

**COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes of July 28, 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. Amendola. ROLL CALL, by Mrs. Tremblay, recorded six (6) members of Council present as follows: Mr. Amendola, Ms. Amendola (*telephonically*), Mr. Phillips, Ms. Post, Ms. Weitzel and Mr. Hayes. Also present were Mayor Bloom, Engineer Minsterman, Manager Beechey and Solicitor Daley. (*Absent: Mr. O'Brien*)

BILL LIST APPROVAL

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Post/Phillips*) to approve the Bill List dated July 28, 2014.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION: President Hayes announced that an Executive Session of Council was held prior to the meeting to discuss personnel matters; no action was taken.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*F.Amendola/Phillips*) to approve the June 23, 2014 Meeting Minutes.

MOTION carried by a Five Yes, One Abstention (*Weitzel*) Roll Call Vote.

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*F.Amendola/N.Amendola*) to approve the July 14, 2014 Meeting Minutes.

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

CITIZEN'S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Susan Mucha, 269 Clearview Avenue, Robin Anthony, 1715 Crafton Blvd.-Reported on damage to tree roots along Clearview caused by the contractors while digging and trenching the path for the bio-swale. They feel the root system was compromised, over 40 trees were affected, and are now open to disease and rot.

Frank Ragone, 18 Bell Avenue – Reported that the Alley behind Bell Avenue is extremely deteriorated, and needs repaved. Public Works occasionally throws dirt and gravel down, but it washes out, and, in the winter, it is very treacherous.

Pam Palchowski, 11 Bradford Avenue – Reported on Crafton Celebrate's Flamingo Flocking fund raiser. She noted that while attempting to flock neighborhood yards late at night, they are having difficulty finding correct house addresses due to the lack of house numbering. She feels the emergency responders must also be experiencing this problem. She suggested that perhaps this be part of the occupancy inspection requirements.

Jacqueline Lavasseur, 401 Clearview Avenue – Reported that with the lack of curbing repair on Harris at Clearview, sedimentation and water run-off is creating its own path, and washing out the road and gravel underneath the road, and into the sewer system.

RECEIPT OF WRITTEN REPORTS (June 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 reported that the new police officer will be sworn-in and start on August 1st; he has met all of his qualifications and is ready to go.

ENGINEER’S REPORT

Engineer Minsterman report was provided (written report attached). He noted that there are a few punchlist items to complete on the road paving contract. He reminded everyone that the Clearview project is an active construction zone, with a lot more work and restoration work to go. He also commented on the tree root issue, noting that rather than straight cutting a path for the bio-swale which would have been more damaging and require some tree removal, a meandering path was cut instead, which resulted in minimal root disturbance in comparison. The exposed roots will be covered with soil. Mayor Bloom asked about the health and life of the trees that experienced some root damage. Engineer Minsterman said he couldn’t say for sure, and noted that these were not the deep roots, but smaller outreaching roots.

MANAGER’S REPORT

Director Beechey advised that she is compiling and will provide a transitional report to Council. She also reminded everyone of the upcoming fundraiser at the pool; the Gala Under the Stars on August 9th.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

None

CORRESPONDENCE/DISCUSSION

- Ingram Resolution-Planning Grant/Allegheny County- Ms. Beechey reported that Ingram is still on board with the Multi-municipal plan, sent over their Resolution agreeing to the Allegheny County application, but Rosslyn Farms is out. She learned that there are some moneys available through the DCED; statewide approx. \$200,000, possibly funding 10-12 municipal plans. Ms. Weitzel will be meeting with them on Thursday, and will be able to provide further update.
- CVFD/Audit Report-Mr. Amendola noted that there were some setbacks but their solicitor is working on it.

BUSINESS AGENDA:

ADMINISTRATION

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Phillips/Post*) to adopt Resolution No. 2014-12 appointing the auditing firm of Case/Sabatini to conduct the 2013 Annual Financial Audit of the Borough; and, releasing the auditing firm of Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wool, LLP, due to non-performance. **COMMENTS:** Mr. Phillips reported that the audit should have been started in January, and has not yet begun, and should have been completed and filed by now. Mr. Hayes indicated that Case/Sabatini was the former auditor, and the change was made to have a new set of eyes reviewing the books, which is good to do every 3-5 years or so. Being familiar with our books, they should be able to quickly expedite the audit and complete its filing.

MOTION carried by a Four Yes, One No (*Weitzel*), One Abstention (*N.Amendola*) Roll Call Vote (4-1-1).

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Post/Phillips*) to award the Police Garage and Municipal Building Basement repair contract to Gregori Construction for an amount not to exceed \$9,000.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Post/N.Amendola*) to approve the Borough of Crafton Employee Handbook.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Post/Phillips*) to approve the Public Works Labor Contract, for a five year term, commencing April 1, 2014 through March 31, 2019.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*N.Amendola/Post*) to adopt Resolution No. 2014-13, amending the Verizon Cable Franchise Agreement, increasing the cable franchise fee to 4%; to be consistent with the fee established in the Comcast agreement renewal.

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

PUBLIC WORKS

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Weitzel/Post*) to authorize payment to the Borough of Ingram, in the amount of \$11,520.62, representing ½ the cost of paving Valley Street, as agreed.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*F.Amendola/Post*) to authorize and execute the Five Year Winter Maintenance Agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, for the 2014 through 2019 Winter Seasons. **COMMENTS:** It was noted that this agreement covers winter maintenance reimbursement of the truck route streets; reimbursement is based on number of miles x the rate of reimbursement. This is separate from the Agility Agreement, and has existed for quite awhile, and renews every five years.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Weitzel/Post*) to authorize the execution of the CharWest COG Indemnification letters for the demolition of 13 Union Avenue and 129 Dinsmore Avenue, subject to the Solicitor’s final review and approval to proceed. **COMMENTS:** It was noted that 13 Union is ready to proceed on, but 129 Dinsmore is not and is still occupied.

ORDINANCE

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Post/N.Amendola*) to adopt Ordinance No. 1626 amending Chapter 188 of the Crafton Borough Code of Ordinances, establishing regulations for the placement of Roll-offs/Dumpsters.

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

MOTIONS ADDED:

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Weitzel/Post*) to offer the position of Interim Borough Manager to the firm of Hebert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc. (HRG).

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*F.Amendola/Phillips*) to offer the position of Interim Director of Public Works and Recreation to RKAZ Municipal Consulting LLC.

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

ADDITIONAL CITIZEN COMMENTS

Robin Anthony, Susan Mucha – Noted additional comments regarding the tree root damage on Clearview; Engineer Minsterman spoke to some of their comments (re: silk socks/temporary control, avoiding the saplings, effective grade of the swale). Ms. Mucha disagreed with the Engineer that the root damage is not superficial. Also noted that there are a lot of ruts in the trail from the heavy equipment that need to be restored.

Frank Ragone – Also, noted that there is some overgrowth and dead trees in the alley behind Bell Avenue that also needs to be addressed.

Phil Lavasseur, 401 Clearview Avenue – Remarkd on lack of public communication regarding the Clearview project. Also, he was previously advised that curbing was the borough's responsibility, otherwise, he could have repaired the curbing when his new driveway was installed. He provided photos of a trench on Harris due to damaged/missing curbs, and commented on his communications with J.T. from Gateway Engineers, on whether or not this curbing is going to be completed. He noted that he has reported the site to the Allegheny County Conservation District, and inspector will be following up with the contractor, on violations due to the lack of controls being in place.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary