

COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes of November 13, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*O'Connell/Johnston*), to approve the November 13, 2012 List of Bills.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

October 23, 2012 – N/A

CITIZENS PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Tim Prah, 31 Harrison Street – Mr. Prah reported that he has complaints regarding the sewer contract work being done on Harrison. Noise, property damage, blocked driveway, etc. Manager Callen noted that this project has taken longer than anticipated; numerous problems and obstacles. Mr. Prah was advised to photograph and document any damages and the contractor would be responsible for restoration.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Daley reported that they are prepared to go to Commonwealth Court regarding the Duncan matter. They also just completed the hearing regarding the Breden pension benefit denial matter, and expect a decision within 60-90 days. They are continuing the legal work/court orders for the demolition of three hazardous/abandoned properties in the Borough. The Diggans/Barr Avenue property has been assigned to a Judge for settlement.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Callen reported that the Clearview Phase I project should be completed by the end of November/early December. Phase II is scheduled to begin in early Spring 2013. Jet Jac will continue the sewer lining contract through early December. Manager Callen reported that Verizon has made application for a Street Opening Permit for W. Crafton Avenue. Verizon reported damages, excavation and backfill to their underground cable lines, and now need to open the street to make the repairs. He met with Gateway Engineers and Verizon, and need to investigate further with contractors – Roto Rooter and TA Robinson. Concerns were expressed that the repaving of the opening should be a curb-to-curb repair/seam-to-seam; no patches.

A motion to award the Salt Bin pad construction is on the Agenda, and the contractor is to be Excaliper – they are the same contractor doing the ADA sidewalk ramps. The concrete pad will be topped with asphalt to protect the new concrete from salt damage.

A nine-man crew will be starting the roof repair contract next week (Community Center Building & Borough Building). There is no cost involved in the change order. This project should be done by the end of November.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Weitzel reported that she had spoken to the owner of the Steuben Street apartment buildings and confirmed that these are not going to be Section 8 Housing, and they are now available for rent.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Administration** - Ms. O'Connell reported that three versions of the proposed ordinance have been provided for Council's consideration (Reduce Council from 9 to 7 in 3 wards, Reduce Wards to 2 with 3 members in each ward plus 1 at-large, and abolish all wards and elect 7. Also discussed possibly conducting a public hearing on this matter; although it is not required.
- **Finance** – It was reported that the next Budget meeting is Nov. 20th, and the Proposed Budget will be finalized and adopted at the Council meeting of Nov. 27th, and then be available for Public Inspection. The final 2013 Budgets will be adopted at the December 11th Council meeting. At this time, the General Fund is basically complete; still reviewing some fee structures, as well as the Road and Sewer Fund budgets.

It was reported that no Committee Meetings will be held on Thursday, Nov. 22nd since it is Thanksgiving.

CORRESPONDENCE

CharWest COG – ADA Curb Ramp work to begin, Gateway Engineers – Highway Occupancy Permit for Steuben Street and Dinsmore storm inlet work, Cohen Law Group – Free Legal Assessment for Cable Franchise Agreement. Mrs. Tremblay reported that the Comcast Agreement will be expiring soon; it was done previously by our Solicitor at a pretty expensive cost, but the Verizon was done through a multi-municipal project through the CharWest COG at a savings. Also, provided CONNECT Newsletter.

BUSINESS AGENDA**ADMINISTRATION**

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*O'Connell/Johnston*) to authorize the advertisement of an Ordinance allowing for the abolishment of all Wards in the Borough of Crafton, thereby resulting in the election of seven (7) members of Council at large. **COMMENTS:** It was decided that this would be advertised for the next meeting, and a public hearing would not be necessary.

MOTION carried by Five Yes, One No (*Phillips*) Roll Call Vote (5-1).

PUBLIC WORKS

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Johnston/Post*) to authorize payment #1 to A. Merante Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$118,467.04 for work completed on the Clearview Avenue project for the period October 4, 2012 through November 2, 2012. **COMMENTS:** Mr. Johnston clarified that this amount should be pro-rated between the Road Fund (\$66, 313.80) and the Sewer Fund (\$52,153.24).

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*O'Connell/Johnston*) to award Excaliper Construction the Concrete Pad Work for the Road Salt Storage Shed in the amount of \$17,828.

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (6-0).

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary