

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
November 14, 2022

The Township Committee Meeting of the Township of Cranbury was held at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of Town Hall Answering present to roll call were Township Committee members: Eman El-Badawi, Michael Ferrante, Michael Scott, Evelyn Spann, and Mayor Barbara Rogers. Also present were Denise Marabello, Township Administrator/CFO and Debra Rubin, Municipal Clerk. Mayor Rogers led in the salute to the flag, and Ms. Rubin read 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:

Posted on the Bulletin Board of the Municipal Office at 23-A North Main Street, Cranbury, New Jersey and remains posted at that location.

Communicated to the Cranbury Press, Home News Tribune and Trenton Times on January 5, 2022 and August 12, 2022.

Filed on January 5, 2022 and August 12, 2022 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.

Sent to those individuals who have requested personal notice.

Approval of Minutes: Mayor Rogers asked if any members of the Township Committee would like to address changes or amendments to the following minutes. Hearing none, Mayor Rogers asked for a motion to adopt the following minutes:

-- Township Committee Regular Meeting Minutes October 24, 2022;

On a motion by Mrs. Spann, seconded by Mr. Scott, along with the following roll call vote of the members of the Township Committee;

Ayes: (El-Badawi
(Ferrante
(Scott
(Spann
(Rogers

Abstain: (None
Absent: (None

Nays: (None

the Township Committee Regular Meeting Minutes of October 24, 2022 were unanimously adopted.

Proclamation – A Proclamation Recognizing the Woman's Club of Cranbury 100th Anniversary of Federation and Many Years of Long and Distinguished Community Service – Mayor Rogers read the following Proclamation in its entirety:

PROCLAMATION

Recognizing The Women's Club of Cranbury's 100th Anniversary of Federation and Many Years of Long and Distinguished Community Service

WHEREAS, The Woman's Club of Cranbury was organized over a hundred years ago on November 9, 1898, as a literary group, The Ladies Reading Circle, and became a member of the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs on November 1, 1922; and

WHEREAS, The Woman's Club of Cranbury has grown from 12 members to over 100 dedicated members "living the volunteer spirit" –sponsoring and participating in community service projects at the local, state, and national level, as well as social and educational events; and

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
November 14, 2022

WHEREAS, The Woman's Club of Cranbury members recite, "A Collect for Club Women", at each General Meeting to help guide their work together which includes the line "Let us be done with fault-finding and leave off self-seeking"; and

WHEREAS, The Woman's Club of Cranbury's members participate in departments and focus groups that support and promote the arts, health and wellness, civic engagement, and the environment in and around Cranbury; and

WHEREAS, The Woman's Club of Cranbury prepared "Buddy Bags" in 1944 for the crew of the U.S.S. New Jersey, which was engaged in the Pacific during World War II; and

WHEREAS, The Woman's Club of Cranbury compiled and published a cookbook in 1972, "What's Cooking in Cranbury", to share favorite recipes from Cranbury residents to enjoy; and

WHEREAS, The Woman's Club of Cranbury supports many local non-profit organizations involved with food insecurity, affordable childcare and environmental issues and more; and

WHEREAS, The Woman's Club of Cranbury supports many Special State Projects benefitting homeless veterans, the visually impaired, and families fighting cancer, and more; and

WHEREAS, The Woman's Club of Cranbury sponsors and hosts Candidates Night, the Holiday Tree Lighting and the Easter Egg Hunt, which have become traditional events enjoyed by Cranbury residents every year; and

WHEREAS, The Woman's Club of Cranbury members have been an integral part of annual community events including Cranbury Day, Stream Cleanup and the Memorial Day Parade and more; and

WHEREAS, The Woman's Club of Cranbury awarded its first scholarship in 1953 and currently offers a middle school award and scholarships to high school seniors and women pursuing post-secondary education, all of which are available to students residing in Cranbury; and

WHEREAS, The Woman's Club of Cranbury has been recognized by the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs in 2022 on their 100th anniversary of federation and the outstanding efforts of members participating in its rich tradition of civic projects and service through the years; and

WHEREAS, The Woman's Club of Cranbury is looking forward to the next 100 years with their new banner and motto, "Volunteering Learning Caring"; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, Dr. Barbara Rogers, Mayor of the Township of Cranbury, along with the Township Committee members, do hereby proclaim that the Woman's Club of Cranbury's 100 Years of Federation will be celebrated this year in honor of their on-going, excellent service to this community and beyond.

Proclamation – A Proclamation Recognizing the Grand Opening of the Cranbury Public Library and the Successful Capital Campaign – Prior to reading the following Proclamation, Deputy Mayor Ferrante thanked several members of the community, including Kirstie Venanzi, President of the Library Board of Trustees, and Marilynn Mullen, Library Director, for their hard work and dedication in completing this project. He encouraged residents to attend the upcoming grand opening. Deputy Mayor Ferrante read the following Proclamation in its entirety:

PROCLAMATION

Recognizing The Grand Opening of the Cranbury Public Library and the Successful Capital Campaign

WHEREAS, the Cranbury Public Library was established in 1906 and existed in various locations in town, including locations on Main Street, the basement of Town Hall, and the shared school/public space from 1969 through 2020.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
November 14, 2022

WHEREAS, libraries connect people, materials and culture to build and sustain a diverse and vibrant community; provide enduring connections to the past and future of our communities, nations, and civilizations; and provide accessible ways to help people to lead longer, more productive and fulfilling lives.

