

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING  
November 26, 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, Daniel Mulligan (arrived at 7:09 p.m.), James Taylor, and Mayor David Cook. Mr. Glenn Johnson was absent. Also present were Denise Marabello, Township Administrator/Director of Finance; and Kathleen 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 October 22, 2012

On motion by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Ms. Goetz and unanimously carried (with Mr. Johnson and Mr. Mulligan being absent), the Regular Township Committee Minutes of October 22, 2012 were adopted.

Regular Township Committee Minutes of November 5, 2012

On motion by Ms. Goetz, seconded by Mr. Taylor and unanimously carried (with Mr. Johnson and Mr. Mulligan being absent), the Regular Township Committee Minutes of November 5, 2012 were adopted.

Reports and Communications

--Mayor

Mayor Cook reported he will be attending a meeting with County Engineers to finalize the infrastructure aspects of the Brainerd Lake Dam Project. He stated the meeting will not address the aesthetics of the Project, but will focus on the costs of the spillway, the bridge and roadway. He reported the permit process will hopefully be completed in December with the idea the project will be bid out to contract shortly thereafter. The bidding process can take up to 90 days, which puts the initiation of construction to March. Mayor Cook stated within a few weeks the Township will have a series of concepts depicting what the Bridge and roadway will look like. Mayor Cook stated at that point the Township can look at the options of both the Dam Project and Beautification Project to determine how they can be melded together.

Mayor Cook reported AshBritt, an entity contracted by the State to allow Counties to work with a single provider, will begin the cleanup of debris from Super Storm Sandy on Tuesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Cook stated the initial estimate of debris was around 3,000 cubic yards. Based on that, the Township was given the price of approximately \$100,000. Since this is a State-authorized or mandated contractor, FEMA will reimburse up to 75% of that cost.

Mayor Cook reported Geese Police have been contacted by Public Works to assist in removing the geese, which seem to be in greater numbers this year.

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Reports and Communications

--Mayor Cook (cont'd.)

Mayor Cook stated the Master Plan interpretations for the Route 130 Corridor language should be ready in the first quarter 2013.

He reported residents who experienced "material damage" from Super Storm Sandy can fill out a form issued by the New Jersey Division of Taxation to possibly receive some relief on next year's property taxes. The forms will be reviewed by Mr. Steve Benner, Township Tax Assessor. Ms. Cunningham reported the form has been posted on the Township's website.

Mayor Cook stated the Federal Government is looking at a "fiscal cliff", and stated while Cranbury is not at that point today, he suggested over the next few months looking at the possibility of having a subcommittee or independent third party to look at, and offer suggestions on, pending issues such as use of surplus. Mayor Cook stated outside suggestions might be beneficial to assist the Township to determine processes moving forward.

Ms. Cunningham reported for the record Mr. Dan Mulligan arrived at 7:09 p.m.

Reports and Communications

--Township Committee

Ms. Goetz reported she attended an Environmental Commission meeting and stated the Commission is looking at the Reinhardt parcel and is considering the possibility of a trail. The original idea was to leave the trail natural; however the area was first looked at during a drought and the trail looks very different now. She stated recommendations of trail layouts will be sketched, and perhaps a Boy Scout can work on the trails as a project in the future.

Ms. Goetz reported the Parks Commission created a draft list for open space, including descriptions of spaces, histories, locations and the rules, to be reviewed by the Environmental Commission. Ms. Goetz stated the Parks' intent is to post the list on the Township's website for residents' information.

Ms. Goetz reported the Beautification Subcommittee is interested in working with the Brainerd Dam Committee to ensure a compatible look between the two projects.

Mr. Mulligan reported the Business Association would like to do a food-tasting/wine-tasting event in the spring/summer to be held on the field where the Farmers' Market is held. Mr. Mulligan asked if the Township Committee was in agreement with the idea. Mr. Mulligan stated local restaurants in the Township would offer foods to be paired with wines. Mr. Mulligan reported Ms. Marabello is contacting Mr. Steve Goodell, Township Attorney, to confirm legal aspects. The Township Committee was in agreement, and Mr. Mulligan reported more information will be provided in the future.

Mr. Mulligan stated he wanted to address a few issues on the Property Maintenance Ordinance before it was introduced. He reported he and Mr. Johnson met with a group of residents who were concerned with items in the previous draft. He stated based on residents' feedback, they made several changes, such as further defining the lawn description, removing references to tree stumps and rocks; and removing "weather-tight" language in the draft. The Ordinance is being renamed from "Property Maintenance Code" to "Minimum Property Standards." Mr. Mulligan stated the new name is less "demonizing" and the Ordinance does deal with minimum standards, such as having numbers on buildings/homes and the height of hanging tree branches interfering with emergency vehicles. He stated he did research of other municipalities, and a 14-foot clearance seems standard. Mr. Mulligan stated the Fire Company had concerns about low-hanging branches hitting the fire trucks causing safety issues to firemen and their ability to get to a fire. Mr. Mulligan clarified a 7-foot clearance over sidewalks and 14-foot clearance over streets.

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Reports and Communications

--Township Committee

(Mr. Mulligan cont'd.)

Mr. Mulligan asked Ms. Cunningham, Township Clerk, if the change in name for the Ordinance would require an agenda change. Ms. Cunningham stated she received the title to be used on the Agenda from the Township Attorney; however the Ordinance has the correct title on it, which is what will be advertised in the newspaper as being introduced on First Reading.

Mr. Taylor reported "Santa's Village" will be held at the Fire House on December 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m., followed by the tree lighting. Mr. Taylor reported he does not have a date when the Menorah will be erected; however, the Rabbi is working with the Public Works Department. Mr. Taylor stated on December 21<sup>st</sup>, Santa will be riding in a fire truck around the Township.

Reports and Communications

--Subcommittees

There were no reports from Subcommittees.

Agenda Additions/Changes

Ms. Cunningham, Municipal Clerk, stated the title of the Ordinance shall be as follows: "AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTING THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY BY CREATING A NEW SECTION 116, ENTITLED "MINIMUM COMMUNITY PROPERTIES' STANDARDS".

Mayor Cook asked if there was any Public Comment concerning agenda items, and hearing none, proceeded with the agenda.

Ordinance

First Reading

Cranbury Township Ordinance # 11-12-13

An Ordinance entitled, Cranbury Township Ordinance # 11-12-13, AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTING THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY BY CREATING A NEW SECTION 116, ENTITLED "MINIMUM COMMUNITY PROPERTY STANDARDS" was introduced on first reading and will be heard on Second Reading and have a Public Hearing at the next Township Committee Meeting on Monday evening, December 10, 2012 at 7 p.m.

Mayor Cook stated there has been a lot discussion regarding this Ordinance, its meaning and what the Township is hoping to accomplish by adopting the Ordinance. He stated the spirit of the Ordinance is appropriate and brings awareness to a property going into decline. Mr. Taylor stated he wanted to thank Mr. Mulligan and Mr. Johnson for meeting with concerned residents. Mr. Taylor stated he agrees with many of the elements of the Ordinance; however he will not be voting for it because he does not agree with creating a new section of Code. He stated he believes the language could be incorporated into the existing Code.

On motion by Mr. Mulligan seconded by Ms. Goetz, the Ordinance was passed on first reading by vote:

Ayes: (Goetz  
(Mulligan  
(Cook

Abstain: (None  
Absent: (Johnson

Nays: (Taylor

Second Reading: December 10, 2012

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Cranbury Township Ordinance # 11-12-13  
(Continued)

WHEREAS, Cranbury Township desires to protect the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Township; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to establish certain standards governing the maintenance, appearance and condition of residential and commercial property located in the Township;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranbury, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, that the Code of the Township of Cranbury is supplemented as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 116, entitled "Minimum Community Property Standards" is created as follows:

§116-1. Purpose

This chapter shall be known as the "Minimum Community Property Standards of the Township of Cranbury". The purpose of the Property Maintenance Code is to protect the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Township by establishing certain standards governing the maintenance, appearance and condition of residential and commercial property located in the Township.

The requirements of this chapter shall be in addition to and read in conjunction with the requirements and procedures set forth under Chapter 62 entitled "Buildings, Number Of"; Chapter 72 entitled "Construction Codes, Uniform"; Chapter 130 entitled "Streets and Sidewalks"; and, Chapter 161 entitled "Nuisances".

§116-2. Definitions

"Building" shall mean any structure or part thereof, whether used for human habitation or otherwise, and include any outbuilding appurtenances thereto.

"Bulky waste" shall mean large items of solid waste which because of their size or weight require other handling than normal for municipal waste. Bulky waste includes, but is not limited to, items such as tree trunks, vehicle parts, auto bodies, tires, demolition or construction materials, appliances, furniture and drums.

"Deterioration" shall mean the condition of a building, or part therefore, characterized by holes, breaks, rot, crumbling, cracking, rusting or other evidence of physical decay, neglect, lack of maintenance or excessive wear.

"Garbage" or "Rubbish" shall mean any used or unconsumed substance or waste material which has been discarded.

"Lawns" shall be defined as a stretch of open grass covered, landscaped or manicured area of land, located adjacent to or along the street side of a property.

"Meadow" shall be defined as a mix of approximately fifty percent turf grasses and fifty percent native wildflowers which may be permitted on lots of 1.5 acres or larger.

"Occupant" shall mean any person or persons, including the owner, in actual possession of, and using the entire building or any occupancy unit in a building.

"Owner" shall mean the holder or holders of the title to premises in fee simple.

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Cranbury Township Ordinance # 11-12-13  
(Continued)

§116-3. Buildings

- A. Exterior cladding and/or roofing materials on residential and commercial buildings and outbuildings shall be securely affixed to the building so as to be weather resistant.
- B. Windows and doors shall be kept in good repair and must be capable of preventing vandalism on the interior of the buildings.
- C. If damage occurs to any building, such that windows and/or doorways are damaged, the window/doorway shall be covered with plywood or similar material so as to prevent vandalism until repairs can be completed. Repairs should be completed within thirty (30) days from the date the damage occurs.
- D. In order for emergency personnel and first responders to quickly identify buildings, the owner of every building within the Township, to which a number has been assigned in accordance with the system of building numbering adopted by the Township Committee, shall display the number at the owner's expense as required by Chapter 62-2.

§116-4. Grounds

- A. Sidewalks and Roadways
  - 1. Shrubs, bushes, tree branches and other vegetation should be trimmed so as to prevent encroachment on the adjacent sidewalk and roadways.
  - 2. Shrubs, bushes, tree branches and other vegetation should be trimmed and maintained such that a vertical clearance of at least seven (7) feet is created above the sidewalk to permit easy passage on the sidewalk.
  - 3. Shrubs, bushes, tree branches and other vegetation should be trimmed and maintained such that a vertical clearance of at least fourteen (14) feet is created above the roadway to allow for the passage of Emergency vehicles.
  - 4. Poison ivy, poison oak, poison sumac and similar noxious vegetation shall be trimmed so as to prevent encroachment on the adjacent sidewalk and roadways.
  - 5. At no time shall vegetation be permitted to obstruct the sight lines at the intersection of two roadways or the intersection of a commercial driveway and a roadway.
- B. Lawns shall be trimmed such that they do not exceed a height of twelve (12) inches from the ground. No height restriction shall apply to farm/agriculture assessed property, ornamental grasses, a stream corridor restoration or stream bank stabilization plan, or a meadow.
- C. Property shall be kept free from debris including, but not limited to, rubbish or garbage, construction materials, broken glass and shingles or other materials resulting from building deterioration or inadequate maintenance; physical hazards or areas that permit rodent harborage.
- D. Accumulation of waste building materials or other debris from land development, building construction/renovation, street grading or installation of underground utilities on private land shall be removed within thirty (30) days of final permit inspection, issuance of a certificate of occupancy or completion of the construction/renovation project.

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- E. Yard areas visible from the roadway shall not be used to store bulky waste, including, but not limited to, appliances, furnaces, hot water heaters, water softeners, indoor furniture, etc. This section shall not apply to barbeque grills.

§116-5. Fences

Fences shall be maintained in an upright position and have all their attendant parts.

§116-6. Enforcement

- A. The provisions of the Property Maintenance Code shall be enforced by a duly authorized agent or employee of Cranbury Township who shall be known as the Property Maintenance Code Enforcement Officer.
- B. The Enforcement Officer shall be authorized to make or cause to be made any such inspections as may be necessary to determine the condition of buildings, structures and premises located in the Township.

§116-7. Notice

- A. Notice. If the Enforcement Officer determines that a violation of the Property Maintenance Code exists, then he/she shall issue a written violation notice.
- B. Contents of the notice. The notice shall contain a description of the property sufficient to identify it, but need not contain a legal description; shall contain a statement of the reason(s) it is being issued; and shall contain a reasonable time to remedy the violation, which is not less than ten (10) days.
- C. Service. Notice shall be made by leaving a copy of the notice at the property and by sending a copy to the owner of record by regular and certified mail.

§116-8. Appeal

Any person aggrieved by any notice issued pursuant to the Property Maintenance Code may request and shall be granted a hearing before the Township Administrator. Any such appeal must be requested with the Township Administrator in writing, setting forth a brief statement of the grounds for the appeal within ten (10) days of the issuance of the violation notice. Upon receipt of the appeal request, the Township Administrator shall schedule the date and time for the hearing and shall provide written notice of the hearing to the property owner/occupant by leaving a copy of the notice at the property and by sending a copy to the owner of record by regular and certified mail. The hearing shall be held within ten (10) days of the appeal being filed unless the Township Administrator and the property owner/occupant agree, in writing, to postpone the hearing to a later date.

After the hearing, the Township Administrator shall sustain, modify or withdraw the notice of violation. If the Township Administrator sustains the notice of violation, then it shall become an order and the property owner/occupant shall have ten (10) days to comply with the requirements of the order. If no appeal is filed from the issuance of a notice of violation, the notice shall automatically become an order after ten (10) days.

Any person aggrieved by the decision of the Township Administrator may seek relief from any court of competent jurisdiction located in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey.

§116-9. Failure to comply

If the owner, occupant or tenant of such lands to whom such notice has been given, refuses or neglects to perform the required repair or maintenance the Township may, at its discretion, cause said work to be performed or said violation to be remedied.

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Cranbury Township Ordinance # 11-12-13  
(Continued)

The cost of said work shall be certified by the Enforcing Officer and shall be charged against the property affected. The amount so charged shall become a lien upon such lands and shall be added to the taxes next to be assessed and levied upon such lands, bearing interest at the same rate as taxes and collected and enforced in the same manner as taxes.

§116-10. Violations and penalties

Any owner, occupant or tenant violating any provision of this chapter shall be liable to the penalties established in Chapter 1, § 1-15 of this Code, entitled "General penalty; continuing violations," except that no person found to have violated a provision of this chapter shall be subject to imprisonment for such violation.

SECTION 2. Repealer. All ordinances and resolutions, or parts thereof, inconsistent with this Ordinance, are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. Severability. If any section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provisions of this Ordinance shall be adjudged to be invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to the section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provision so adjudged and the remainder of this Ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective.

SECTION 4. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its passage and publication, as required by law.

Resolutions

Consent Agenda

Mayor Cook gave a brief summary of the Resolutions and asked the Township Committee if there were any questions or comments. On a motion by Mr. Mulligan, seconded by Mr. Taylor, the following Consent Agenda Resolutions were adopted by vote:

Ayes: (Goetz  
(Mulligan  
(Taylor  
(Cook

Abstain: (None  
Absent: (Johnson

Nays: (None

Cranbury Township Resolution # R 11-12-147

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 11-12-148

TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

A RESOLUTION AWARDED PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AGREEMENT FOR APPRAISAL  
SERVICES FOR EASEMENTS FOR BLOCK 23, LOTS 71 AND 71.01

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WHEREAS, the Township wishes to hire the following firm (collectively "Professional") to provide professional services to the Township during the calendar year 2012 as follows:

Cranbury Township Resolution # R 11-12-148  
(Continued)

a). Sockler Realty Services Group- Appraisal Services to be performed for easements for Block 23, Lots 71 and 71.01; and

WHEREAS, the costs for the services to be provided by the Professional is set forth in his/her respective proposal submitted to the Township, which is incorporated herein as if fully restated; and

WHEREAS, the Township has a need to acquire the foregoing services without a "Fair and Open Process" as defined by P.L. 2004, c. 19, the "Local Unit Pay-to-Play Law"; and

WHEREAS, there is no need for the Professional to complete and file any "Play-to-Pay" forms, due to the aggregate amount being less than \$17,500.00; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 *et. seq.* authorizes the award of this contract without public bidding on the basis that it is a professional services agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Cranbury Township Chief Financial Officer has certified that sufficient funds are available for these purposes and that the value of said Agreement will not exceed \$ 3,000.00;

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

1. The Township of Cranbury hereby approves the following firm to provide professional services to the Township during the calendar year 2012:
  - a) Sockler Realty Services Group – Appraisal Services for easements for Block 23, Lots 71 and 71.01.
2. The Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to enter into Professional Services Agreement with the aforementioned professional pursuant to the provisions of the New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 *et seq.* This contract is being awarded without competitive bidding as a Professional Services Agreement under the provisions of the aforementioned law because a service will be rendered or performed by a person or persons by law to practice recognized professions and whose practice is regulated by law.
3. A copy of this Resolution, the executed Agreement and insurance certificate shall be placed on file in the Office of the Township Clerk.

