

**COUNCIL MEETING  
Minutes of June 23, 2014**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Hayes called to order the Regular Meeting of Crafton Borough Council, in Council Chambers of the Community Center. Flag Salute led by Mr. Phillips. ROLL CALL, by Mrs. Tremblay, recorded six (6) members of Council present as follows: Mr. Amendola, Ms. Amendola (*telephonically*), Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Phillips, Ms. Post, and Mr. Hayes. Also present were Mayor Bloom, Engineer Minsterman, Manager Beechey and Solicitor Daley. (*Absent: Ms. Weitzel*)

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** President Hayes reported than an Executive Session of Council was held prior to the Council meeting to discuss a contractual matter and a legal matter; no action was taken.

**BILL LIST APPROVAL**

**MOTION:** It was regularly moved and seconded (*Post/Phillips*) to approve the Bill List and Addendum, dated June 23, 2014.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote, with exception noted (*O'Brien-#400.11-Stipend*). (6-0)

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** It was regularly moved and seconded (*Post/O'Brien*) to approve the June 9, 2014 Meeting Minutes.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (6-0).

**CITIZEN'S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

Pam Palchowski, Crafton Celebrates, She invited Council to ride in the parade; contact her to reserve a car/ride. She noted that plans are going well but Celebrates still needs volunteers; now for setup and during the festival.

Phil Levasseur, 401 Clearview Avenue – Noted a few issues regarding the Clearview Phase III project: Garbage collection arrangements need to be made; hauler not able to collect on the closed streets. Ms. Beechey advised that arrangements were made with the contractor, so residents should put garbage out as usual. His belief that rehab of Harris Street was to be included in the plans for Phase III, rather than partial improvements for water run-off. Stated that Merante Contracting said the borough will have to replace damaged, worn bricks for repairs on Harris; not in contract.

Greg Takac, 401 Harris Street – Commented on a few items: Trash wasn't picked up due to street reconstruction; have plans been made for pickup? Inquired on curbs being fixed on Harris, and placement of storm sewer may be on incorrect side of street. Who is responsible for maintenance and run-off from paper street. There is a natural spring issue in the alley/paper street. Ms. Beechey noted that arrangements have been made with the Contractor to take trash up to Barr, each week, for pickup. Solicitor confirmed that a paper street, if not accepted or maintained by the Borough, is to be maintained by the adjacent property owners; there is a difference between an alley and a paper street.

**RECEIPT OF WRITTEN REPORTS (May 2014):**

Treasurer's Reports, Financial Report, Act 511 and Trash Collection Reports, Property Tax Collection Report, Police Report, ~~Ordinance Officer's Report~~, REMS Report, ~~CVFD Report~~ and

Engineer's Report. MOTION moved and seconded (*Post/Phillips*) carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (6-0).

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Bloom addressed two matters: 1. Requested the natural spring water issue on Fountain Street, at approx.. 38-40 Fountain Street, be looked into for some mitigation; it's been an ongoing problem especially in the winter with sidewalk and road icing problem. 2. Request for a Watch Children sign on S. Emily.

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Engineer Minsterman was provided (written report attached). Questions regarding the paving program; both streets simultaneously paved, street closures – Engineer Minsterman noted that they would be milled at the same time and paved at the same time, detour signs will be posted as needed, some partial road closures may be necessary; only problems anticipated would be parked cars.

### **MANAGER'S REPORT**

Director Beechey provided a written report (copy attached). Ms. Beechey noted that residents can sign up for Blackboard notifications on the borough website.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Hayes requested that Council review the proposed Employee Handbook; plan to adopt by the end of July, offer any input or comments. He reported that he has been talking with Susan Hockenberry of the Local Government Academy, considering an HR Analysis of the borough administration offices, and a consultant is being considered (ex-manager of Mt. Lebanon); but, will look for possibly three to consider/for comparison. A meeting of the search committee (Hayes, N. Amendola, Post) and Ms. Hockenberry is scheduled for Wednesday, and afterwhich, Council will be updated.

### **CORRESPONDENCE/DISCUSSION**

President Hayes reiterated the procedure for posting available positions, applications/letters of interest.

- Civil Service Commission Seat Vacancy: O'Connell/ F. Amendola

President Hayes offered Ms. O'Connell the opportunity to address Council. Ms. O'Connell reported on all of the updates and organizational work, training, etc. which she has played a major role in. Mr. Amendola appreciated her interest, but felt someone on Council should serve on the Commission and asked if she would serve as an alternate. He also expressed his interest in serving on the Commission. Ms. O'Connell noted that, to the contrary, it presents impartiality problems, possible conflicts of interest being on both Council and the Commission, especially when disciplinary action may be an issue. And, it has not been a policy to have a Council member seated on the Civil Service Commission, as far back as she can recall (1986). President Hayes said there is no immediate need to act on this since there is now an alternate member in place if the need arises for the Commission to meet; can allow more time to consider this appointment.

- Joint Planning Commission Seat Vacancy: J. Weaver Resignation – seek letters of interest.
- J. Onesta e-mail – Harris Street

### **BUSINESS AGENDA:**

#### **ADMINISTRATION**

**MOTION:** Motion moved and seconded (*Post/Phillips*) to execute a contract with Brinsky Painting for the exterior repair and painting of the Community Center Building, in accordance with Estimate #0414-016, for an amount not to exceed \$7,950.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (6-0).

**ORDINANCE**

**MOTION:** Motion moved and seconded (*N.Amendola/F.Amendola*) to adopt Ordinance No. 1624 amending Chapter 134 of the Crafton Borough Code of Ordinance, pertaining to Intermunicipal Liquor License transfers.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (6-0).

**MOTION:** Motion moved and seconded (*Phillips/Post*) to adopt Ordinance No. 1625 amending the Borough's Codification of Ordinances to include Chapter 223 – Yard Sales, for the purpose of establishing Rules and Regulations for conducting residential yard sales.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (6-0).

**MOTION:** Motion moved and seconded (*Post/O'Brien*) to advertise an Ordinance establishing regulations for placement of Roll-offs/Dumpsters. **COMMENTS:** Confirmed that the only change needed is the Ordinance Codification Chapter; removed from zoning to the chapter regarding solid waste. All other language is unchanged from the proposed ordinance provided.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (6-0).

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

**MOTION:** Motion moved and seconded (*Phillips/Post*) to authorize a conditional offer of employment, for the probationary period required by the Civil Service Rules and Regulations, to Joseph M. Washinski for the position of patrolman with the Crafton Police Department, to be effective as soon as possible, subject to satisfactory completion of a physical examination and psychological evaluation.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (6-0).

**PUBLIC WORKS**

**MOTION:** Motion moved and seconded (*N.Amendola/Post*) to execute agreements with the SHACOG for the Joint O&M Point Repair-Year 3 Project and Joint Municipal Sanitary Sewer Lining-Year 8 Project.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (6-0).

**OLD BUSINESS**

Ms. Post reported on the many recreational activities; Ribbon cutting ceremony at the new playground, and Arbor Day Celebration; both on June 14<sup>th</sup>. Reminded everyone that there is no smoking in the park. The pool held a bar-b-que and pool party fundraiser, and reminded of the upcoming Gala Under the Stars fundraiser on August 9<sup>th</sup>; all benefiting the pool renovation project. She thanked Pam Palchowski and the Celebrates Committee for all of their work, and noted to visit their website at [craftoncelebrates.org](http://craftoncelebrates.org) for the many activities, 5-k preregistration, and volunteer opportunities. President Hayes also thanked Ms. Beechey for all of her efforts with the Playground completion.

**ADDITIONAL CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Janice Everly, 305 Clearview Avenue – Expressed concerns for winter dangerous conditions on Harris Street.

Greg Takac, 401 Harris Avenue – Noted that cars are not stopping at the stop signs on Barr Avenue at the intersections where the side streets (Harris, etc.) have the barricades placed. Mayor would review this with the Police Dept.

Brian George, Metro PCS (Business on E. Steuben) – Was ordered to remove his ground sign on Steuben, so he has no signage to promote his business. He was referred to the sign ordinance available on-line, and other options for permitted signage. Ms. Beechey noted that she would e-mail the ordinance to Mr. George.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** It was regularly moved and seconded (*Post/F.Amendola*) to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (6-0).

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary

# Manager's Report-June 23rd, 2014

**Blackboard Connect-** implementation will begin tomorrow, June 24. Individuals with a registered landline will receive a test phone call. All residents are encouraged to register their email addresses, cell phones etc at the link on our website. Notifications can be received in a variety of ways

**Valley Street:** Paving was completed

**Ring Central** implementation has begun. Work should be completed by next week and new phones should be up and running.

**Woodlawn & Crafton Blvd.:** Preconstruction Meeting held 6/12-looking at mid to late July for paving-inlet repair will begin on Woodlawn prior.

**Thomas Street** Pre spec meeting onsite. Gateway will be preparing specifications in the next week for Borough authorization

**Verizon Franchise Contract:** still awaiting response for increase-

**Public Works Contract:** believe that terms have been identified.

**District Magistrate Lease:** will remediate heat issues in the interim with an awning and will look this fall to do some long term solutions with in house HVAC

**Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Development Plan:**

Met with the county planner to review ACED application for 30,000-a few adjustments were necessary. Contract will take up to 3 months to receive.

**Crafton Celebrates** begins next Monday June 30<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers still needed. Contact [craftoncelebrates@gmail.com](mailto:craftoncelebrates@gmail.com)

**Swimming Pool-**Is open full time. Pool passes have exceeded sales at this time from last year.