WHEREAS, the Cranbury Public Library Board of Trustees recognized the need for a free-standing library and supported the creation of the Cranbury Public Library Foundation in 2009 when it was determined that a municipally-funded library building was not a priority in the foreseeable future.

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees completed a feasibility survey for a free-standing library in 2010 and the Foundation initiated a Capital Campaign to solicit support for the new building titled "Building Spaces, Expanding Minds, Creating Community," under which a series of private sessions were held for two years during the private phase of the campaign.

WHEREAS, the Cranbury Township Committee passed R 06-12-079 in 2012 that "asserts its endorsement and support of the plan to create a new library building and its endorsement and support of the Cranbury Public Library Foundation's private campaign to fund it" and affirmed the dedicated land for the new library as defined in the 2005 and 2010 Master Plan.

WHEREAS, the Foundation held a series of public events from 2013 through 2017 to fundraise for the new building, including two Chinese New Year celebrations, engagement events at Cranbury Day, Giving Tuesday online programs, "Bites for Books" programs at Teddy's, a public forum on the project, an art auction, and the capstone Walk of Knowledge brick program.

WHEREAS, the Library Board of Trustees completed architectural renderings and completed a site plan review with the Cranbury Planning Board in 2016.

WHEREAS, Cranbury library leaders partnered with local legislators Linda Greenstein, Dan Benson, and Wayne DeAngelo to insert the NJ Library Construction Bond Act onto the 2017 general election ballot as a state-wide referendum, where it passed state-wide and by an overwhelming margin in Cranbury.

WHEREAS, the Foundation raised over \$2.0 Million in donations from over 800 local households and local businesses who believed in the vision of a free-standing library and community center building.

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees and the Foundation prepared a winning grant submission in April 2020 that requested matching funds of \$2.39 Million for the funds raised through private donations and capital reserves.

WHEREAS, the dedicated staff of the Cranbury Library has worked diligently after vacating the shared school space on short notice, opening a temporary pocket library, and transitioning to operation in the new space, all while serving as the face of the library to the Cranbury community.

WHEREAS, a groundbreaking ceremony was held in April 2021, construction commenced in summer 2021, and the project was completed in November 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, Dr. Barbara Rogers, Mayor of the Township of Cranbury, along with the Township Committee members, do hereby congratulate the Cranbury Public Library Foundation, the Cranbury Library Board of Trustees, and the library staff and director on the Grand Opening of the free-standing public library at 30 Park Place West on November 19, 2022.

Comments: Members of the Township Committee congratulated the library staff on the completion of the project. Patricia Thomsson, Secretary of the Library Board of Trustees, commended Mr. Ferrante on all of his hard work towards the project and thanked him and the Township Committee for their support.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
November 14, 2022

**Reports and Communications
Members of Committee**

- Mrs. El-Badawi – Mrs. El-Badawi reported on her attendance at the Parks Commission, Shade Tree Commission and Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) meetings. She reported that the Parks and Shade Tree Commissions will work together regarding the Village Park walking trail and multiple tree prunings in town. She provided an update to the kiosk project on behalf of EDAC.
- Mr. Ferrante – Mr. Ferrante reported on his attendance at the Mobile Health Van event held in the new library's parking lot. He provided an update to the grand opening of the Cranbury library. He reported on his attendance at the School Board of Education meeting.
- Mr. Scott – Mr. Scott reported that Mrs. El-Badawi will attend his remaining board meetings for November in his absence due to work conflicts.
- Mrs. Spann – Mrs. Spann reported on her attendance at the 325th Anniversary Event hosted by Cranbury Historical & Preservation Society at the Cranbury Inn. She also reported on her attendance at the Zoning Board meeting.

Mayor

Mayor Rogers – The following items were covered under the Mayor's Updates and Upcoming Events;

Reports & Communications:

- **Women's Club** – Mayor Rogers reported on her attendance at the Women's Club 100th Anniversary of Federation.
- **Cranbury Historical & Preservation Society** – Mayor Rogers reported on her attendance to the CHPS' 325th Anniversary Event at the Cranbury Inn.

Reminders:

- **November 19** – Upcoming Library Grand Opening with day filled with events and speakers.
- **December 2** – Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony with The Women's Club and Scouts.
- **December 4** – Tea Event at the Cranbury Museum.
- **December 11** – Cranbury Lions Club 76th Annual Pancake Breakfast
- **December 16** – Cranbury Village Luminaries Walk and A Christmas Carol Performance hosted by the Cranbury Arts Council and the Cranbury Chamber of Commerce
- **December 18** – Annual Lighting of the Menorah
- **Upcoming Winter Concerts hosted by Cranbury School**

325 Anniversary Events:

- **Tour de Cranbury:** Anticipated for Spring 2023

Agenda Additions/Changes – None

Boards and Commissions –

Mayoral Appointments: None.

