



CRANSTON CITY COUNCIL

Regular Monthly Meeting

Jessica M. Marino, President, City-Wide
Lamnis J. Vargas, Vice President, Ward 1
Robert J. Ferri, City-Wide
Nicole Renzulli, City-Wide

Kristen E. Haroian, Ward 2
John P. Donegan, Ward 3
Richard D. Campopiano, Ward 4
Christopher G. Paplauskas, Ward 5
Daniel Wall, Ward 6

AGENDA

MONDAY, JUNE 24, 2024, at 7:00 P.M.

The regular monthly meeting of the Cranston City Council will be held on **Monday, June 24, 2024 at 7:00 PM. in the Cranston City Council Chambers, Cranston City Hall, 869 Park Ave., Cranston, RI 02910** for the purpose of conducting the items of business appearing on the docket.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://zoom.us/j/92938464994?pwd=VDZMMmlIQloyLzR3V0tLVTZUdlFTZz09>

Passcode: 340435

Or One tap mobile :

+13092053325,,92938464994# US

+13126266799,,92938464994# US (Chicago)

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

+1 309 205 3325 US

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 646 931 3860 US

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 305 224 1968 US

+1 719 359 4580 US

+1 253 205 0468 US

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 360 209 5623 US

+1 386 347 5053 US

+1 507 473 4847 US

+1 564 217 2000 US

+1 669 444 9171 US

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 689 278 1000 US

Webinar ID: 929 3846 4994

International numbers available: <https://zoom.us/j/92938464994>

YouTube Live Stream

This meeting will be live streamed on YouTube. Click the link to view the meeting. You will only be able to observe the proceedings. You will not be able to participate.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtE9vwA1B1PQHuftrNPcZjg>.

Technology problems should be reported immediately to: CranstonCityCouncilMedia@gmail.com

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (votes may be taken)

Approval of the minutes of the May 28, 2024 Regular Council Meeting
(vote may be taken) [\[click to view\]](#)

Approval of the minutes of the June 11, 2024 Special Council Meeting
(vote may be taken) [\[click to view\]](#)

Approval of the sealed minutes of the June 11, 2024 Executive Session
(vote may be taken)

**V. PUBLIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND COMMENDATIONS (no votes)
None**

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND PUBLIC COMMENT (Votes may be taken)

Public hearings under this section are limited to DOCKETED subject matters only. Public comment may be permitted and will be subject to time limitations. Such hearings and comments do not include the introduction of new matters before the Council (see Section XVI herein).

Written public comment may be submitted via email to <https://www.cranstonri.gov/city-council-contact-form/> **no later than 4:00 PM on the Friday prior to the Council meeting** in order to be provided to the City Council before the meeting. All such written comments shall include your name and address. (Vote may be taken to accept written comment and to place it on record)

Members of the public may also participate in public comment by accessing the zoom link referenced on the first page and using the "raise your hand" feature. For those without access to video observation platforms, you may also call in to the meeting by dialing 1-888-788-0099 and pressing *9 to raise your hand during public comment.

**VII. RESOLUTIONS
None**

VIII. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

A. Report from the Chair, Councilman Wall, on the *CLAIMS COMMITTEE* meeting held June 3, 2024:

June, 2024 Claims Paid Report – not available (no vote)

B. Report from the Chair, Councilman Ferri, on the *SAFETY SERVICES & LICENSES COMMITTEE* meetings held June 3, 2024 (nothing to report) and June 24, 2024 (vote may be taken):

VICTUALING LICENSE - Psalms 138, LLC d/b/a Chicanos located at 82 Rolfe Sq. (Wendy Piedrasanta)

C. Report from the Chair, Councilman Donegan, on the *FINANCE COMMITTEE* meetings held June 3, 2024 and June 13, 2024:

RESOLUTION Authorizing Real Estate Tax Abatements as recommended by the Tax Assessor and approved by the Finance Committee June 3, 2024
(vote may be taken) [\[click to view\]](#)

RESOLUTION Authorizing Motor Vehicle Tax Abatements as recommended by the Tax Assessor and approved by the Finance Committee June 3, 2024
(vote may be taken) [\[click to view\]](#)

Consideration of Tax Interest **WAIVER APPROVALS** for the month of May, 2024 as recommended by the City Treasurer and approved by the Finance Committee June 3, 2024 (vote may be taken) [\[click to view\]](#)

RESOLUTION Loan Order Authorizing the City of Cranston to issue not to Exceed \$40,000,000 General Obligations Bonds, Notes and Other Evidences of Indebtedness to Finance the Purchase and/or Acquisition of Land and Buildings, Construction, Renovation, Improvement, Alteration, Repair, Landscaping, Furnishing and/or Equipping of Schools and School Facilities Throughout the City, Subject to Approval of State Housing Aid at a Reimbursement Rate or State Share Ratio of Not Less Than 50% at the Time of Issuance; Sponsored by Councilwoman Renzulli, Councilman Donegan, and Council President Marino; Approved by the Finance Committee June 13, 2024
(vote may be taken) [\[click to view\]](#)

ORDINANCE Authorizing the City to Utilize Eastern Cranston Police Impact Fees and Western Cranston Impact Fees Towards Police Rent; Sponsored by Councilman Donegan; Approved by the Finance Committee June 13, 2024
(vote may be taken) [\[click to view\]](#) [\[Fiscal Note\]](#)

D. Report from the Chair, Council Vice-President Vargas, on the *PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE* meeting held June 13, 2024: (nothing to report) (no votes)

E. Report from the Chair, Council Vice-President Vargas, on the *ORDINANCE COMMITTEE* meeting held June 13, 2024:

04-24-01 ORDINANCE In Amendment of Chapter 17 of the Code of the City of Cranston, 2005, Entitled “Zoning” (Change of Zone – 0 Sage Drive); Petition filed by Property Owner John Casale III; Approved by the Ordinance Committee June 13, 2024
(Vote may be taken) [\[click to view\]](#)

5-24-02 ORDINANCE In Amendment of Title 2 of the Code of the City of Cranston, 2005, Sections 2.08.260 and 2.08.261, Entitled “Board of Canvassers” and “Registrar” (Operations Related to the Board of Canvassers and Registrar); Sponsored by Council President Marino and Councilman Paplauskas; Co-Sponsored by Councilwoman Renzulli, Councilmen Donegan, Wall, and Campopiano, and Council Vice-President Vargas; Approved by the Ordinance Committee June 13, 2024
(Vote may be taken) [\[click to view\]](#)

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR UNDOCKETED ITEMS (no votes)

Public comment may be permitted under this section, subject to time limitations, for UNDOCKETED items only. Written public comment may be submitted via email to the Council before the meeting at <https://www.cranstonri.gov/city-council-contact-form/> **no later than 4:00 PM on the Friday prior to the Council meeting.** All such written comments shall include your name and address. Copies will be provided to the City Council before the meeting and the record shall be noted. (Vote may be taken to accept written comment and to place it on record)

Members of the public may also participate in public comment by accessing the zoom link referenced on the first page and using the "raise your hand" feature. For those without access to video observation platforms, you may also call in to the meeting by dialing 1-888-788-0099 and pressing *9 to raise your hand during public comment.

X. ELECTION/APPOINTMENT OF CITY OFFICIALS

APPOINTMENT of Ralph Baccari as Alternate #2 to the **Juvenile Hearing Board** to fill the unexpired term ending December 1, 2024; as requested by Councilman Wall
(vote may be taken)

RE-APPOINTMENT of Jennifer L. Cowart to the **Public Library Board of Trustees**, for the term of August 1, 2024 through July 31, 2027; as requested by Michael Goldberg, Chairperson (vote may be taken) [\[click to view\]](#)

RE-APPOINTMENT of Vincent J. DiNofrio, Jr. to the **Building Appeals Board** as “Member wholly unconnected to the building industry”, for the term of March 4, 2024 through March 4, 2029; as requested by Councilman Paplauskas (vote may be taken)

RE-APPOINTMENT of John Hill, by the Council President, to the **Historical Cemeteries Commission** for the term of March 4, 2024 through March 4, 2029
(no vote)

XI. REPORT OF CITY OFFICERS

None

XII. EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS

REQUEST from Detective Lieutenant Stephen E. Brook, for one year continuation of service with the Cranston Police Department for the period of April 2, 2024 through April 2, 2025 (*vote may be taken*) [\[click to view\]](#)

Legal Expense Analysis for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 24, 2024
(*no votes*) [\[click to view\]](#)

From Planning Director Pezzullo, status report on the Comprehensive Plan (*no votes*)

XIII. COUNCIL PRESIDENT COMMUNICATIONS (*no votes*)

Acknowledgement of Happy Pride Month, Happy Juneteenth, Happy 4th of July, and the commencement of Summer

Status of the Pare Corporation report on the city's bridges and culverts

XIV. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS (*no votes*)

None

XV. COUNCIL BUSINESS MATTERS CARRIED OVER

None

XVI. INTRODUCTION OF NEW BUSINESS

The following New Business items are listed for reference and for a vote to be referred to the appropriate Council sub-committee for a public hearing:

06-24-01 ORDINANCE Allocating \$2,500,000 from the American Rescue Plan Act Funds for the Purpose of Supporting School Projects, Upgrading City of Cranston and CLCF Properties and Providing Finance Assistance to Small Businesses; Sponsored by Mayor Kenneth J. Hopkins; to be referred to Finance Committee July 1, 2024
(*vote may be taken*) [\[click to view\]](#)

06-24-02 ORDINANCE Ratifying the Memorandum of Agreement with IBPO (International Brotherhood of Police Officers), Local Union 301 (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2026); Sponsored by Mayor Kenneth J. Hopkins; to be referred to Finance Committee July 1, 2024 (*vote may be taken*) [\[Ordinance 06-24-02\]](#) [\[MOA\]](#) [\[Fiscal Note\]](#)

PETITION of Narragansett Electric & Verizon New England, Inc. for new pole to hang new equipment on Country Meadow Ln (aka Country L.; to be referred to the Public Works Committee meeting July 11, 2024 (*vote may be taken*) [\[click to view\]](#)

CLAIMS to be referred to the Claims Committee meeting of August 5, 2024 as follows:
(*vote may be taken*)

<i>TYPE OF CLAIM</i>	<i>CLAIMANT</i>	<i>DATE OF ALLEGED INCIDENT</i>
Property Damage	Rebecca Jones	May 22, 2024
Property Damage	Steven D'Ambra	May 22, 2024
Property Damage	Stephany Emerson	May 21, 2024
Property Damage	Benjamin Depalo	September 20, 2022

XVII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon open call by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members present, the City Council will convene in a closed session pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2) for litigation matters as listed on the agenda in the sections that follow:

Executive or closed session pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2) for litigation matters re complaint filed by Mayor Kenneth J. Hopkins (as styled below) seeking a declaration that the Operating and Capital Budgets of the City of Cranston for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 is unlawful and in direct contravention of the powers and authority granted to the City Council under the Cranston Home Rule Charter to the extent it seeks to utilize the funds received by the City pursuant to the American Rescue Plan Act and exceeds the budgetary amount identified in the proposed Budgets without the appropriate action under the Charter.

Mayor Kenneth J. Hopkins v. Thomas Zidelis, in his official capacity as finance director for the City of Cranston; City Council of the City of Cranston, Rhode Island; Jessica Marino, in her capacity as Cranston City Council President, Lammis J. Vargas, in her capacity as Cranston City Council vice-president; John P. Donegan, in his capacity as Cranston City councilmember; Robert J. Ferri, in his capacity as Cranston City Councilmember; Daniel Wall in his capacity as Cranston City Councilmember; Kristen E. Haroian, in her capacity as Cranston City councilmember; Nicole Renzulli, in her capacity as Cranston City Councilmember; Christopher G. Paplauskas, in his capacity as Cranston City Councilmember; Richard D. Campopiano, in his capacity as Cranston City councilmember (PC-2024-03291)

XVIII. RETURN OPEN SESSION (*vote may be taken*)

**Upon return to open session, the Council President will report out any motions made in Executive Session, and may call for a motion to seal the minutes of the Executive Session*

XIX. ADJOURNMENT (*vote may be taken*)

Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-6(c) Notice of this meeting was posted on the Secretary of State's website, on the city's website, at Cranston City Hall and at the Cranston Library on June 20, 2024