

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING  
February 6, 2012

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: Susan Goetz, Glenn Johnson, Daniel Mulligan, Jay Taylor and Mayor David Cook. Also present were Denise Marabello, Township Administrator/Director of Finance; and Kathleen R. Cunningham, Municipal Clerk/Assistant Administrator. Mayor Cook 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 November 29, 2011 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 November 29, 2011.
- (3) Was filed on November 29, 2011 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.

Regular Township Committee Minutes of January 9, 2012

On motion by Mr. Mulligan, seconded by Mr. Taylor and unanimously carried, the Regular Township Committee Minutes of January 9, 2012 were adopted.

Special Township Committee Budget Meeting Minutes of January 21, 2012

On motion by Mr. Mulligan, seconded by Mr. Taylor and unanimously carried, the Special Township Committee Budget Meeting Minutes of January 21, 2012 were adopted.

**Public Hearing – Community Development Block Grant**

Mayor Cook opened the Public Hearing on the Community Development Block Grant at 7:05 p.m.

Ms. Cunningham, Clerk, stated notice of the Public Hearing had been advertised in The Cranbury Press, posted on the Township's web site, posted on the Township's Bulletin Board, posted at the Cranbury Township Senior Housing, Cranbury Public Library and in the Senior Center at Town Hall.

**Presentation by Elizabeth Silverman, Vice-President of Cranbury Housing Associates**

Ms. Elizabeth Silverman, Vice-President of Cranbury Housing Associates ("CHA") gave a brief summary of the history of CHA's partnership with Cranbury Township in developing affordable housing and helping the Township meet its affordable housing obligations. Ms. Silverman explained to the Township Committee and the public how Township Affordable Housing is managed and funded. Ms. Silverman reported to date 96 new units of affordable housing have been built and reported 32 new rental units are being planned on the Route 130-D site, now known as "Applewood Court." Half of these units will be for moderate-income tenants and half for low-income tenants.

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Presentation by Elizabeth Silverman, Vice-President of Cranbury Housing Associates  
(Continued)

Ms. Silverman reported the 2012 Community Development Block Grant of \$22,736 will be used for engineering and architectural services for the Applewood Court site.

Ms. Goetz asked if there were any affordable housing units available in the Township. Ms. Silverman stated there is one (1) current unit for sale, and stated affordable homes for sale are difficult to sell as the parameters set by the State to purchase affordable units are very narrow. She stated rental units turn over very quickly.

Mayor Cook opened the meeting for public comment on the Community Development Block Grant. Mr. Dee Wahlers, Hagerty Lane, asked if the Township could purchase the house on Bergen Drive and turn it into a rental unit. Ms. Silverman indicated Mr. Mark Berkowsky, President of CHA, can best answer these questions and reported he is presently on vacation.

Mr. Taylor reported some of West Windsor's Affordable Housing can now be sold at market value because of the age of the units. Mayor Cook stated Mr. Berkowsky may be able to explain the restrictions of selling affordable housing inventory. Mr. Mulligan stated it will be helpful for the Township Committee to understand the restrictions, and stated the litigation in West Windsor is different from "regular" affordable housing units.

Hearing no additional public comment, Mayor Cook closed the Community Development Block Grant Public Hearing at 7:16 p.m.

Reports and Communications

-- Mayor

Mayor Cook reported he had a meeting with Najarian Associates, the County engineers, who will be overseeing the Brainerd Lake Bridge/Dam Project. He reported Najarian Associates and the County will give a comprehensive presentation at the February 27<sup>th</sup> Township Committee meeting. Mayor Cook gave a brief overview of his meeting with the Engineers, and stated the Project will be significant. The roadbed will be 30 feet instead of its present 36 feet, which will increase the grass areas on either side, and the road will be more narrow, which will slightly slow down traffic. Concerning the street lighting on the Bridge, the Township will have the ability to work with PSE&G on the available lighting styles. Mayor Cook reported the current trees on the Bridge will be removed for structural reasons. Ornamental potted trees will be allowed, and the Township will decide on the types of trees. The new Dam spillway will be rectangular in shape and will be 100 feet instead of the present 40 feet. Mayor Cook passed out copies and described various aspects of the proposed Project.

