

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
October 25, 2021

The Township Committee Regular Meeting of the Township of Cranbury was held at 7:01 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 (present 7:31 p.m.) Evelyn Spann, Jay Taylor and Mayor Michael Ferrante. Also present were Denise Marabello, Township Administrator/CFO; Chief Michael Owens, Chief of Police; 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:

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--Township Committee Regular Meeting Minutes of October 11, 2021 and;

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
(Taylor
(Ferrante

Abstain: (None
Absent: (Scott

Nays: (None

the Township Committee Regular Meeting Minutes of October 11, 2021 were adopted.

**Reports and Communications
Members of Committee**

- Dr. Rogers – Dr. Rogers reported on the Municipal Alliance meeting. She attended the ANJEC Environmental Congress and NJDOT Complete Street Summit. She summarized the focus on “Electric Vehicles”, which included the state ordinance, public charging infrastructure and electrification of the state fleet and incentive programs at the BPU to increase EV adoption in all sectors. Dr. Rogers mentioned the Climate Mayors EV Coop and suggested the program be investigated when the township is prepared to purchase the vehicles.
- Mrs. Spann – Mrs. Spann attended the Historic Preservation Commission and Environmental Commission meetings. She also reported on her attendance at the Middlesex County Summit where discussion included autonomous self-driving vehicles, safe streets, crosswalks and bikeways. Discussion also included the impact of truck traffic in various areas. Mrs. Spann shared a map that covered the area of the study by the Middlesex County DOT Office of Planning. The study will commence January 2022 and is scheduled to conclude June 2023. Cranbury Township will be invited to participate and discuss the specific criteria needed.
- Mr. Taylor – Mr. Taylor announced he will not be attending the November 8th Township Committee meeting due to work travel. Mr. Taylor discussed the need for a change in the Parks membership to fill vacancies. These changes will be made by Mayoral Appointment. Mr. Taylor announced the recent passing of Cranbury resident, and previous township employee, Sally Giovanos.
- Mr. Scott – (Reported once in attendance) – Mr. Scott met with the EDAC members who are requesting to be placed on an upcoming meeting agenda to give end of year report and upcoming goals.

Mayor

Mayor Ferrante – The following items were covered under the Mayor’s Updates and Upcoming Events;

- Library Update: New Neighbors Reception
- Note of Passing: Sally Giovanos
- Lake Project:
 - Oct 18: signs posted on bridge and in park
 - Oct 18: dredging activities begin
 - Pedestrian passage access
- Call for Board and Committee Volunteers
- Halloween – Signs for Opt-out Residents available in Town Hall

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Upcoming Events:

Oct 31: Halloween – Main Street Closed 4-8 p.m.

Nov 2: General Election

Dec 14: School Bond Referendum

2022: Cranbury's 325th Anniversary

Department Head –

- Chief Michael Owens, Police Department, provided his monthly report for September 2021.
- Ms. Rubin, Township Clerk, provided election information and prepared a guide to voting in the upcoming election.

Follow-up Items

- None

Agenda Additions/Changes – None

Boards and Commissions – Vacancies: Mayor Ferrante appointed Kellie Lavery to the Parks Commission vacant unexpired term for full-term membership with a December 31st, 2023 expiration. Mayor Ferrante then appointed Joann Charwin to the vacant unexpired term for Alternate #1 membership from Alternate #2 with an expiration of December 31, 2021 on the Parks Commission.

Discussion on Municipal Alliance appointments. The appointments are by the Township Committee and will be by resolution at next meeting.

Ordinances –

First Reading – None

Second Reading – 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 Dr. Rogers seconded by Mr. Scott 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 10-21-117

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

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Cranbury Township Resolution #R 10-21-118

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A BID WITH
EVOQUA WATER TECHNOLOGIES, LLC. FOR BIOXIDE OR APPROVED EQUAL

WHEREAS, one (1) bid was received on October 13, 2021 for a contract for the supply of Bioxide or Approved Equal; and;

WHEREAS, one bid was received from Evoqua Water Technology LLC of Sarasota Florida with a bid of \$2.77/gallon, \$193,900.00 total for two (2) years; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to enter into an agreement with Evoqua Water Technologies, LLC, Sarasota, FL; 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 a contract with Evoqua Water Technology LLC of Sarasota, Florida for the supply of Bioxide or approved equal; and
2. A copy of the Agreement shall be available for public inspection in the Township Clerk's Office during regular business hours.

