporary capital budget has been filed with the Division of Local Government Services.

Section 6. The following additional matters are hereby determined, declared, recited and stated:

(a) The improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance is not a current expense. It is an improvement or purpose that the Township may lawfully undertake as a general improvement, and no part of the cost thereof has been or shall be specially assessed on property specially benefitted thereby.

(b) The period of usefulness of the improvement or purpose within the limitations of the Local Bond Law, according to the reasonable life thereof computed from the date of the bonds authorized by this ordinance, is 40 years.

(c) The Supplemental Debt Statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly prepared and filed in the office of the Clerk, and a complete executed duplicate thereof has been filed in the office of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey. Such statement shows that the gross debt of the Township as defined in the Local Bond Law is increased by the authorization of the bonds and notes provided in this bond ordinance by \$10,450, and the obligations authorized herein will be within all debt limitations prescribed by that Law.

(d) An aggregate amount not exceeding \$0 for items of expense listed in and permitted under N.J.S.A. 40A:2-20 is included in the estimated cost indicated herein for the purpose or improvement.

Section 7. Any grant moneys received for the purpose described in Section 3 hereof shall be applied either to direct payment of the cost of the improvement or to payment of the obligations issued pursuant to this ordinance. The amount of obligations authorized but not issued hereunder shall be reduced to the extent that such funds are so used.

Section 8. The chief financial officer of the Township is hereby authorized to prepare and to update from time to time as necessary a financial disclosure document to be distributed in

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Cranbury Township Ordinance # 12-10-20
(Continued)

connection with the sale of obligations of the Township and to execute such disclosure document on behalf of the Township. The chief financial officer is further authorized to enter into the appropriate undertaking to provide secondary market disclosure on behalf of the Township pursuant to Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Rule") for the benefit of holders and beneficial owners of obligations of the Township and to amend such undertaking from time to time in connection with any change in law, or interpretation thereof, provided such undertaking is and continues to be, in the opinion of a nationally recognized bond counsel, consistent with the requirements of the Rule. In the event that the Township fails to comply with its undertaking, the Township shall not be liable for any monetary damages, and the remedy shall be limited to specific performance of the undertaking.

Section 9. The full faith and credit of the Township are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and the interest on the obligations authorized by this bond ordinance. The obligations shall be direct, unlimited obligations of the Township, and the Township shall be obligated to levy ad valorem taxes upon all the taxable real property within the Township for the payment of the obligations and the interest thereon without limitation of rate or amount.

This bond ordinance shall take effect 20 days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

Ordinance
Second Reading

Cranbury Township Ordinance # 11-10-18

A motion to enter an Ordinance entitled, "Cranbury Township Ordinance # 11-10-18, AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, RE-APPROPRIATING \$26,000.00 PROCEEDS OF OBLIGATIONS NOT NEEDED FOR THEIR ORIGINAL PURPOSES IN A CAPITAL ORDINANCE IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY., was presented for second reading and final adoption. The Ordinance was published in the Cranbury Press, posted on the Township Bulletin Board and copies were available to the public. The Mayor opened the public hearing on the Ordinance. No one present wished to speak, so the hearing was declared closed. On motion by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Stannard, the Ordinance was adopted by a vote:

Ayes:

(Cook
(Stannard
(Taylor
(Stout

Abstain: (None
Absent: (Cody

Nays: (None

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Pursuant to N.J.S.A.40A:2-39, it is hereby determined that the following proceeds of obligations originally made available pursuant to the bond ordinance listed below are no longer necessary for the following purpose:

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Cranbury Township Ordinance # 12-10-18
(Continued)

Ordinance No.	Description	Amount to be re-appropriated
04-02-07	Firehouse Sprinkler System	\$26,000.00

Section 2. pursuant to N.J.S.A.40A:2.39, it is hereby determined that \$26,000.00 of the proceeds of obligations referred to above are hereby re-appropriated to provide for the Equipment and Vehicle Washing Compliance Ordinance No. 04-09-07.

Section 3. The capital budget of the Township of Cranbury is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect 20 days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

Resolutions
Consent

Cranbury Township Resolution # R 12-10-198

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township of Cranbury that all bills and claims as audited and found to be correct be paid.

COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX
TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY

Cranbury Township Resolution # R 12-10-199

A Resolution to adopt Middlesex County Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazards Mitigation Plan

WHEREAS, by resolution dated September 20, 2007 (#07-1797), the County was authorized to accept FY 2007 Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program Grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the development of a county wide all hazards mitigation plan; and

WHEREAS, said Plan was prepared and submitted to FEMA for approval; and

WHEREAS, the State Office of Emergency Management has advised that said Plan has been approved by FEMA; and

WHEREAS, FEMA requires that the County and each municipality must formally adopt said Plan; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of said Plan is in the best interests of the residents of Middlesex County and the residents of Cranbury Township; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranbury that it hereby endorses the Middlesex County Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazards Mitigation Plan which was adopted by the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution is sent to the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

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Cranbury Township Resolution # R 12-10-200

**RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER OVERPAYMENT
BETWEEN PROPERTIES**

WHEREAS, due to an error in posting, monies were misapplied between properties with the same owner as shown below; and

WHEREAS, a resolution is needed to transfer the overpaid amounts from one property to another

From	To	Owner	Amount
Block 7	Block 20.06	John & Jill Gabriello	529.76 (2010)
Lot 3	Lot 53		<u>485.11</u> (2011)
Total			\$1,014.87

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranbury, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that the Tax Collector be authorized to transfer the overpayment as specified above.

Cranbury Township Resolution # R 12-06-201

**RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER OVERPAYMENT FROM
2010 TO 2011**

WHEREAS, Tax Overpayments were made on the properties shown below for the Tax Year 2010; and

WHEREAS, a resolution is needed to transfer the overpaid amounts to 2011;

Block	Lot	Owner	Amount
10	1	Alfieri-Station Rd, LLC	\$ 11.97
20	10.06	Ruth Sugeno	\$ 474.18
21	33	David & Nancy Tsui	\$ 422.83
23	154	Sarko Sarkuni	\$ 126.05
33	47	Kevin T. Cole Etux	\$5,201.65

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranbury, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that the Tax Collector be authorized to transfer the overpayment as specified above.

Cranbury Township Resolution # R 12-10-202

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has determined that the November quarterly tax payment was paid twice, once by the Title Company, and once by the Lender which resulted in an overpayment of 2010 Property taxes,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranbury that the following overpayment be refunded:

Block	Lot	Name	Amount
20.04	1	Hudson City Savings Bank W. 80 Century Road Paramus, NJ 07652	\$ 2,821.06

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Reports from Township Staff and Professionals

Administrator's Report

Ms. Marabello, Township Administrator, reported the "Best Practices Checklist" required to be filled out by the State of New Jersey for the Township for State Aid has been approved and the Township will be receiving 100% of its State Aid.

Ms. Marabello reported she has now re-located into the Township Administrator's Office and invited residents and others to stop by. Ms. Marabello indicated she has retained her previous extension, 227.

Mr. Taylor inquired the status of merging the Public Works and Planning/Zoning Boards' offices. Ms. Marabello reported the move will take place on December 16th and Ms. Kratz will be re-locating to the Public Works Office. Mayor Stout stated the purpose of this move is to free up some space so Township boards, committees and commissions have a conference room to meet in (other than the Gallery) and to promote "team work".

Assistant Administrators' Report

Ms. Cunningham, Clerk/Assistant Administrator, reported the web site subcommittee will hold its first meeting this Thursday, December 9, 2010 at 4:30 p.m. with the web master and should have the public discussion for residents' suggestions to be heard at the January 10, 2011 meeting at 7:00 p.m. A notice will be posted shortly on the Township's web site announcing the meeting.

Work Session

a). Discussion of Reinhardt property with Environmental Commission

Mayor Stout led the discussion by recommending the Township name the Reinhardt North parcel, "The Reinhardt Forest Preserve" and asked the other members of the Township Committee to think about his suggestion. "Ms. Susan Goetz, 1st Alternate Member of the Environmental Commission, spoke with the Township Committee in reference to the Environmental Commission's review of the Reinhardt North parcel. Ms. Goetz reported four (4) members of the Commission had visited the site at the request of the Township. She distributed pictures to the Township Committee for its review and commented how beautiful the parcel is. Ms. Goetz stated the parcel is 70% wetlands. She reported the Environmental Commission recommends as little disturbance as possible to the parcel as it is a unique property within the Township with very mature growth with a "high canopy". There is also vegetation in the under growth, therefore, the E.C. recommended not digging out walking trails as there is no need for them. Ms. Goetz reported there is also a stream running through the parcel. She reported the only disturbing item is in the northern portion there is a lot of trash (looks as though at one time contractors used the site for dumping items such as paint cans and old refrigerators). The Environmental Commission suggests utilizing the open area off of Plainsboro Road as a small area (for approximately 6-8 cars) for cars to park and installing gravel and not asphalt in that area and to put some signage up in that area. Mr. Cook reported he had walked the parcel and agree with the Environmental Commission's recommendations this evening. Mayor Stout asked Ms. Marabello to speak with Mr. Thorne, Director of Public Works to see what he could do with the area for parking and erect a sign. Mr. Taylor agreed with Mayor Stout's recommendation to honor the family by naming the parcel after them and Mr. Cook stated he believes that would be appropriate.

b). Discussion of Reforestation Program in relationship to the New Jersey Turnpike Widening Project

Mayor Stout led the discussion by explaining Mr. Dietrich Wahlers is present to continue discussing the Township's role in the "Net Loss Reforestation Act". As reported several times, Mr. Wahlers and his subcommittee had worked very hard in

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in identifying where the Township is going to place the trees the Turnpike had

Work Session (Continued)

b). Discussion of Reforestation Program in relationship to the New Jersey Turnpike Widening Project (cont'd)

promised to give the Township in conjunction with the Turnpike Widening Project. The Turnpike then made the decision not to give money to municipalities. However, some towns then filed a lawsuit and now the Turnpike will be providing trees to the Township. The first grant will be approximately \$770,000 to be used exclusively for the purchase and maintenance of the trees. The members of the subcommittee reported the Fischer parcel will receive approximately 2,500 trees (this will be the largest recipient of trees). Mr. Goodell, Esquire, Township Attorney, reported he had spoken with the Deputy Attorney General last Friday and seemed pleased the Township has agreed to the contract and Mr. Goodell will meet with Ms. Marabello to go over the details of the agreement. Mayor Stout offered the subcommittee a survey of the Fischer parcel so it can plot out exactly where the trees will be distributed. Mr. Mulligan asked if the placement of the trees will be different than previously discussed. Mayor Stout responded his understanding is that the trees will be closest to the Millstone River and this is Phase I of the plan. For the next two phases, the Township will have to apply for a grant. Mr. Wahlers and the subcommittee will continue to work on the project and the plan for the placement of the trees.

Public Comment

The Mayor opened the meeting to public questions and comment. Mr. Richard Moody, 24 North Main Street, addressed the Township Committee in reference to his complaint about the fire and first aid sirens. Mr. Moody stated he and his wife have always supported first aid and fire squads wherever they have lived and recently sent Charlie Smith, President, a check for \$100.00 to show their support. Mr. Moody reported the sirens constitute "noise pollution" and are very disruptive to many individuals' lives. He made reference to a recent study conducted by the University of Illinois showing it can and has caused a depreciation in property values up to 20% for those homes located in close proximity to sirens. Mr. Moody reported he checked with other towns such as Lawrenceville and Rocky Hill and they had dispensed with sirens several years ago due to massive noise pollution complaints and have successfully used pagers for many years. Mr. Moody made reference to the New Jersey Statute which mandates emergency services may not have siren decibels over 65 by day and 55 at night. Mr. Moody expressed his appreciation that earlier in the meeting Mr. Taylor had mentioned in his report the sirens will be silenced for a portion of the day. Mr. Moody raised the question why pagers cannot be used by the members at all times if they are going to be used for a portion of the day and added all pagers have vibration modes and if a person carries the pager on his person or in her purse they should be able to respond. He stated in addition to pagers they could also use cell phones and/or two-way radios. Mr. Moody stated it is encouraging to know that the number of "whoops" has now been reduced down from 13 to seven (7). Mr. Moody stated, "I implore the Township to immediately ban the use of sirens 24/7 and move into the modern/technological age" for the sake of Cranbury's peace and the health of Cranbury's citizens.

Mr. Charles Smith, President, Cranbury First Aid Squad and Fire Company, reported the companies had met with three (3) of the closest neighbors to the siren about five (5) to six (6) months ago and the length of the siren was shortened. Mr. Smith also reported the Fire Company held their monthly meeting and made the decision to turn the siren off during the hours of 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. Mr. Smith reported during the day, when there is a "duty crew" on duty at the First Aid Squad, the siren will not blow. When there is a volunteer crew needed it will still blow during the day. Mr. Smith stated many of the members do sacrifice a lot and there are very few nights they get a full night's sleep without having to get up to answer a call. Mr. Smith added, he feels the volunteers sacrifice enough for the Town that they should not have to have a device attached to their body 24/7. Mayor Stout inquired if Lawrenceville and Rocky Hill are paid. Mr.

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Smith responded Lawrenceville is paid 24/7 and Rocky Hill has minimal calls. Mr. Mike Kervan, Cranbury Fire Chief and resident, asked for clarification if Mr. Moody had spoken with the First Public Comment (Continued)

Fire Siren (cont'd)

Aid Squad in Lawrenceville and Rocky Hill or the Fire Companies. Mr. Moody responded he had spoken with the First Aid Squads. Mr. Kervan reported the Fire Departments in East Windsor, West Windsor and Hightstown still actively use fire sirens as a backup system to their pagers. Chief Kervan stated he did not do research on their First Aid Squads. Chief Kervan explained now the Fire Company volunteers will rely on their pagers, if they do not activate the second dispatch will activate the siren as a backup and stated to do away with the siren completely would be too much of a public safety hazard. Mayor Stout stated both entities have been very responsive and remarked he recalled, when the siren was changed, it used to be a huge sound (air horn) and a lot of residents had been upset. Mr. Smith reported for the First Aid Squad siren, it will be shut off from 8:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. unless there are mutual aid calls which come out of Mercer County Dispatch. Mr. Smith reported three (3) neighbors came to the Fire Company's meeting and were very pleased with the new plan. Mr. Smith reported the reason originally the fire siren was for three (3) minutes is to allow the volunteers time to get to the Fire House to answer a call. He stated there are drivers who actually will not move over their vehicles when the siren is going off and he actually had a driver block him last week, not allowing him to pass her vehicle. Mr. Taylor thanked Mr. Moody for coming out to the meeting this evening and stated it is not often residents send emails and then take the time to attend a meeting. Mr. Taylor stated as a very historic district with most of the homes having "balloon construction" which is one of the most dangerous to have given the open walls, cabinets, etc. In addition to the homes the town has a lot of young children and there have been incidents with elders in the town where minutes have meant the difference between life and death. Mr. Taylor added, the volunteers cannot be inconvenienced because eventually the town is going to be left without any volunteers and would have to pay for a fire company as well as First Aid Squad. Mr. Taylor reported he lives right across the street from the fire house and feels it is not an inconvenience for 30 seconds when the siren goes off as he would want a response to his home should any emergency arise. If the siren were to be abolished, the town could end up with possible litigation due to a delay with a pager not going off and stated he is not of the opinion pagers are the way to go. Chief Kervan added, the other important reason the siren needs to go off is to alert people that volunteers will be coming through town to answer a call. Chief Kervan reported the other evening at the Tree Lighting Ceremony, there was a call and everyone was in the parking lot. It alerted those people to move out of the way. Mr. Mulligan stated a lot of progress has been made and no one is closing the book on the issue; it's a work in progress. He commended the Fire Company and First Aid for making a lot of changes and concessions as well as working with the neighbors. Mr. Moody raised his concern with only a 70% reduction and Mr. Taylor offered he and Chief Kervan were speaking and it will be approximately 26 calls at a siren vs. 87 total calls for the month. Mayor Stout requested the number of times the siren goes off for the month be recorded. Ms. Susan Mavoides, 10 South Main Street and neighbor to the south of the Fire House, stated she appreciates Mr. Moody's comments, however, has taken a different approach with the issue as first and foremost she appreciates what a volunteer fire company does and the E.M.T.s and they are needed. She recommended the approach everyone should take is we are all neighbors who appreciate what the volunteers do and everyone should work together. Ms. Mavoides reported she had met with her neighbors and the fire company to determine what the needs really are of the fire company and the E.M.T.s and what the limitations were concerning sirens and everyone learned a lot from meeting with the volunteers and the volunteers listened to their concerns. Ms. Mavoides recommended in the future discussions such as this should happen earlier rather than later to get input from residents as well as better communication between all parties so some of this could have been avoided. She stressed the needs of the fire company need to be balanced with the historic nature of the town. Ms. Mavoides said she is very happy with the progress and with Mr. Smith, Chief Kervan and other volunteers working with the neighbors. Mr. Taylor offered the new siren is 30 seconds in length and asked Mr. Smith how

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many volunteers the First Aid Squad has. Mr. Smith responded there are presently ten (10) volunteers. Mr. Taylor asked how many fire volunteers actively go out on calls. Mr. Smith

Public Comment (Continued)
Fire Siren (cont'd)

responded approximately 15 respond however during the day the response is "tough". Mayor Stout stated a lot of progress has been made however there has to be someone within the community who can lend some expertise on the siren issue. Mr. Stannard reported only a few weeks ago he personally experienced first hand the wonderful services of the First Aid Squad. Mr. Taylor made reference to recently the siren had to go off three (3) times due to lack of response. Mr. Smith explained that was due to one of the Public Works employees being told he could not respond because he would be on overtime if he did. Mayor Stout responded the Township is working on that particular problem. Mr. Mulligan stated he hopes the overtime issue does in fact get resolved and also stated the Township is not going from a siren to turning off a siren; that is an extreme. And to re-state what Ms. Mavoides stated, it is going to be an ongoing conservation; the book is not closed and discussion will stay open. Mr. Mulligan recommended noticing the public in the future with a potential issue. Mayor Stout responded the issue of the siren was discussed many times by the Township Committee at many meetings in the past.

Mr. Richard Kallan, Wynnewood Drive, stated the siren has been a "pre-existing condition" and residents should be aware of it before moving into town. Mr. Kallan also stated the siren is a good thing to make residents driving through town that volunteers will be coming shortly to respond to calls. There being no further comments, the Mayor closed the public part of the meeting.

Resolution

On motion offered by Mr. Stannard, seconded by Mr. Cook, the following resolution was adopted by vote:

Ayes:

(Cook
(Stannard
(Taylor
(Stout

Abstain: (None
Absent: (Cody

Nays: (None

Cranbury Township Resolution # R 12-10-203

TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX

RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranbury, Middlesex County, New Jersey as follows:

The general nature of the subject to be discussed in this session is as follows:

----- "N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b (5) (Land Acquisition): Discussion of possible open space acquisition.

It is unknown at this time precisely when the matters discussed in this session will be disclosed to the public. Matters involving contract negotiations or the acquisition of land will be disclosed upon conclusion of the negotiations or upon approval of the acquisition. Matters

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involving personnel will be disclosed when the need for confidentiality no longer exists. Matters concerning litigation will be announced upon the conclusion of trial or settlement of that litigation or when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

Date: December 6, 2010

On motion by Mayor Stout, seconded by Mr. Taylor and unanimously carried, the meeting returned to Open Session:

Ayes:

(Cook
(Stannard
(Taylor
(Stout

Abstain: (None
Absent: (Cody

Nays: (None

On motion by Mr. Stannard, seconded by Mr. Taylor and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Kathleen R. Cunningham, Clerk