Ms. Goetz asked if the plans include a fish ladder for fish to move back and forth in the stream. Mayor Cook explained fish ladders are for fish that actually jump, spawn and migrate, and stated fish ladders would not be practical for Brainerd Lake. However, Mayor Cook stated a pipe would be installed underneath the spillway to keep the area watered which would allow fish to pass through to the Brook in the event the water levels dropped. Ms. Goetz stated her concern that the area would never be dry.

-- Members of Committee

Mr. Johnson stated he had nothing to report this evening.

Ms. Goetz reported she attended the joint meeting of the Environmental Commission and the Parks Planning Commission. She reported the meeting was well attended and stated the purpose of the meeting was to identify overlapping responsibilities and ways for the Commissions to support each other. Ms. Goetz stated the Environmental Commission is responsible for the preserve and its natural elements while the Parks Planning Commission is concerned with more organized recreational uses for the parks.

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Reports and Communications (Continued)

--Members of Committee

Ms. Goetz (con't.)

Ms. Goetz reported she also attended the Business and Professional Association meeting this week and stated the Association's efforts are focusing on increasing membership and stated the Association would also like to be involved in the Signage Ordinance discussions.

Mr. Mulligan reported the new Township web site was launched with its new look and organization. He stated some additional work needs to be done, including activating Twitter and highlighting Open Space and Parks.

Mr. Mulligan reported he continues to work on the project to place a protective jute covering on the Hagerty property trees. He stated there is a family in Town who is very interested in performing community service and is willing to spearhead the project. He reported he will provide a summary of the project, and church/community/scout groups will be contacted for assistance. Mr. Mulligan stated a date will be selected, and he will provide an update at a future Township Committee meeting. Ms. Goetz suggested Mr. Mulligan keep in contact with the Shade Tree Commission, and he stated he will also seek guidance from the landscape architect.

Mr. Taylor reported the following Construction permits were issued in January: 13 Building (\$2,523.00); 28 Electrical (\$1,731.00); 16 Plumbing (\$992.00); and four (4) Fire permits (\$300.00). Construction inspections for January were: 87 Building, 45 Electrical, 29 Plumbing and seven (7) Fire inspections. Mr. Taylor reported there were 37 residential and 17 non-residential Certificates of Approval issued in January.

Mr. Taylor reported there were 49 First Aid calls in January (18 volunteer), including three (3) mutual aid to Hightstown. Mr. Taylor stated there were eight (8) mutual aid calls in January and a brush fire on Big Barn Road.

Mr. Taylor reported 118 summonses (27 speeding violations) were issued by the Police Department in December, and a total of 1,641 summonses were issued in 2011. Mr. Taylor reported there were 317.5 overtime hours in December due the retirement of two (2) officers, and there were a total of 2,680 overtime hours in 2011. Shift coverage due to sickness, Christmas holiday, school training, and special detail were primary drivers of overtime hours. Mr. Taylor stated the Traffic Bureau reported 36 motor vehicle crashes. The Detective Bureau had three (3) criminal investigations, one (1) closed investigation and 11 administrative investigations, of which eight (8) are now closed. Mr. Taylor reported in December there were nine (9) arrests; three (3) DWI's; two (2) burglaries; one (1) theft/shoplifting; and arrests were made for outstanding warrants, including one (1) with drugs. Mr. Taylor reported \$1,300 vehicle maintenance costs for Police vehicles in December.

Mr. Taylor reported, especially during this budget time, he has received questions concerning the Court and stated there seems to be misinformation about the Court circulating through Town. He stated he spoke about the Court last year and wanted to reiterate there is no fee paid to Plainsboro to operate the Court. He stated Plainsboro collects Cranbury's ticket revenue almost dollar for dollar, and for DWI arrests, Cranbury receives a portion of the fine, per State law, for body armor replacement. Mr. Taylor stated for 2011 the cost for Plainsboro to operate Cranbury Township Court was \$265,000. He gave a brief summary of Police revenue over the last few years and stated, given the reduction in the Cranbury Police force, it doesn't make sense for Cranbury Township to operate its own Court.

Mr. Taylor reported the Pole Barn Subcommittee, consisting of Mr. Taylor; Mr. Art Hasselbach, Zoning Board; Mr. Bill Tanner, Township Engineer; Mr. Jerry Thorne, Public Works Manager; and Mr. Greg Farrington, Construction Official, will meet on Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. to review the bid specs for the proposed Public Works Pole Barn.

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Reports and Communications (Continued)

--Members of Committee

Mr. Taylor (con't.)

Mr. Taylor reported the Signage Subcommittee will be meeting on Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room with Ms. Valerie Kimson, Esq., Planning Board Attorney; and Mr. Richard Preiss, Township Planner, to review the Signage Ordinance and prepare some recommendations for the Planning Board.

Agenda Additions/Changes

Ms. Kathleen R. Cunningham, Clerk, reported Cranbury Township Resolution # R 02-12-024 is being removed from the agenda. This Resolution will be on the February 27<sup>th</sup> Township Committee Agenda when the budget is introduced.

Resolutions

On a motion offered by Mr. Mulligan, seconded by Ms. Goetz, the following Resolution was adopted by vote:

Ayes:	(Goetz	Abstain: (None
	(Johnson	Absent: (None
	(Mulligan	
	(Taylor	
	(Cook	

Nays: (None

TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY  
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX

Cranbury Township Resolution # R 02-12-023

WHEREAS, Cranbury Township has applied for \$22,736.82 from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) earmarked to be used for its Third Round Affordable Housing Program; and

WHEREAS, Cranbury Township has submitted its Third Round Affordable Housing Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranbury it hereby requests the \$22,736.82 in grant monies be used to defray some of the costs related to assist in the development of or rehabilitation of low-to-moderate income housing in the Township of Cranbury.

Resolution

On a motion offered by Ms. Goetz, seconded by Mr. Mulligan, the following Resolution was adopted by vote:

Ayes:	(Goetz	Abstain: (None
	(Johnson	Absent: (None
	(Mulligan	
	(Taylor	
	(Cook	

Nays: (None

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING  
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Resolution (Continued)

Cranbury Township Resolution # R 02-12-025

TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY  
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX

WHEREAS, the Cranbury Township Committee strives to assure clean air, soil, and water and improve working and living environments to build a community that is sustainable economically, environmentally and socially; and

WHEREAS, the Cranbury Township Committee declared on February 28, 2011 its intention to seek certification within the Sustainable Jersey program; and

WHEREAS, Cranbury Township Committee wishes to establish a Green Team Advisory Committee to study and advise the Township on issues of environmental and energy sustainability and take the lead on meeting the goals of the Sustainable Jersey program;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 6<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2012, by the Cranbury Township Committee, we do hereby establish that the Cranbury Environmental Commission will serve as the Green Team Advisory Committee in these efforts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Cranbury Township Committee that the Mission and Objectives for the Green Team are established as follows:

**Mission**

The Cranbury Township Green Team Advisory Committee will advise the Township Committee on ways to promote sustainable practices, and improve municipal operations with economically and environmentally sound initiatives through research and evaluation.

**Objectives**

1. Assess and document sustainable practices currently employed by the Township.
2. Assess and document areas where additional sustainable practices may be implemented by the Township.
3. Collaborate with Township employees, service providers and other governmental agencies to share resource information and ideas consistent with the "Sustainable New Jersey Program".
4. Solicit ideas for improving sustainable practices in the Township from all members of the community.
5. Examine the environmental and financial effects of proposed sustainability initiatives.
6. Communicate sustainable practices and goals to the public.

**Resolutions**

**Consent Agenda**

Mayor Cook gave a summary of the Resolutions on the Consent Agenda. On a motion offered by Mr. Mulligan, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the following Consent Agenda Resolutions were adopted by vote:

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING  
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Resolutions

Consent Agenda (Continued)

Ayes:	(Goetz	Abstain:	(None
	(Johnson	Absent:	(None
	(Mulligan		
	(Taylor		
	(Cook		

Nays: (None

Cranbury Township Resolution # R 02-12-026

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 02-12-027

**WHEREAS**, the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act, P.L.1987, c.102, has established a recycling fund from which tonnage grant may be made to municipalities in order to encourage local source separation and recycling programs; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the intent and the spirit of the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act to use the tonnage grants to develop new municipal recycling programs and to continue and to expand existing programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has promulgated recycling regulations to implement the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the recycling regulations impose on municipalities certain requirements as a condition for applying for tonnage grants, including but not limited to, making and keeping accurate, verifiable records of materials collected and claimed by the municipality; and

**WHEREAS**, a resolution authorizing this municipality to apply for the **2011 Recycling Tonnage Grant** will memorialize the commitment of this municipality to recycling and to indicate the assent of Township Committee of the Township of Cranbury to the efforts undertaken by the municipality and the requirements contained in the Recycling Act and recycling regulations; and

**WHEREAS**, such a resolution should designate the individual authorized to ensure the application is properly completed and timely filed.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranbury hereby endorses the submission of the recycling tonnage grant application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and designates Linda S. Scott, Recycling Coordinator to ensure that the application is properly filed; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the monies received from the recycling tonnage grant be deposited in a dedicated recycling trust fund to be used solely for the purposes of recycling.

Reports from Township Staff and Professionals

--Administrator

Ms. Marabello stated she had nothing to report this evening.

-- Municipal Clerk/Assistant Administrator

Ms. Cunningham stated she had nothing to report this evening.

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Reports from Township Boards and Commissions

Mr. James Gallagher, Chairman of the Environmental Commission ("EC") presented the EC's 2011 Year-End Report. Mr. Gallagher summarized the 2011 activities, including replanting native plants and eradicating invasive species on the Cranbury Brook; overseeing Patrick Sockler's Eagle Scout project to eradicate the Multiflora Rose in the Preserve; sponsoring the Alfred Meiss Environmental Appreciation Award for Cranbury School 8<sup>th</sup> grade students; participating in the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Stream Clean-up sponsored by the Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed; monitoring the Reinhardt Property; working on the Riparian Zone Township Ordinance; and conducting educational activities, such as rain barrel workshops and Cranbury Day activities. Mr. Gallagher reported EC articles were included in the Township's newsletters, and Mr. John Reinfelder participated on the Track Subcommittee to investigate the feasibility of constructing a running track for the Township.

Mr. Gallagher reported on 2011 EC's initiatives, including "Sustainable Jersey," and "No Net Loss Reforestation at the Hagerty Property" which advised the Township Committee on the planting of over 2,400 trees as part of the New Jersey Turnpike Mitigation Project. The Subcommittee advised on tree placement, species choice, soil condition, deer protection and staking, and the planting of all trees was complete by the end of 2011.

Mr. Gallagher summarized the EC's 2012 goals, including promoting the use of the Environmental Resource Inventory; developing a Preserve Management Plan for the Reinhardt property for removal of trash, installation of signage and completion of a parking area; continuing eradication of invasive species in the Cranbury Brook Preserve and promoting the growth of native species in the Preserves; sponsoring the annual Alfred Meiss Environmental Appreciation Award, working toward securing "Sustainable Jersey" certification; promoting household environmental activities such use of rain barrels, rain gardens, proper use of fertilizers, use of native special, composting, use of grass clippings and household energy conservation. Mr. Gallagher stated the EC will promote educational activities such as placing articles on the Township's website and newsletter, having a Cranbury Day booth, promoting "green" building and sustainability; participating in the annual "Stream Clean-Up" and offering additional rain barrel workshops.

Mayor Cook stated he was impressed by the number of volunteers who participated in the Stream Clean-Up, and Mr. Gallagher stated the EC is actually looking for other areas to clean. Mayor Cook asked for clarification on the topic of the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Environmental Appreciation Award, and Mr. Gallagher stated the students could write about anywhere in Cranbury. Ms. Goetz stated students' submissions include many creative forms, including essays, DVD's, music and photographs.

Mr. Taylor stated he received a report of tire ruts down one of the main paths on the West Property, and he asked Ms. Marabello to have Mr. Jerry Thorne, Public Works Manager, level the ruts. Mr. Taylor reported the ruts fill with water and they become breeding grounds for mosquitos in the summer. Ms. Goetz stated there is a concern if too many low lying areas are filled, the natural ecosystem could be destroyed. She stated Public Works needs to work with EC and Parks before filling holes. Mr. Taylor also reported one area of the roadway was being used by a farmer, which created a natural barrier to invasive plantings. Mr. Taylor stated the farmer stopped using the roadway because it is Township property; however, Mr. Taylor suggested the farmer be asked to use the roadway as it maintains the natural barrier.

Ms. Barbara Rogers, Shady Brook Lane, stated the EC, as part of a grant, planted perennials along the stream bank. Ms. Gallagher stated the roadway changed when the dam failed. Prior to the dam failure, Mr. Gallagher reported approximately 750 perennials were planted, and stated the EC will check the conditions and will report back to the Parks Commission. Mayor Cook reported the farm property is currently being leased and perhaps there is no longer a need for that roadway. Ms. Rogers stated she felt filling in the ruts would upset the ecosystem since there

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Reports from Township Boards and Commissions (Continued)

Environmental Commission

(Mr. James Gallagher (con't.))

are frogs in the water in the spring and summer, and stated the ruts would also slow down any vehicles illegally on the roadway.

Mayor Cook asked there were any other questions for Mr. Gallagher, and hearing no additional comments, Mayor Cook thanked Mr. Gallagher for his presentation.

Work Session

a) Discussion with Members of the Turnpike Tree Subcommittee on Pursuing for 2012 the "New Jersey No Net Loss Reforestation Act" Grant.

Ms. Kathy Easton, Prospect Street, and Ms. Barbara Rogers, Shady Brook Lane, Co-chairs of the Township's Turnpike Tree Subcommittee, stated a survey taken of the Turnpike Tree Subcommittee recommended Cranbury Township pursue "New Jersey No Net Loss Reforestation Act" grant of \$1,067,089. Ms. Rogers stated trees improve animal habitat, conserve carbon dioxide, prevent erosion, and encourage people to walk on paths in wooded areas and shaded sidewalks. She reported the Subcommittee supports the planting and management of the trees to create a more sustainable environment and improve the quality of life for citizens of Cranbury. Ms. Rogers reported the Subcommittee has developed a reforestation plan for 3,557 trees, which is how many trees the Subcommittee recommends planting during Phase Two. The Subcommittee hopes to plant trees on the Fisher property (2,530 trees), with the remaining trees scattered throughout Cranbury Township in the Cranbury Preserve, Wright Property, Updike Property, Village Park, Old Trenton Road Extension, Millstone Park and the Village streets and roads. Ms. Rogers stated a Plan is in place, and the Subcommittee recommends moving forward with Phase Two.

Ms. Marabello stated the Township needs to wait for the Governor's budget to see if there is funding available for the trees before proceeding with filing the grant application. Ms. Marabello stated the Plan would be dependent on if the funding is available, and if the amount is lowered, the Environmental Commission could come back to the Township Committee with a new plan. Mayor Cook stated he understood there was more than one phase so the State could control the revenues. Ms. Cunningham confirmed the Township will not know if funds are available until Governor Christie presents the budget. Ms. Marabello reported the Township has one (1) year to apply for the grant.

Ms. Easton stated at the onset of this process, it was the Subcommittee's understanding the Township would receive grant money for 10,000 trees. She stated the Township does not need 10,000 trees, as Phase One is complete and Phase Two will fulfill all of the Subcommittee's recommendations accepted by the Township in 2010. She stated if the funding is decreased, the Subcommittee's goal is to get trees planted at the Preserve, Cranbury School, Route 130-D, and some street trees. For the street trees, Ms. Goetz stated \$300 is allocated for each tree, and she asked if \$600 could be spent instead to purchase a larger tree. Ms. Rogers explained the base of the trees planted is 2 to 2-1/2 inch caliper at the base of the tree, and confirmed the trees are not much bigger than 3 inches. Ms. Marabello reported if trees are planted in different locations, the labor charges will be higher.

Mayor Cook stated the Fisher location had been previously discussed, and it was decided to thicken the existing trees there and not to plant out the field. Ms. Easton explained the original plan was to plant out the field; however, with the input received from the public and the Township, the Subcommittee decided to plant just one part of the field to leave the view open. She further explained when the first grant money was received, the plan was to plant trees first on the Fisher property; however, the property is leased out and being farmed. It



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Work Session

- a) Discussion with Members of the Turnpike Tree Subcommittee on Pursuing for 2012 the "New Jersey No Net Loss Reforestation Act" Grant. (Continued)

Ms. Easton and Ms. Rogers (con't.)

was then decided to plant the trees on the Hagerty property, which was originally scheduled to receive only a couple of hundred trees. Mayor Cook stated he is in agreement with "thickening" parts of the Fisher property, and he stated the agricultural farming and vistas are very important to that property. Ms. Rogers stated part of "Sustainable New Jersey" is getting more people out and walking the paths, and connecting the properties would enhance the walkways. Ms. Easton explained the Wright property, the School, the Preserve, Old Trenton Road street trees, Village Park and Barn Park (about 1,000 trees total) are higher priorities than the Fisher and Updike properties.

Ms. Goetz confirmed the Turnpike Widening Project is the reason the Township is receiving the funding for trees. Ms. Easton explained for every acre disturbed, the Township receives 204 trees. Ms. Goetz asked if it was possible to have some trees planted by the Turnpike, and Ms. Easton stated it is the Turnpike's responsibility to plant trees there. Ms. Goetz stated there is concern of increased sedimentation in Brainerd Lake because of the work being done by the Turnpike, and she asked if the trees could be used for stabilization. Ms. Marabello stated the trees can only be used on Township-owned properties.

Ms. Rogers stated it is exciting the Turnpike Tree Subcommittee has been together for two (2) years and has received a lot of input from various committees and residents. She stated it is a moving document, and if the funding comes through, the plan is in place to plant the trees. Ms. Easton reported if the grant comes through, the Subcommittee will be seeking approval from the Township Committee to plant trees to provide shade and act as a buffer between the Reinhardt Preserve parking lot and private residences. Ms. Marabello stated the Township Committee wanted to determine if there was still a need for additional trees, and stated a call will be made to the State to follow up on the status of the funding.

Mayor Cook reported he saw some pictures of trees damaged by beavers. Ms. Rogers reported there is also beaver damage to shrubs on the Hagerty property. Mayor Cook stated a fence will be erected to prevent further damage. Ms. Easton asked what the fencing would look like, and Ms. Marabello stated it would need to be wire fencing or the beavers would chew through it. Ms. Easton stated fencing would catch debris if flooding occurred. Ms. Mulligan asked how large the beaver territory was and perhaps the damaged trees should not be replaced in that area. Ms. Easton recommended foregoing the fence as only about 20 trees were damaged, and the vista would be ruined with an unsightly fence. Ms. Easton stated the fencing should have been brought to the Subcommittee's attention so options could have been considered. Ms. Marabello stated the fence is not installed yet, and stated the fencing was discussed at a Township Committee meeting because the landscape architect recommended it as a preventative measure to additional beaver damage. Ms. Easton asked if funding was available to purchase jute to be used as a deterrent; however, Ms. Marabello stated the jute is not a deterrent for beavers. Ms. Easton stated the beavers did not denude the trees in the past. Ms. Marabello reported the landscape architect spoke with the DEP, who advised the beavers are a problem and the DEP does trap them this time of year. Ms. Marabello stated the beavers do not travel more than 200 to 250 feet from the water source. There was discussion about not putting up the fencing and taking loss on a couple of rows of trees; however, Ms. Marabello reported the Township contract with the landscape architect requires replacement of dead trees. Some trees have already been replaced although the landscape architect stated he will not continue to replace beaver-damaged trees.

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Work Session (Continued)

a) Discussion with Members of the Turnpike Tree Subcommittee on Pursuing for 2012 the "New Jersey No Net Loss Reforestation Act" Grant.

Ms. Easton and Ms. Rogers (con't.)

Ms. Easton reported there are willow oaks whose root balls have popped out of the ground, and she asked if the landscaper would be planting the trees back in the ground. Ms. Marabello reported she was told the landscaper would now wait for two (2) years before doing any more work. Ms. Easton stated replanting the trees would prevent them from dying, and Ms. Rogers stated this would be replanting and not replacing trees. Mr. Taylor inquired if the Public Works Department could replant the trees, and Ms. Marabello stated that is not really DPW's responsibility and the current contract includes tree maintenance/replacement.

Ms. Beth Veghte, Bunker Hill, Chairwoman of the Board of Recreation asked if the leased Frosztega property on North Main Street would be considered for tree plantings. She stated the property is inaccessible and could be planted. Ms. Veghte stated the property does get farmed so the tractor is able to access the property. Ms. Veghte stated the Board of Recreation would like to see trees planted as a buffer against the wind at the end of the West Property. Ms. Easton stated "vista supporters" do not want trees planted because they want to be able to see from Park Place to the farms. Ms. Veghte stated low trees would not impact the vista and she would like to see it considered. She stated the Board of Recreation would like to see the plans for the Wright South, West Property and Millstone Park as they are recreational spaces. Ms. Easton stated the trees on Wright South would only line the School parking lot. Ms. Veghte stated the Fisher Property is included in the Recreation Master Plan and asked for open space to be left on that property for possible future recreational uses.

Ms. Marabello stated the first step will be to see if funding is available. Ms. Easton and Ms. Rogers asked Ms. Veghte to submit the Board of Recreation's suggestions. Mr. Mulligan asked if the Frosztega property should be reconsidered. The property is currently leased to be farmed, and a portion is wetlands. Ms. Easton reported the property was looked at; however, it was eliminated due to accessibility and containing wetlands.

Ms. Bonnie Larson, Cranbury Neck Road, stated she was representing Shade Tree Commission and reported Shade Tree supports applying for the grant because there is not enough Township budget money to replace shade trees in the Township. Ms. Larson asked that Shade Tree be included to review the grant application before it is filed so their input can be included. The trees can be planted in Township right of ways, and Ms. Marabello reminded the Township Committee those trees will then be the Township's responsibility to maintain. Ms. Larson stated the trees on Cranbury Neck Road were planted by the Township in the 1960's and have been maintained by homeowners since then. Mayor Cook stated doing an inventory of existing Township trees, and having a priority replacement list in place is a project the Township hopes to get completed. He stated it would be a lengthy, time-consuming project. Ms. Larson stated the inventory of trees is a Shade Tree priority, and is a requirement to keep their community forestry status.

Ms. Taylor reported Mr. Jerry Thorne, Public Works Manager, conducted an inventory of trees in Township right-of-ways. Ms. Easton reported the Shade Tree Commission just received that document, and the document needs clarification. Mayor Cook stated the Shade Tree Commission will take a formal inventory following State guidelines. Ms. Larson stated Shade Tree will need to apply for a grant because it will be an expensive process to get the actual inventory done. Mr. Taylor stated in the meantime the Township Committee will need to decide how to handle fallen trees and dangerous limbs over sidewalks since tree removal/maintenance does affect the Township budget.

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Work Session (Continued)

- a) Discussion with Members of the Turnpike Tree Subcommittee on Pursuing for 2012 the "New Jersey No Net Loss Reforestation Act" Grant.

Ms. Easton and Ms. Rogers (con't.)

Ms. Rogers asked for clarification on the management of Phase One for grass planting and mowing. Ms. Marabello stated funds have been held from the contractor for grass to be planted in the Spring, and stated the path will be mowed by Public Works. Ms. Marabello stated the balance of the funds will be used for maintenance and replacement of the trees. Mayor Cook stated if the funding is received, he would like to see the plans for the Fisher property before the trees are planted.

Mr. Richard Kallan, Wynnewood Drive, stated when Public Works conducted the tree inventory, the trees in Unami Woods, which are Township trees, were not included. Ms. Marabello stated the Public Works' inventory was a quick survey of Township trees. Ms. Goetz stated fallen trees in Unami Woods would not be replaced as they would go back into the ecosystem; however, she agreed with Mr. Kallan's concern about trees falling into the street.

Public Comment

The Mayor opened the meeting to public questions and comment. Mr. Richard Kallan, Wynnewood Drive, asked about the new proposed width of the Brainerd Lake Dam and asked if the tunnel under the road will be re-done. Mayor Cook stated the 20' by 7' tunnel will be relined. He explained spillway will be increased to 100' and it has been determined the current tunnel capacity is not fully utilized. Mr. Kallan stated he did agree with increasing the spillway and not increasing the tunnel. Mr. Mulligan stated increasing the spillway to 100' will maximize the tunnel capacity and be the most cost effective option. Mayor Cook stated the curb and street repairs will also divert some water.

Mr. Mulligan wanted to revisit the fencing on the Hagerty Property and stated he had originally been in favor of it. He asked if the fence had been ordered, and Ms. Marabello stated it had been ordered. The Township Committee decided to install the fence as a deterrent to the beavers destroying the trees.

There being no further public comments, the Mayor closed the public part of the meeting.

Mayor's Notes

Mayor Cook thanked the Township Committee, Ms. Marabello and Ms. Cunningham for the participation in the budget sessions. He stated this is a tough budget year, and he appreciated all the hard work and time put in to the budget. Mayor Cook asked for a motion to go into Closed Session.

Resolution

On a motion by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the following Resolution was adopted by vote:

Ayes: (Goetz  
(Johnson  
(Mulligan  
(Taylor  
(Cook

Abstain: (None  
Absent: (None

Nays: (None

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING  
February 6, 2012

Cranbury Township Resolution # R 02-12-028

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 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: February 6, 2012

On motion by Mr. Mulligan, seconded by Mr. Johnson, and unanimously carried, the meeting returned to Open Session.

On a motion by Ms. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Mulligan, and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

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Kathleen R. Cunningham, RMC  
Municipal Clerk