Cranbury Township Resolution # R 10-21-119

RESOLUTION AWARDING FARM SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR THE
2022 GROWING SEASON FOR THE UPDIKE AGRICULTURAL LOT

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranbury in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey accepted the dedication of a ± 32.668-acre parcel designated as Block 21, Lot 4 on the Cranbury Township Tax Maps, located on Cranbury Neck Road and Old Trenton Road, adjacent to the Liedtke Drive residential development ("Updike" or "Updike Agricultural Lot"); and

WHEREAS, the Township seeks to procure services that will enable the Township to maintain the farmed portions of this property as productive agricultural land; and

WHEREAS, David Byrne of Pops Farm Market, 238 Cranbury Station Road, Monroe is willing to farm the property therefore the Township seeks to use his farming services; and

WHEREAS, the Township seeks to compensate Mr. Byrne for his services in kind by allowing him to retain any profit realized from the sale of his crops, the value of which will not exceed \$ 44,000.00 per year; and

WHEREAS, because this contract amount does not exceed the bid threshold, this contract award is exempt from public bidding pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-3a and 40A:11-16.1a; and

WHEREAS the Township has not solicited other quotes for the provision of these services because it was not practicable to do so;

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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 David Byrne of Pops Farm Market, 238 Cranbury Station Road, Monroe, for the provision of farming services to the Township at the Updike Agricultural Lot situated in the Township of Cranbury and designated as Block 21, Lot 4 on the Township's tax map, the form and substance of which shall have previously been on the Township's tax map, the form and substance of which shall have previously been approved by the Township Attorney.
2. The contract term shall terminate on December 31, 2026.
3. Mr. Byrne shall be paid for services in kind by allowing him to retain any profit realized from the sale of his crops, the value of which will not exceed \$ 44,000.00 per year.

Work Session

- a). Discussion of Proposed Township Committee meeting dates for 2022 – Ms. Marabello, Township Administrator/CFO will review and discuss with the Township Committee the proposed 2022 meeting dates: Ms. Marabello discussed the proposed dates. The members conducted a straw poll vote and unanimously agreed to amend the dates as attached.
- b). Snow Removal Ordinance – Discussion of revisions to existing township ordinance: Ms. Marabello reported on her findings from investigating various neighboring township similar ordinances. Each member discussed their suggestions and concerns regarding an amendment. Suggestions included the need for a strong purpose and clear guidelines regarding enforcement, fines, summonses and appeal process. Concerns discussed responsibilities for township owned properties, liability, zone by zone enforcement and the role of the Code Enforcement Officer. After a thorough discussion, Mayor Ferrante conducted a straw poll vote of the members who unanimously agreed to proceed and clarify the enforcement and fee schedules. The matter will be discussed at a future work session prior to introduction of an amended version.

Public Comment

Mayor Ferrante advised the following comments were submitted via email by the deadline to be addressed during public comment.

- Catherine Manley/Milton Fischer – Inclusion in Memorial Park for Milt Fischer and Jim Manley include on the War Memorial? They both served in the Beirut/Lebanon conflict in 1958. Answer: Parks Commission has criteria and process for Vietnam-era names added a few years ago.
- Milton Georges – Requested status on storm culvert. Answer: Department of Public Works is working on acquiring a vendor.
- Craig Vachris – Concern over storm drains need for clearing prior to incoming rain. Answer: Department of Public Works is currently in the process of clearing, however, is unable to get to all streets prior to the incoming rain this evening. Residents should clear any storm drains near their residence.
- Joann Charwin – Questioned whether the lake would be restocked with fish after the dredging project is complete and requested information on the process. Answer: The fish will be restocked according to DEP guidelines, per the dredging contract. The timing is TBD based on the current project and species.

Mayor Ferrante then opened the meeting to general public comment.

- Craig Vachris – Mr. Vachris advised that the storm drain on Wynnewood Drive (between #2) was not cleaned. He discussed his disappointment in the township's lack of urgency in preparation of the impending storm.
- Chris Cenci – Mr. Cenci stated his safety concerns regarding bicycle access in town. He added the rough terrain on Plainsboro Road creates an unsafe condition for cyclists. He expressed the

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need for bike lanes to have separate curbing and barriers. He believes painted lanes only on existing roadways is insufficient to correct safety issues.

- Bill Bauder – Mr. Bauder requested information on the status of Cedar Brook Bridge. He requested it be added as an action item moving forward. He also asked if the building, previously used by Cranbury Pizza, can have movement to improve the current appearance.
- Audrey Smith – Mrs. Smith asked if progress is being made at the Cranbury Commons site.
- Christina Ftikas – Ms. Ftikas stated her disappointment in the storm drains on Wynnewood not being cleared prior to the storm. She asked for the township's long-term plan and process for having the storm drains clear in the future. She also thanked Mr. Taylor for his consideration of residents with wheel chairs being unable to use the sidewalks when snow covered.

The following responses were intended to answer the above comments:

- Mayor Ferrante advised the Department of Public Works were working to clear the storm drains throughout the township prior to the storm. Ms. Marabello assured all they were picking up leaves throughout the township; however, it takes approximately two weeks to complete the entire township route.
- Dr. Rogers suggested Mr. Crenci visit the link for the bike plan on NJTPA- North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority site for more information.
- Mayor Ferrante stated the Township Engineer is working on a long-term solution to the Cedar Brook Bridge issues. The Chief of Police has been asked to purchase and provide temporary signage should the road need to be closed in the interim.
- Mrs. Spann provided an update on the status of the inhabitable building. A plan must be in place for the demolition or salvaging of the building before the building can be addressed. It was agreed that the appearance should be improved during the process.
- Mayor Ferrante and Mr. Scott discussed the need for commercial businesses in the Cranbury Commons. Mrs. Spann added her knowledge of an issue with the utility company regarding back ordered parts that may be adding to the lack of movement on the site.

Mayor Ferrante closed the public comment portion at 8:47 p.m.

Action Items:

- EDAC – Schedule for future Township Committee meeting agenda.
- Request for donations – Mr. Scott
- Snow Removal ordinance – Mayor Ferrante/Ms. Marabello
- Schedule follow up with Township Engineer regarding stormwater management – Mr. Decker
- Mrs. Spann requested the Chairs of the boards/commission be notified regarding their intent to continue in upcoming year.

Adjourn

Mayor Ferrante requested a motion to adjourn. On motion by Mr. Scott, seconded by Dr. Rogers and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Debra A. Rubin, RMC
Municipal Clerk

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TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE 2022 MEETING DATES

- **January 3 REORGANIZATIONAL Meeting 6:00 pm – All others 7:00 p.m. start**
- **January 10 Regular Meeting**
- **January 24 Regular Meeting**
-
- **February 7 Regular Meeting *****
- **February 28 Regular Meeting**

- **March 14 Regular Meeting**
- **March 28 Regular Meeting**

- **April 11 Regular Meeting**
- **April 25 Regular Meeting**

- **May 9 Regular Meeting**
- **May 23 Regular Meeting**

- **June 13 Regular Meeting**
- **June 27 Regular Meeting**

- **July 11 Regular Meeting**
- **July 25 Regular Meeting ** Optional**

- **August 8 Regular Meeting**
- **August 22 Regular Meeting ** Optional**

- **September 12 Regular Meeting**
2ND Meeting CANCELLED

- **October 3 Regular Meeting*****
- **October 24 Regular Meeting**

- **November 14 Regular Meeting**
- **November 28 Regular Meeting**

- **December 12 Regular Meeting**
- **December 19 Regular Meeting ** Optional (***3rd Monday)**

** Optional

*** Not held on regularly scheduled date