

COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes of January 12, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

President Cindric called to order the Meeting of Crafton Borough Council, in Council Chambers of the Community Center. Flag Salute lead by Mr. Stewart. ROLL CALL, by Mrs. Tremblay, recorded seven (7) members of Council present as follows: Mr. Johnston, Mr. Pellegrino, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Stewart, Mrs. Viola, Ms. Weitzel, and Mr. Cindric – Also present were Mayor Bloom, Engineer Minsterman and Solicitor Ayoob. (*Absent: Mr. Donovan, Mr. Grapes*)

MOMENT OF SILENCE

President Cindric requested a moment of silence for the victims and their families involved in the recent shooting incident in Tucson, Arizona.

MOTION TO REORGANIZE

Motion was withdrawn; Mr. Johnston asked that this be reconsidered when all Council members are present. Mr. Cindric noted that any member of Council can make this motion, at any time, and this action does not necessarily have to be placed on the Agenda.

BILL LIST RATIFICATION (Dec. 23, 2010)

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (Stewart/Viola) to ratify payment of the Bills of December 23,2010.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote.

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Stewart/Jonston*), to approve the January 12, 2011 List of Bills. **COMMENTS:** It was noted that the \$3,107 posted on #410.37 was for tires for the Public Works trucks, and will be corrected and re-posted to #430.37. Mrs. Viola-#430.25 – Miley's, \$1.00. Mrs. Tremblay reported that this was not fuel for trucks, but a small amount of gas used for another Public Works purpose, so the amount was applied to the misc. repairs/maintenance line item.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (7-0).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None Available

CITIZEN'S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

None

RECEIPT OF WRITTEN REPORTS (Nov. 2010)

Treasurer's Report, Financial Report, Act 511 and Trash Collection Reports, Property Tax Collection Report, Police Report, Ordinance Officer's report, REMS report (Aug/Sept), Animal Control Report and Engineer's Report. **Motion** made, seconded (*Stewart/Phillips*), unanimously accepting the written reports.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Minsterman reported that the sewer defect repairs are continuing by Mongiovi, and are approx. 44% complete. The sewer lining project will resume in January, weather-permitting. The ADA ramp Contractor and their insurance representative will be visiting the ramp sites to inspect the vandalism for a claim. Motion on the Agenda to authorize Creative Enterprise to perform the sewer and inlet repair work at W. Steuben and Duncan Avenue. Creative is listed as the borough's emergency repair contractor, and their cost estimate was less than Mongiovi's – Mongiovi was also contacted since they are currently in the borough working on scheduled sewer repair work. HDR Engineering is re-evaluating the Black's Bridge work for any changes, and the project can be rebid/re-advertised by Gateway Engineers; per Motion on the Agenda. The Station Street Wall project was rebid/re-advertised the same specs, and are scheduled to be open on January 25th, and a recommendation will be provided to Council. He reported that Port Authority had contacted the borough reporting concrete falling on to the Busway. Engineer Minsterman and Port Authority reps will meet at the site, January 18th, to attempt to evaluate where the debris is coming from, and will discuss and recommend an emergency repair, if necessary, and approx. cost. If there is no indication of additional falling debris, this can possibly be considered and included in the work being reviewed by HDR and an additional item in the bid specs for that project. During a limited field review, it was determined that the debris is not coming from underneath the bridge deck, but from the underneath and side of the sidewalks. Sewer Repair #36 (N. Emily, 17-21 Johnson St),– Could not locate/access the sewer line in these backyards; found several permanent structures (garages, sheds) that prevent access and excavation. An option is to relocate that sewer line. Solicitor Ayoob inquired if there are any existing, recorded easements for these properties; determined to be unknown. Recommended a full title search be performed, by the Solicitor, rather than an abstract by the Engineers, then approach the property owners, based on what is found. Also, at 30-32 Emerson, a manhole is located in the backyard, out side their back door – this has been reviewed with public works, and it is recommended to relocate the manhole to the street for access to the sewer line. Motion on the Agenda for the Solicitor to prepare sewer access and easement agreements, and request the Solicitor to perform a title search on these two properties as well – legal descriptions and exhibits were prepared by Gateway.