CRANBURY TOWNSHIP # R 11-12-149

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN  
THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A.  
40A:4-87 (CHAPTER 159, P.L. 1948)



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WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of

CRANBURY TOWNSHIP # R 11-12-149  
(Continued)

any County or Municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget, and

WHEREAS, said Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for equal amount,

Section 1

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget of the year 2012 in the sum of \$1,901.05 which item is now available as a revenue from State of New Jersey pursuant to the provision of statute, and

Section 2

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a like sum of \$1,901.05 is hereby appropriated under the caption "Body Armor".

Section 3

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

- (a) Director of the Division of Local Government Services
- (b) Township Auditor
- (c) Director of Finance

CRANBURY TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION #R 11-12-150

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY, that Ross Maszczak be appointed as Tax Collector, at a rate of \$28.00 per hour, effective August 20, 2012.

Cranbury Township Resolution # R 11-12-151

WHEREAS, "Super Storm Sandy" hit the State of New Jersey on Monday, October 29, 2012; and

WHEREAS, Cranbury Township had numerous trees fall throughout the Township causing an excessive amount of brush and leaning trees; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6 and N.J.A.C. 5:34-6.1 (Appendix A), "Purchase of goods and services in response to an emergency can be made without regard to public bidding; and

WHEREAS, "AshBritt, Inc., 565 East Hillsboro Boulevard, Deerfield Beach, Florida 33441 has a State Contract to assist municipalities throughout the State of New Jersey in removal of brush and leaning trees;

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NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to execute an agreement with AshBritt, Inc. for an amount to be determined based on cubic yards of brush disposed and leaning trees removed.

Cranbury Township Resolution # R 11-12-152

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY, NJ

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING YEAR 2012 BUDGET TRANSFERS.

WHEREAS, there are 2012 Budget Accounts which require more funding due to circumstances not known at the beginning of the year; and

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 2012 Budget Transfers be authorized and made on the records and accounts of the Township:

|                 | <u>Budget Account</u> | <u>From</u> | <u>To</u>   |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 2-01-31-455-315 | Sewer – OE            | \$20,000.00 |             |
| 2-01-22-200-011 | Fire Official – S&W   | \$1,200.00  |             |
| 2-01-43-490-320 | Municipal Court – OE  |             | \$20,000.00 |
| 2-01-21-185-011 | Zoning – S&W          |             | \$1,200.00  |

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

Reports from Township Staff and Professionals

--Administrator's Report

The Administrator stated she had nothing to report.

--Assistant Administrator's Report

Ms. Cunningham asked the Township Committee if they still plan to hold the December 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. She stated she will need to notice the newspapers if the meeting is not held. Ms. Cunningham explained the December 17<sup>th</sup> meeting is listed on the yearly calendar as "optional." The Township Committee will decide and will notify Ms. Cunningham.

Reports from Township Boards and Commissions

There were no reports from Township Boards and Commissions.

Work Session

a). Discussion by Township Committee on 2013 Township Committee Meeting Dates

Ms. Cunningham proposed the Township Committee have the Re-organization Meeting on Thursday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> due to the requirement by Statutory requirement a municipality must re-organize within the first seven (7) days of the New Year. Ms. Cunningham stated the Township Committee can decide on the time. She explained at the Re-org meeting

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Work Session (Continued)

- a). Discussion by Township Committee on 2013 Township Committee Meeting Dates  
the Township Committee adopts its routine resolutions in order to conduct business for 2013. She reported the regular meetings for January would be on January 14<sup>th</sup> and January 28<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Goetz stated because of holidays meetings are scheduled one week apart twice during the year. She asked if there was a problem to holding a meeting on a Tuesday after a holiday. Ms. Goetz stated she thought it was beneficial to have two (2) weeks between meetings. Mayor Cook stated he preferred leaving the schedule the way it is. Ms. Cunningham explained the schedule needed to be decided upon because she creates a schedule for all Boards and Commissions, which must be submitted to the newspapers. Mr. Mulligan and Mr. Taylor stated they were fine with changing the meeting dates. Ms. Cunningham stated the dates would be changed from Monday, May 20<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> and also Monday, November 18<sup>th</sup> would be changed to Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>. The Township Committee stated they were in favor of the changes.

Public Comment

The Mayor then opened the meeting to public questions and comment.

Mr. Richard Kallan, Wynnewood Drive, asked if any consideration will be given this year to moving the Christmas tree or menorah, and Mayor Cook responded the placement of both will be shifted to the right and left at Memorial Park. Mr. Kallan stated there was discussion last year about moving the tree and menorah to Heritage Park; however Mayor Cook stated both will remain at the current location. Mayor Cook stated he will speak to the Rabbi about the brightness of the light bulbs on the menorah.

Ms. Betty Conover, North Main Street, asked the Township if the Fire Company could make public announcements during an emergency. She stated during Super Storm Sandy many residents did not have phones or internet service and could have benefitted from announcements. Mayor Cook stated it would be beneficial to have a list of residents who may need assistance and suggested starting a list with senior citizens who may need assistance. Ms. Conover stated she heard the Scouts were distributing information; however, she did not receive anything. She stated she is self-sufficient but there were seniors without power who were very cold and could have used assistance. She wanted to relay information she received from other seniors to the Township Committee. Mr. Mulligan stated an OEM Subcommittee has been established, and Ms. Conover agreed the Subcommittee may be able to make recommendations to better handle a future emergency.

Ms. Conover stated she has not heard any comments about re-instituting the use of the fountain at Brainerd Lake. She explained the fountain was a gift to the Town and is not functioning. Mayor Cook stated during the planning of the Dam Project, the County initially did not know what would be done with the fountain. He stated the Town wanted to keep the fountain. The fountain will be crated and its placement and functionality will need to be addressed in the future. Ms. Goetz clarified the Beautification Project does not include the Lake area; however, the plan is for the Beautification and Bridge/Dam Committees to work together. She stated it is a great idea to keep the fountain.

Ms. Connie Bauder, Petty Road, stated people are still parking in front of the mailbox zone. She stated the sign needs to be moved to the end of the last legal parking place and stated the area is an "accident waiting to happen." She asked for enforcement as there is a lot of activity happening there with traffic for Cranbury Pizza, Gil and Bert's Ice Cream and the Post Office. Ms. Bauder also asked the crosswalk sign be moved from its present location near Bunker Hill closer to the actual crosswalk. She explained the roadway is narrow at that point, and it is

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Public Comment (Continued)

evident the sign has been hit many times. Mr. Taylor reported he recently saw a police officer writing a ticket to a car illegally parked in front of the Post Office. Mr. Mulligan also mentioned a lack of street lighting in this area, and suggested additional lighting be added for safety.

Mr. Richard Kallan, Wynnewood Drive, mentioned during the storm the police checked on Wynnewood residents and told them to go to Hightstown if they needed water. Mr. Kallan stated they were never told about the availability of the Church. Mr. Kallan stated all police vehicles have PA systems and stated the announcements would not have to be a burden on the Fire Company during emergencies. Mr. Kallan stated he was surprised to learn the Presbyterian Church was set up to accommodate residents without food or heat.

Mr. Kallan stated he previously asked the Township Committee about the possibility of installing a crosswalk on Main Street either at Cranbury Neck Road or at Liedtke Drive across from the Park. He stated the only way to safely cross Main Street from Cranbury Neck Road is to walk a distance to the crosswalks at Station Road or Trenton Road. Ms. Marabello stated Main Street is a County road, and the County would have to install the crosswalk. Mayor Cook stated the Township will follow up with the County.

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

Mayor's Notes

Mayor Cook stated he wanted to again thank the OEM personnel and press for getting information out to the residents during the storm. Mayor Cook stated he believed Cranbury fared relatively well during the storm and thanked residents for handling the emergency as they did. He stated the Township is now handling the final phase of the storm; namely, the cleanup of debris. He stated the formation of the OEM Subcommittee will be beneficial to handle emergencies in the future.

On a motion by Mr. Mulligan, seconded by Mr. Taylor and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

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Kathleen R. Cunningham, RMC  
Municipal Clerk