Vacancies:

- Clock Winding – Member, expiring 12/31/22;
- Parks Commission – 2nd Alternate, expiring 12/31/22;
- Municipal Alliance – There are two vacancies:
 - Member expiring 12/31/22; and
 - 2nd Alternate expiring 12/31/22.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
November 14, 2022

Ordinances –

First Reading –

Mayor Rogers summarized that this ordinance codifies the relationship between the Cranbury Volunteer Fire Company and the Township. She encouraged fire company members to contact Township Administrator, Ms. Marabello, with any questions or concerns regarding this ordinance. She advised the public on how to obtain a copy of the ordinance. She announced public hearing and discussion on the ordinance will be held at the next Township Committee meeting on November 28, 2022.

Ms. Rubin read the following ordinance by title only:

a). An Ordinance Creating The Code Of The Township Of Cranbury, Middlesex County, NJ, Chapter 14 Entitled “Volunteer Fire Company”

Mr. Ferrante made a motion to introduce the following ordinance. Mr. Scott seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, the ordinance passed by the majority for introduction. Second reading will be held on November 28, 2022.

Ayes: (El-Badawi
(Ferrante
(Scott
(Rogers

Abstain: (None
Absent: (None

Nays: (Spann

Second Reading – None

Resolutions – Consent

Mayor Rogers asked the Township Committee if there were any questions or comments on the Consent Agenda items. Hearing none, the mayor asked for a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda items. On a motion by Mr. Ferrante, seconded by Mr. Scott the following Consent Agenda Resolution(s) were unanimously adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: (El-Badawi
(Ferrante
(Scott
(Spann
(Rogers

Abstain: (None
Absent: (None

Nays: (None

CRANBURY TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION #R 09-22-122

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

CRANBURY TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION # R 09-22-123

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING YEAR 2022 BUDGET TRANSFERS

WHEREAS, there are 2022 Budget Accounts which require more funding due to circumstances not known at the beginning of the year; and

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
November 14, 2022

WHEREAS, there will be excess balances in budget accounts in which the expenditures will be less than projected at the beginning of the year, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranbury, that the following year 2022 Budget Transfers be authorized and made on the records and accounts of the Township:

	<u>Budget Account</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
2-01-28-375-011	Parks – S&W	\$10,000.00	
2-01-25-240-011	Police – S&W	\$20,000.00	
2-01-20-150-310	Tax Assessment – OE	\$25,000.00	
2-01-21-185-300	Zoning – Legal		\$10,000.00
2-01-26-315-240	Vehicle Maint – Police		\$20,000.00
2-01-31-460-290	Motor Fuel – OE		\$25,000.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution, certified by the Township Clerk to be a true copy forwarded to each of the following:

- (a) Township Auditor
- (b) Township Chief Financial Officer

CRANBURY TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION # R-09-22-124

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF ESCROW

WHEREAS, Sudler Cranbury has deposited planning escrow with Cranbury Township

WHEREAS, Plant Food has requested the release of the balance of said escrow in the amount of \$226.50

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranbury authorizes the release of the above escrow deposit.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution, certified by the Township Clerk to be a true copy and forwarded to each of the following:

- (a) Township Director of Finance
- (b) Sudler

CRANBURY TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION # R-09-22-125

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF VISION ZERO

WHEREAS, traffic fatalities and serious injuries have been climbing since 2020 and,

WHEREAS, Vision Zero is a strategy to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all and,

WHEREAS, the Middlesex County Board of Commissioners has pledged to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries on roadways in the County by 2040 and will work in partnership with municipalities, agencies, and other stakeholders to achieve that goal and,

WHEREAS, Assemblymen Robert Karabinchak and Daniel Benson and Senator Patrick Diegnan sponsored bills which created a commission to study the effectiveness of Vision Zero and,

WHEREAS, Cranbury Township supports policies and programs which reduce traffic crashes, deaths, and injuries,

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
November 14, 2022

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Cranbury Township supports the goals of Vision Zero and supports the plan of the Middlesex County Commissioners to eliminate motor vehicle crashes, fatalities, and serious injuries by 2040.

Public Comment

Mayor Rogers then opened the meeting to general public comment.

- Laura Zurfluh – Ms. Zurfluh requested Township Committee to support resolutions against the proposed Keasbey power plant in Woodbridge.
- Brian Barry – Mr. Barry expressed support and desire for an all-inclusive playground in Cranbury Township.
- Jane Curran – Ms. Curran expressed support and desire for an all-inclusive playground in Cranbury Township.

Mayor Rogers closed the public comment portion at 7:44 p.m.

Action Items:

- Mr. Ferrante reminded members of the Township Committee to attend the library grand opening.
- Ms. Spann give the go ahead to the Municipal Alliance for circulation of 988 letter.
- Ms. Marabello confirmed with Township Committee that the Recreation Commission included an inclusive playground in their 2023 budget request which will be discussed at capital budget time.

Adjourn

Mayor Rogers requested a motion to adjourn. On motion by Mr. Ferrante, seconded by Mr. Scott and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Debra A. Rubin, RMC
Municipal Clerk