Mayor Bloom reported that many of the asphalt repair done by the sewer point repair contractor do not appear to have been done appropriately; they are recessed and sunken. This is noted at the sites done during the summer as well as more recent repairs. He questioned the material they are using as fill, and noted that they do not appear to be properly tamped. Engineer Minsterman noted that he would review all of the sites with the inspector, and if necessary, order them to be redone. Mr. Stewart noted that there is a contractor complaint from a resident on S. Linwood, with regard to the work being done by PAWC. Mrs. Tremblay reported that this complaint was handled by the office – PAWC was contacted; they claim that the line replacement work they are doing could not adversely affect or damage building foundations in that area. However, they are contacting their insurance company to investigate the claim and report back to us and the resident; the resident was informed of this as well and is satisfied.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS and NEW DISCUSSION ITEMS:**a. Administration**

- 1. Public Works Vacation Scheduling/Contract** – Mr. Phillips explained that this was mentioned briefly at the last meeting; that the Public Works employees desire to split up their vacation weeks to be able to take a few days at a time, upon 48 hrs. notice, rather than an entire week at a time (5 days). A letter was written by the Public Works Employees, and signed by each of them, and presented to Council for

consideration. The signed letter and their request was referred to the Solicitor for review; concerns were expressed that this was not addressed during contract negotiations and any action by Council to make this change could possibly be deemed a re-opening of the contract. Also, unused vacation buyback was another option that may be considered.

- b. Parks and Recreation** – Ms. Weitzel discussed purchasing banners to promote Crafton and its recent designation of being the Best Place to Raise Children in 2011

BUSINESS AGENDA

ADMINISTRATION:

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Viola/Phillips*) to appoint Robert T. Callen to the position of Borough Manager, at an annual salary of \$65,000 subject to finalizing an Employment Agreement with the approval of the Solicitor. **COMMENTS:** Mr. Cindric noted that he and Mrs. Viola have been working on the Manager search, and have considered the experience and work by Mr. Callen as the Interim Manager, and they believe he would serve Crafton Borough very well as the permanent manager. **CITIZEN COMMENTS:** Mr. Cindric's comments were in response to resident Wayne Nock's question regarding the search process for a Manager. Ms. Susan O'Connell asked if the position was advertised and if there were any other applicants. Mr. Cindric stated "No" to both questions, and added that this is an appointed, at-will, position and does not require advertisement.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (7-0).

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Stewart/Johnston*) to authorize the Borough Secretary to advertise the dates and times for the Council Committee Meetings.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (7-0).

FINANCE/GRANTS:

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Stewart/Viola*) to adopt Resolution No. 2011-01 authorizing Crafton Borough's participation in the ACEPM-Retrofit Phase, as required for the Allegheny County Economic Development energy efficiency and conservation program. **COMMENT:** The language that reads "Borough Manager" is being changed to Robert Callen.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (7-0).

PUBLIC WORKS

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Phillips/Johnston*) to approve payment to Mongiovi & Son, Inc., in the amount of \$60,500.26, for Payment No. 5, for the Sewer-Point Repair Project, as recommended by the Engineer.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (7-0).

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Stewart/Phillips*) to authorize the advertising and re-bidding of the Black's Bridge Repair Project.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (7-0).

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Stewart/Pellegrino*) to authorize the Solicitor to prepare sewer access and easement agreements for 30 and 32 Emerson Street, per the descriptions and exhibits as prepared by the Engineers, and authorize the proper Borough Official to approach the residents, in order to execute the agreements.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (7-0).

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Stewart/Pellegrino*) to authorize Creative Enterprise to perform the emergency sewer work at W. Steuben Street and Duncan Avenue, in accordance with the Emergency Time & Material Repair Contract, for an amount not to exceed \$12,500, as per the recommendation of the Engineer.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (7-0).

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Johnston/Stewart*) that this meeting be adjourned.

MOTION carried by a Unanimous Voice Vote (7-0).

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary