

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING  
May 8, 2023

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, Lisa Knierim (7:01pm), Dr. Barbara Rogers, Matthew Scott and Mayor Michael Ferrante. Also present were Denise Marabello, Township Administrator/CFO, Chief Michael Owens and Debra Rubin, Municipal Clerk. Mayor Ferrante 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 6, 2023.

Filed on January 6, 2023 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 Ferrante asked if any members of the Township Committee would like to address changes or amendments to the following minutes aside from the two amendments already circulated. Hearing none other, Mayor Ferrante asked for a motion to adopt the following minutes as amended:

**-- Township Committee Regular Meeting Minutes April 24, 2023**

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

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

Abstain: (None  
Absent: (None

Nays: (None

the Township Committee Regular Meeting Minutes of April 24, 2023 were unanimously adopted as amended by members present.

**Reports and Communications:**

**Members of Committee**

- Mr. Scott – Mr. Scott reported on his attendance at the Recreation Commission meeting. He reported on his anticipated attendance at the upcoming Parks Commission meeting.
- Ms. Knierim – Ms. Knierim reported on her attendance at the Board of Health and Historic Preservation Commission meetings. She was unable to attend the EDAC meeting.
- Ms. El-Badawi – Ms. El-Badawi reported on her attendance at the Development Review Committee and Open Space Recreation Planning Committee meetings. She reported on her anticipated attendance at the upcoming Municipal Alliance meeting.
- Dr. Rogers – Dr. Rogers reported on her attendance at the Board of Education meeting.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING  
May 8, 2023

**Mayor**

Mayor Ferrante – Mayor Ferrante reported on his attendance at the multiple events held around town including the Cranbury School 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Tour de Cranbury, and Colonial Fair. He also reported on his attendance at the Planning Board meeting.

**Reminders:**

- **May 25<sup>th</sup>** – “Meet the Artist” at the Cranbury Public Library
- **May 29<sup>th</sup>** – Memorial Day Parade
- **June 3<sup>rd</sup>** – The 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Health and Wellness Fair
- **July 5<sup>th</sup>** – Fireworks at Village Park
- **September 9<sup>th</sup>** – Cranbury Day
- **September 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Rabies Clinic
- **TBD** – Arts in the Park/Walking Trail Celebration Event

**Department Heads:**

**Volunteer Fire Company**

Chief Charlie Smith provided the Fire Company’s January 1<sup>st</sup> to April 3<sup>rd</sup> report. He reported on repairs to the firehouse and annual training completion. He additionally reported on hiring a consultant to research converting to a Fire District.

**Boards – Historic Preservation Commission**

Susan Ryan, Chair and Steven Golisano, Vice-Chair of HPC presented the 2022 accomplishments and 2023 goals to the Township Committee. They discussed a grant that was awarded to the Commission as well as the historic signage project.

**Follow-up Items:** None.

**Agenda Additions/Changes:** None.

**Boards and Commissions** – Mayoral Appointments/Vacancies

**Mayoral Appointments:** None.

**Vacancies:**

- Economic Development Advisory Committee:
  - Member, expiring 12/31/24
- Environmental Commission:
  - Member, expiring 12/31/24
- Parks Commission:
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate, expiring 12/31/23

**Ordinances:**

**First Reading – None.**

**Second Reading –**

Prior to Ms. Rubin reading the following ordinance by title only, Mayor Ferrante summarized the ordinance for the public. Ms. Rubin then read the following ordinance by title only:

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING  
May 8, 2023

**CRANBURY TOWNSHIP ORDINANCE 04-23-09**

**BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$428,990.00 THEREFORE, FUNDING \$21,450 FROM CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$407,540 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.**

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 \$428,990.00, including the sum of \$21,450.00 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 \$407,540.00 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 several improvements hereby authorized and the several purposes for which the bonds are to be issued, the estimated cost of each improvement and the appropriation therefore, the estimated maximum amount of the bonds or notes to be issued for each improvement and the period of usefulness of each improvement are as follows:

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Appropriation And Estimated Cost</u>	<u>Estimated Maximum Amount of Bonds or Notes</u>	<u>Period of Usefulness</u>
a) Replacement of pistols	\$6,100	\$5,795	15 years
b) Police Computers & Equipment	\$41,600	\$39,520	5 years
c) Police Axon Enterprise License	\$9,500	\$9,025	5 years
d) EV Charging Stations	\$12,600	\$11,970	15 years
e) Parks Improvements	\$35,475	\$33,701	5 years
f) Historic Sign Replacement Project	\$25,215	\$23,954	15 years
g) Old Firehouse Roof	\$5,500	\$5,225	20 years
h) New Firehouse Repair	\$39,000	\$37,050	20 years
i) Building Repairs-Misc	\$200,000	\$190,000	5 years
j) All Inclusive Playground Research	\$12,000	\$11,400	5 years

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING  
May 8, 2023

k) Pickleball Research	\$12,000	\$11,400	5 years
l) Misc Road Repairs	\$20,000	\$19,000	40 years
m) Recreation & Open Space Inventory	\$10,000	\$9,500	5 years

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 improvements or purposes described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance are not a current expense. They are all improvements or purposes 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 13 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 \$407,540.00 and the obligations authorized herein will be within all debt limitations prescribed by that Law.

(d) An aggregate amount not exceeding \$25,000 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.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING  
May 8, 2023

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 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.

Section 10. This bond ordinance shall take effect 20 days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

Mayor Ferrante opened for public comment on the ordinance only.

Hearing none, Mayor Ferrante closed the public comment on the ordinance.

Mayor Ferrante opened for township committee members to comment on the ordinance only.

Hearing none, Mayor Ferrante closed the township committee comments on the ordinance.

Mr. Scott made a motion to adopt the ordinance. Ms. Knierim seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, the ordinance was unanimously adopted by the members present.

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

Abstain: (None  
Absent: (None

Nays: (None

**Resolutions – Consent**

Mayor Ferrante asked the Committee if there were any questions or if any items on the Consent Agenda should be addressed separately. Hearing none, Mayor Ferrante asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. On motion by Mr. Scott, seconded by Ms. El-Badawi, the Consent Resolutions were passed unanimously by Township Committee members present.

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

Abstain: (None

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING  
May 8, 2023

Absent: (None)

Nays: (None)

**CRANBURY TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION # R 05-23-059**

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 05-23-060**

WHEREAS, it is necessary to make the following appointments,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranbury that the following individual(s) are appointed to the positions and terms noted effective May 8, 2023:

**TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>APPOINTMENT</b>	<b>TERM ENDING</b>
Lisa Knierim Township Committee Member	Economic Development Advisory Committee	12/31/24

**CRANBURY TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION # R 05-23-061**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A BID WITH  
SDW CONSTRUCTION FOR VILLAGE PARK WALKING PATH**

WHEREAS, five (5) bids were received on April 18, 2023 for Village Park Walking Path and;

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to enter into an agreement with SDW Construction, Inc. Morganville, NJ and

WHEREAS, SDW Construction, Inc. has offered to provide these services to the Township for cost of \$164,555.00; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A: 11-4.1 et seq., authorizes the award for purposes for which a competitive bid may be used by local units; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that there will be sufficient funds for this contract;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranbury, in the County of Middlesex, as follows:

1. The Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute an agreement with SDW Construction, Inc. to provide Village Park Walking Path.
2. A copy of the Agreement shall be available for public inspection in the Township Clerk's Office during regular business hours.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING  
May 8, 2023

**Public Comment**

Mayor Ferrante reminded the public of the three (3) minute time limit for public comment. Mayor Ferrante then opened the meeting to public questions and comment.

- Elaine Rusche – Ms. Rusche requested an update on the walking path between Birchwood and Ingerman. She requested the path be paved for wheelchair accessibility and safety concerns.

Hearing and seeing no one else, Mayor Ferrante closed public comment.

Mayor Ferrante responded to Ms. Rusche that the Township is waiting for the proper channels to execute the required easements for the paved path.

**Action Items** –

- Municipal Alliance to present their 2022 Accomplishments and 2023 Goals at the May 22<sup>nd</sup> Township Committee meeting.
- Traffic Subcommittee to look at brush placement and parking for bike lanes.
- Request for HPC Work Session meeting regarding the signage project.
- Dr. Rogers will circulate community solar material to the Township Committee.

**Adjourn**

Mayor Ferrante requested a motion to adjourn. On a motion by Ms. Knierim, seconded by Dr. Rogers and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Debra A. Rubin

Debra A. Rubin, RMC  
Municipal Clerk