

COUNCIL MEETING Minutes of April 24, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

President Weitzel called to order the Meeting of Crafton Borough Council at 7:15 pm, in Council Chambers of the Community Center. Flag Salute led by Mr. O'Brien. ROLL CALL, by Mrs. Tremblay, recorded seven (7) members of Council present as follows: Mr. Johnston, Mr. O'Brien, Ms. O'Connell, Mr. Phillips, Mrs. Post, Dr. Stewart and President Weitzel. (*Absent: Mr. Hayes, Mrs. Stacy*) Also present were Mayor Bloom, Engineer Phillip Strunk, Manager Callen, Director Beechey and Ms. Meredith (Jr. Council). (*Solicitor not present.*)

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Post/O'Connell*) to approve the April 24, 2013 List of Bills.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (7-0); with exception noted by Ms. O'Connell-#456.54.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*O'Connell/Post*) to approve the March 27, 2013 and April 10, 2013 Meeting Minutes.

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

CITIZEN'S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Pam Palchowski, Crafton Celebrates Chairman – Reported that the committee now has a full executive board and a committee of volunteers. They are planning various fundraisers, and are starting to receive donations, but are requesting borough funding assistance to pay off some 2012 expenditures and for 2013 seed money to get things started; approx. \$10,000. which would be repaid back to the borough from the festival proceeds in July. Also, they have planned a Patriotic Pet Portrait fundraiser for Memorial Day in Crafton Park, and are requesting Council's permission to have this event in lieu of the Park Ordinance that does not permit pets/animals in the park. They will also be sponsoring a fundraiser raffle at the Elementary School event and will have other information available.

RECEIPT OF WRITTEN REPORTS (March 2013):

Treasurer's Report (Nov 2012-Feb 2013), Financial Report, Act 511 and Trash Collection Reports, Property Tax Collection Report, Police Report Ordinance Officer's Report, REMS Report, CVFD Reports, ~~Animal Control Report~~ and Engineer's Report. MOTION (*O'Connell/Post*) carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (7-0).

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Strunk referred to written report items (copy attached). Mayor Bloom inquired on the status of various street patches by Roto Rooter. Engineer Strunk noted that these were temporary patches and they will be back make final repairs.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Callen – Reported that a walk-through inspection was done on the roof contract, with Architect Viola. Punchlist items have been taken care of with the exception of replacement of damaged ceiling tiles; after which, payment in full will be requested. Manager Callen advised that orientation with the summer employees is scheduled for April 30th; PNC bank representatives will attend also to review various account options. He reported that the Shade Tree Commission is planning a clean-up and planting day for Saturday, May 18th – Gateway will, once again this year, provide some plants for the Circle. The Employee Handbook is still being reviewed and should be available soon for Councils approval.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Weitzel reported that an Executive Session of Council was held prior to the meeting to discuss Legal and Personnel matters; no action was taken. She reminded everyone of the planned centennial celebration at the Crafton Elementary school on Saturday, April 27th, from 1-4pm. It was also noted that Volunteers are needed for the May 18th Redd-Up Day – report to the Borough Building on Saturday, May 18th at 8:30 am.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Administration – Ms. O'Connell reported that the Civil Service Commission will be conducting oral exams for eligible candidates on Saturday, April 27th. She also reminded everyone that the Borough has a pool table for sale.
- Public Safety - Mr. Phillips noted that some of the borough sidewalks, particularly where storm sewer tops have collapsed, are a hazard, and asked that this work be scheduled – as well as the ADA ramp at Lincoln; it is crumbling and in need of immediate attention. Also, the yellow painted curbs need refreshed/repainted. He also noted that some residents continue to place large rocks in the utility right-of-way (between curb and sidewalk), which is a tripping hazard and prohibited by ordinance. It was noted that there is a motion on the Agenda, to advertise an Ordinance for adoption to change Grace Street to a One-Way Street.
- Recreation – Ms. Beechey reported that Public Works has been grass cutting throughout the borough, performing various pool repairs and maintenance; new lighting in the bathhouse and will soon be starting on staining the floors. Grant application has been submitted for \$154,000 for the playground. It was reported that bar-coded pool membership passes will be issued this year, rather than the metal tags. Also, credit card use will be available at the Cashier's station and Concession stand. Pool Pass sales should start next week, if all systems are ready to go. President Weitzel inquired on any consideration to provide complimentary pool passes to borough officials, commission members – to be discussed further.
- Public Works – Road Paving Program discussed. Noble Avenue, from Cross Street to Steuben to be considered, as well as an alternate bid for the two small sections of Cross Street – from Union to Noble and from Noble to Oregon.
- Strategic Planning – Mr. O'Brien reported that they have been reviewing the previous Strategic Plan and are preparing a new questionnaire for both resident and business input.

BUSINESS AGENDA

ORDINANCE

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Johnston/Phillips*) to adopt Ordinance No. 1618 amending the existing Street Opening Ordinance to reflect changing conditions, administrative and inspection costs.

MOTION TO TABLE pending availability of final copy of the Ordinance. (*5 Yes-2 No; O’Connell, Stewart*).

PUBLIC SAFETY

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Phillips/Johnston*) to advertise an Ordinance establishing Grace Street as a One Way Street, in a northerly direction from East Crafton Avenue to East Steuben Street. Moved to Withdraw Motion to revise it to include erection of official stop sign.

MOTION CARRIED to Withdraw the Motion by Unanimous Voice Vote (7-0).

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Phillips/Johnston*) to advertise an Ordinance establishing Grace Street as a One Way Street, in a northerly direction from East Crafton Avenue to East Steuben Street and to adopt Stop Sign placement at Grace Street and East Steuben Street.

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

ADMINISTRATION

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Post/Stewart*) to acknowledge and ratify the new Crafton Celebrates Executive Board; being Pam Palchowski, Chair, Rich Kraemer and Becky Heffner, co-chairs; Susan O’Connell, Treasurer and Merrie Kaltz, Secretary.

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

Added:

RECREATION

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Post/Stewart*) to advance \$10,000 to Crafton Celebrates for initial start-up funding to be paid back to Crafton Borough by July 30, 2013; thirty days after the event.

MOTION carried by 6 Yes, 1-Abstention (*S. O’Connell, Celebrates Treasurer*) Roll Call Vote (6-0-1).

PUBLIC WORKS

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Phillips/Johnston*) to authorize the Manager to arrange for the paving of Noble Avenue, from East Steuben Street to Cross Street for bidding; and to arrange for an alternate bid for Cross Street, from Union to Noble and from Noble to Oregon Avenue.

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

ADDITIONAL CITIZEN COMMENTS

Phil Mazur, Harris Street – Mr. Mazur reported various sites of graffiti along Clearview Park and on various signs, and requested the Boroughs attention. He also inquired on the planned improvements for Clearview and Harris Street under the Phase II project. Manager Callen provided a brief summary of the plans.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary