



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

Aniece Germain, Ward 2
John P. Donegan, Ward 3
Richard D. Campopiano, Ward 4
Christopher G. Paplauskas, Ward 5
Daniel Wall, Ward 6

AGENDA

MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2024, at 7:00 P.M.

The regular monthly meeting of the Cranston City Council will be held on **Monday, March 25, 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/92404514855?pwd=YjNLUHZXMIg0eCtqS1NxZC8xTIFTUT09>

Passcode: 184451

Or One tap mobile :

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Or Telephone:

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

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+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 669 444 9171 US

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 689 278 1000 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

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Webinar ID: 924 0451 4855

International numbers available: <https://zoom.us/j/92404514855>

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 February 26, 2024 Regular Council Meeting
(vote may be taken) [\[click to view\]](#)

Approval of the sealed minutes of the February 26, 2024 Executive Session
(vote may be taken)

Approval of the minutes of the March 14, 2024 Special Council Meeting
(vote may be taken) [\[click to view\]](#)

V. PUBLIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND COMMENDATIONS

CITATION Honoring local Women’s History Month honoree, Gina Russo, Station Fire Survivor, author of *From the Ashes*, and President of the Station Fire Memorial Foundation; to be presented by Council President Marino (no vote)

CITATION Honoring local Women’s History Month honoree, Andrea Moreno-Cabrera, owner of Café Ava; to be presented by Council Vice President Vargas (no vote)

CITATIONS Honoring Charlene Barbieri & Kendra Tanguay, owners of Little Learners Academy, recipients of the U.S. Small Business Administration’s 2024 Rhode Island & New England Woman-Owned Small Business of the Year; to be presented by Councilwoman Renzulli (no vote)

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

Public hearings 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, Councilwoman Germain, on the *CLAIMS COMMITTEE* meeting held March 4, 2024:

March, 2024 Claims Paid Report (*no vote*) [\[click to view\]](#)

B. Report from the Chair, Councilman Ferri, on the *SAFETY SERVICES & LICENSES COMMITTEE* meeting held March 4, 2024: (*nothing to report*)

C. Report from the Chair, Councilman Donegan, on the *FINANCE COMMITTEE* meeting held March 4, 2024:

Consideration of Tax Interest Waiver **APPROVALS** for the month of February, 2024 as requested by the City Treasurer (*vote may be taken*) [\[click to view\]](#)

RESOLUTION Authorizing Tangible Tax Abatements as recommended by the Tax Assessor (*vote may be taken*) [\[click to view\]](#)

RESOLUTION Authorizing Motor Vehicle Abatements as recommended by the Tax Assessor (*vote may be taken*) [\[click to view\]](#)

RESOLUTION In Full Support of Fully Funding State Aid to Libraries to the Full Twenty-Five Percent (25%); Sponsored by Council President Marino and Councilwoman Renzulli; Co-Sponsored by Councilman Donegan, Councilman Wall, Councilman Paplauskas, Councilman Campopiano, and Councilwoman Germain; Referred out of Finance Committee March 4, 2024 (*vote may be taken*) [\[click to view\]](#)

RESOLUTION Related to a Federal Grant to the City of Cranston valued at 7.2 Million Dollars; **FAILED** by a vote of 2-5 of the Finance Committee at the March 4, 2024 meeting (*For informational purposes only – no vote to be taken*)

RESOLUTION Ordering a Special Referendum Election to be held on June 4, 2024; sponsored by Council President Marino and Council Vice President Vargas; Referred out of Special Finance Committee March 25, 2024 (*vote may be taken*) [\[click to view\]](#)

D. Report from the Chair, Council Vice-President Vargas, on the *PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE* meeting held March 14, 2024: (nothing to report)

E. Report from the Chair, Council Vice-President Vargas, on the *ORDINANCE COMMITTEE* meeting held March 14, 2024:

02-24-01 ORDINANCE in Amendment of Title 2 (Administration and Personnel), Chapter 2, of the City of Cranston Code of Ordinances, 2005, Entitled “Committees, Commissions, and Councils”; **FAILED** by a vote of 2-6 of the Ordinance Committee at the March 14, 2024 meeting (For informational purposes only – no vote to be taken)

02-24-04 ORDINANCE in Amendment of Title 17 (Zoning), Section 17.120.020 of the City of Cranston, 2005, Entitled ‘Procedure for Adoption or Amendment’; Sponsored by Council President Marino; Referred out of Ordinance Committee March 14, 2024 (vote may be taken) [\[click to view\]](#)

02-24-05 ORDINANCE in Amendment of Chapter 3.08 of the City of Cranston, 2005, Entitled ‘Board of Contract and Purchase’; Sponsored by Council President Marino; Referred out of Ordinance Committee March 14, 2024 (vote may be taken) [\[click to view\]](#)

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR UNDOCKETED ITEMS (no votes)

Public comment may be permitted, 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 Steven E. Piscopiello as Republican member of the Cranston Board of Canvassers through the unexpired term ending March 5, 2029; as nominated by Mayor Kenneth J. Hopkins; pursuant to R.I. Gen. Law §17-8-1 (vote may be taken) [\[click to view\]](#)

APPOINTMENT of Peter M. Rivelli as Democratic alternate to the Cranston Board of Canvassers through the unexpired term ending March 5, 2029; as nominated by Mayor Kenneth J. Hopkins; pursuant to R.I. Gen. Law §17-8-1 (vote may be taken) [\[click to view\]](#)

XI. REPORT OF CITY OFFICERS

Report from Nicholas Lima, Registrar/Director of Elections, on preparations for the 2024 elections; and update on the status of the Canvassing Authority (*no votes to be taken*)

XII. EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS

Legal Expense Analysis for the period of July 1, 2023 to March 19, 2024
(*no vote*) [\[click to view\]](#)

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

XIII. COUNCIL PRESIDENT COMMUNICATIONS (*no votes*)

Update from Administration regarding the status of the City’s participation in the Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank’s Community Septic System Loan Program

Flooding events from September to current throughout the City; status of FEMA, State and other assistance; remediation and mitigation efforts

XIV. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

From Councilman Wall:

Discussion of **Chapter 5.40.010 – Soliciting at houses prohibited – Farmers and hucksters excepted** of the Code of Ordinances; relative to enforcement, constitutional concerns, options to protect residents from interruption at inappropriate times of day
(*no vote to be taken*) [\[Ord. 5.40.140\]](#)

From Councilwoman Germain:

Dangerous traffic at the intersection of Park Ave, Pontiac Ave., and Rolfe Square
Update: Who was responsible for fixing it?

Fourth Annual COVID-19 Memorial Vigil Celebration in Front of City Hall on
Thursday, March 28 at 6 PM

Budlong Pool discussion and update: Where are we in the process? What has been done?
Is there any bid approval? What is the timeline for the groundbreaking?

XV. COUNCIL BUSINESS MATTERS CARRIED OVER (*votes may be taken*)
None

XVI. INTRODUCTION OF NEW BUSINESS (*votes may be taken*)

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:

RESOLUTION Allowing the City of Cranston to Assume Responsibility for the Upkeep and Safety of the United States Army Donation of Mid-Nineteenth Century Military Cannons at the Governor Sprague Mansion; Sponsored by Councilwoman Renzulli and Councilman Donegan; to be referred to the Finance Committee April 1, 2024
(vote to be taken) [\[click to view\]](#)

RESOLUTION Requesting the United States Postal Service Establish Normal Residential Mail Delivery to the Residents of Fiskeville; Sponsored by Councilman Ferri, Councilman Campopiano, and Council President Marino; to be referred to the Ordinance Committee April 11, 2024 (vote to be taken) [\[click to view Resolution\]](#) [\[Exhibit A\]](#)

ORDINANCE In Amendment of Title 10 (Vehicles and Traffic), Chapter 32 of the Code of the City of Cranston, 2005, Entitled “Stopping, Standing and Parking on Specific Streets”; Sponsored by Councilman Ferri, Council Vice-President Vargas, and Council President Marino; to be referred to the Ordinance Committee April 11, 2024
(vote may be taken) [\[click to view\]](#)

PETITION of Narragansett Electric and Verizon New England Inc. to install new pole, P3-1, on Summit Dr.; to be referred to the Public Works Committee April 11, 2024
(vote to be taken) [\[click to view\]](#)

CLAIMS to be referred to the Claims Committee meeting of April 1, 2024 as follows:
(vote may be taken)

<i>TYPE OF CLAIM</i>	<i>CLAIMANT</i>	<i>DATE OF ALLEGED INCIDENT</i>
Property Damage	Wayne M. Kezirian	“Daily – worse with rain and snow”
Property Damage	John DeRuosi	February 29, 2024
Property Damage	David A. Quiroa	February 5, 2024
Property Damage	Carlina Correa	March 11, 2024
Property Damage	David A. Quiroa	March 15, 2024
Property Damage	Michael/Cheryl Goewey	February 8, 2024

XVII. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS – NO ACTION NEEDED

Presentation from Malinda Howard, Engagement & Outreach Specialist, Households with Children Medicaid Renewal Coordinator, State of Rhode Island, Executive Office of Health and Human Services [\[flyer\]](#)

XVIII. 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 March 20, 2024