

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
May 10, 2021

The Township Committee Regular Meeting of the Township of Cranbury was held at 7:00 pm. by remote access videoconferencing in response to COVID-19 and the updated Open Public Meeting Act guidelines. Answering present to roll call were Township Committee members: Barbara Rogers, Matthew Scott (7:40 p.m.), Evelyn Spann, Mr. Taylor (7:06 p.m.) and Mayor Michael Ferrante. Also present were Denise Marabello, Township Administrator/CFO; Steve Goodell; Township Attorney (7:47 p.m.) Scott Miccio, Township Attorney; 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 22, 2021.

Filed on January 22, 2021 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. Township website was previously updated with remote access information on April 24, 2020, and updated June 18, 2020.

Sent to those individuals who have requested personal notice.

Ms. Rubin read the following additional statement:

Cranbury Township

Statement on Public Comment during Remote Meeting

The public may electronically submit questions or comments to twpcclerk@cranbury-nj.com or in written letter form via mail to Cranbury Township Town Hall no later than 4:00 p.m. the day of the scheduled Committee Meeting. Name, address and phone or email must be included. Timely submitted questions or public comment shall be read aloud and addressed during the public meeting. Duplicate written comments may be summarized and noted for the record in a consistent manner.

To eliminate background noise so that all meeting participants may hear, please mute your microphone and remain in listening mode only. The Clerk will place all remote attendees on this platform on mute as well and will manage the order of the remote participant's comments. During public comment period(s), the Clerk will make an announcement that any remote participant seeking to comment must signify their intent by using the "raise hand" feature on Zoom. The Clerk will then unmute each participant individually when it is their designated time to speak. If you do not have a question or comment, please keep your microphone muted. Please unmute yourself only at the direction of the Clerk. All remote users must state their name and address at the beginning of his/her public comment.

Should a member of the public using the Zoom platform become disruptive, that individual will be kept on mute and receive a warning that continued disruption may result in their being prevented from speaking or removed from the meeting entirely. If time permits, the disruptive individual shall be allowed to speak after all other members of the public have been given the opportunity to speak.

The Township Committee will facilitate a dialogue with all commenters to the extent permitted by Zoom technology.

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

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--Township Committee Regular Meeting Minutes of April 26, 2021

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

Ayes: (Rogers
(Spann
(Ferrante

Abstain: (None
Absent: (Scott
(Taylor

Nays: (None

the Township Committee Regular Meeting Minutes of April 26, 2021 were adopted.

Work Session – Jack McAdam – Presentation – House Numbering Pilot:

High school student, Jack McAdam, gave a presentation on his House Numbering Pilot, in Shadow Oaks, for the Township Committee to review and approve. The pilot would provide house numbers on curbs for easier viewing by emergency personnel and first responders. Mayor Ferrante solicited the opinion of Ms. Marabello who suggested not having an “opt out” for residents as it will make the project more complicated. Mayor Ferrante discussed the need to present the prototypes to the Chief of Police and Fire Department Chief in order to assist in the approval process. Jack McAdam thanked the members for their time and interest in the project.

**Reports and Communications
Members of Committee**

- Dr. Rogers – Dr. Rogers reported on her attendance at the Community Engagement Committee meeting with the Board of Education and the Board of Health meeting. She added that boards and commissions are collaborating and combining projects for the Municipal Alliance Health Fair. Dr. Rogers also met with the Middlesex County Planner and Engineer regarding the Bicycle Network to help find the scope of what is needed to continue phase 1 of the plan. She ended with her plan to schedule a meeting between the Communications Subcommittee and members of EDAC.
- Mrs. Spann – Mrs. Spann reported on her attendance at the Zoning Committee, Historic Preservation Commission and Planning Board meetings.
- Mr. Taylor – No report other than handicap accessible tables had been installed at Heritage Park.

Mayor

- Mayor Ferrante – Mayor Ferrante reported on the Library groundbreaking ceremony. He thanked all the participants and persons who worked on this project. The following items were covered under the Mayor’s updates;
 - Summer Pedestrian/Bike Safety
 - COVID Vaccination reports – over 85% of Cranbury adults have one dose and over 67% of adults are fully vaccinated. Cranbury is leading the county in vaccinations.
 - Recycling Refresher
 - Inclusion and Equity Committee – Mayor Ferrante advised the public that any resident that would like to be involved should send him an email. Mrs. Spann requested she be updated on the incident which sparked the conversation.
- Mr. Scott – Mr. Scott reported on the recent Board of Education meeting.

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Department Head –

Ms. Rubin gave information regarding vote by mail ballots and in person voting for the upcoming June Primary Election.

Chief DiStasio provided April monthly calls for the Fire Department. Mayor Ferrante to meet with Chief DiStasio regarding the house numbering pilot.

Kirstie Venanzi, Library, gave a short report on the recent groundbreaking of the Library. She thanked all that participated and assisted in the approval process for the grant. Mr. Taylor asked if the PCB building would be opening to the public. Ms. Venanzi responded that she and the director would seek guidance on how to do so safely.

Agenda Additions/Changes – None

Resolutions – Consent

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

Ayes: (Rogers
(Scott
(Spann
(Taylor
(Ferrante

Abstain: (None
Absent: (None

Nays: (None

CRANBURY TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION #R 05-21-071

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 05-21-072

WHEREAS, Cranbury Township has applied for \$4,470.00 from the Recycling Enhancement Grant earmarked to be used for its new security camera system at the Public Works site; 100 Dey Road, Cranbury, NJ 08512; and

WHEREAS, Cranbury Township supports the need to provide security cameras at the site to prevent illegal dumping on the premises;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranbury it hereby requests the \$4,470.00 in grant monies be used to defray the costs related to a security camera system at the Public Works site in the Township of Cranbury.

Follow up Items –

- EDAC presentation placed on township website
- Schedule meeting between Communications Subcommittee and members of EDAC

Boards and Commission – Vacancies – None

Ordinances –

First Reading – None

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Second Reading – None

Public Comment

Mayor Ferrante opened the meeting to general public comment.

- Ms. Rubin, Township Clerk, reported she received one (1) additional email from a Cranbury resident, regarding opting out of all six licenses under the Cannabis Law.
- Janice Mondoker – Reported on vacant property on Hightstown-Cranbury Road that is being used as a truck stop. The parked trucks are very close to the homes in that area. She stated she has contacted the Policed Department on numerous occasions with differing results. She stated her concerns with the residents having to “police” the area and asked for the township to assist in the matter to stop the vacant property use as a truck stop.
- Laura Zurfluh – Suggested having public meetings to address the incidents happening in town where people are being victimized by anonymous sources due to their race. She reported that other towns are using “Not In Our Town” to help facilitate the meetings.
- Omar Mobin-Uddin – Wished congratulations on the groundbreaking of the Library. He stated other libraries are currently allowing public to make reservations to visit in person.
- Jill Frost – Reported on the increase in noise pollution and air quality issues on Stockton Road. She requested the township engineer perform a study and stated that some existing berms have not been maintained.
- Nick Morolda - He requested the township approach the owners to suggest adding signage and chains in an effort to be good neighbors. He also requested cooperation from the Police Department.
- Eman El-Badawi – Thanked all who participated in the recent groundbreaking of the new Library. She added her concern that a member of the committee did not take the initiative to research the incidents happening in town which were discussed at the last committee meeting as well. She discussed the success of the unity gathering that was held last year.
- Kathy Morolda – Reported on a tractor trailer currently jackknifed. Mayor Ferrante advised her to contact the Police Department immediately.

Mayor Ferrante asked Ms. Marabello to summarize the history of the noise complaint discussed above on Route 130. Ms. Marabello advised that the noise and traffic has been continuous over many years and the State previously reviewed the complaints and did not feel the decibel level was high enough for any action to be taken. She explained the process for release of performance bonds and that the developer would not be responsible to provide any action. Ms. Marabello added the DOT more than likely will not remediate or take any action on their property. Mayor Ferrante suggested discussing further with the focus being on remediating.

Mayor Ferrante added he discussed the residents’ concerns with the Chief of Police and stressed the need to ensure the vacant property is not being used as a truck stop. Mr. Taylor suggested discussing whether the addition of an antiidling ordinance would help with the Chief as well.

Hearing no other public comment, Mayor Ferrante closed the meeting to public comment.

Action Items:

- Anti-idling Option- Traffic Subcommittee
- Work with police department on consistent enforcement of vacant property discussed above – Traffic Subcommittee
- Tree replacement – Explore options - Mayor Ferrante and Ms. Marabello
- State DOT – Matt Scott
- Explore “Not In Our Town” to facilitate meetings and outreach – Mayor Ferrante and Dr. Rogers
- House Numbering Pilot – Mayor Ferrante to discuss with Chief of Police and Chief of Fire Department.
- Schedule EDAC and Communications Subcommittee meeting – Mayor and Dr. Rogers.

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Closed Session:

Ms. Rubin announced to the public that the meeting would be going into Closed Session. She explained to the public they will be placed in the Zoom Waiting Room platform if they chose to wait for meeting to resume after Closed Session.

Mayor Ferrante requested a motion to adopt the resolution to move into Closed Session. On a motion by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Scott and unanimously carried, the following Resolution was adopted by a vote:

Ayes: (Rogers
(Spann
(Scott
(Taylor
(Ferrante

Abstain: (None
Absent: (None

Nays: (None

Cranbury Township Resolution # R 05-21-073

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** (7) Any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation other than in subsection b. (4) herein in which the public body is, or may become a party. Any matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his ethical duties as a lawyer.

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.

The Closed Session ended at 9:31 p.m.

Adjourn

Mayor Ferrante requested a motion to adjourn. On motion by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Scott and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 9:33 p.m.

Debra A. Rubin, RMC
Municipal Clerk