

**BOROUGH OF CRAFTON
COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes of November 27, 2017**

CALL TO ORDER

President Amendola called to order the Regular Meeting of Crafton Borough Council of November 27, 2017 at 7:15 pm, in the Council Chambers of the Community Center of the Municipal Building. The Flag Salute was led by Ms. Damits.

ROLL CALL, by Manager Scott, recorded Six (6) Members of Council present as follows: Mr. Amendola, Ms. Glaser, Ms. Damits, Ms. Perry, Mr. Levasseur and Ms. Amendola. Absent was Mr. O'Brien. Also present Mayor Bloom, Solicitor Gladys, Engineer Strunk, Public Works Director Kaczorowski and Manager Scott.

BILL LIST APPROVAL

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Levasseur/F. Amendola*) to approve the Bill List dated November 27, 2017 as presented.

MOTION #1 was moved and seconded by Unanimous Vote (6-0).

ACCEPTANCE/APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Glaser/F. Amendola*) to approve the Minutes for the November 13, 2017 Meeting as presented.

MOTION #2 was moved and seconded by Unanimous Vote (6-0).

Ms. Amendola stated, Council had invited Crafton Celebrates to attend the meeting this evening. She is pleased to announce, on behalf of Council, the Borough has decided to pay one-half of the cost associated with the Community Fireworks Display during Celebrates Celebration. A cost of \$4,000. Mr. O'Brien brought this matter to Council's attention at a Budget meeting, and it was decided it was in the best interest of Celebrates to pay half of the costs. Celebrates organizes several fundraisers, raising monies to cover the costs associated with the five day event. Ms. Amendola noted, the fireworks are something enjoyed by the entire Community. Pam and Angela Palchowski, Celebrates Committee, thanked Council for the continued support of Celebrates.

CITIZEN'S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL/Agenda Items Only:

Ms. Amendola noted, there were no citizens signed up to speak before Council regarding Agenda items.

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF WRITTEN REPORTS (OCTOBER 2017)

Council acknowledged receipt of the following Monthly Reports; Financial Report, Treasurer’s Report, Act 511 and Trash Collection Reports, Property Tax Collection, Police Report, NW EMS Report, Ordinance Officer Report, Building Inspection Report, Engineer’s Report, Public Works Report, Fire Department and the Library Report.

ENGINEER’S REPORT

Engineer Strunk noted the monthly Engineer’s Report has been submitted to Council for review.

Mr. Strunk noted the 2017 Road Paving Program is completed. He is working with the contractor on the completing the final pay request. He anticipates having the request into the Borough by the end of the week.

Mr. Strunk noted construction of the Rain Garden is complete. The storm sewer and manhole installed, the outstanding item at the time is the paving of the Parking Lot. This will need to be completed in Spring 2018.

Mr. Strunk noted, demolition of the two blighted properties has been completed. The contractor was out working today, putting down topsoil and grass seed.

Mr. Strunk noted the 2017 Manhole Rehabilitation Project, the contractor began work today. This project will take a few weeks to complete.

Mr. Strunk noted, the mandated Source Reduction Study has been completed, and will be delivered to the Department of Environmental Project on Friday, December 1, 2017. Gateway will deliver a hard copy to the Borough.

Mr. Strunk received notification from the DCED, Small Water and Sewer Program will be accepting applications through February 28, 2018. The Borough submitted application for the Johnston St. Sewer Project, total project cost of \$193,000, DCED monies requested \$164,000; Local match \$29,000. The Borough did not receive funding in 2017, however, this project needs to be completed and suggested a new application for this project be submitted.

PUBLIC WORKS

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Levasseur/F. Amendola*) to adopt Resolution No. 2017-25, Joining with other Municipalities within the ALCOSAN Service Area to create a unified approach to Source Reduction Efforts and Adopting a Source Reduction Study as required by the Consent Order.

MOTION #3 was moved and seconded by Unanimous Vote (6-0).

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Damits/F. Amendola*) to approve Estimate No. 1 for the 2017 Manhole Rehabilitation Project, Standard Pipe Services, as recommended by the Engineer and included in the Sewer Fund Budget.

MOTION #4 was moved and seconded by Unanimous Vote (6-0).

Ms. Glaser noted the rain garden in the park looks great. Mr. Strunk stated the contractor did a great job on the project. The rain garden, storm sewer line and catch basin are completed, the parking lot paving will have to wait until Spring.

SOLICITORS REPORT

Solicitor Gladys noted the only item on his Agenda, the Splash Pool. We are waiting for a date the contractor will begin work on the repairs. Noting the two major repairs, the seat wall and tile, are weather dependent. He believes the work is going to have to wait until Spring.

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor noted Click It or Ticket is still going on through December 3, 2017. While officers are out patrolling, they will be looking for seat belt use.

Crafton police, on their own time, assisted New Kensington Police Department with patrolling the Community, several shifts, during the difficult time of the death of Officer Brian Shaw. Three Officers attended the Funeral, it was very emotional.

The Mayor noted, there was another overdose on Thanksgiving. The person was visiting Crafton, and was a medical professional. This epidemic affects, young and old, rich or poor, the entire Community.

BUSINESS AGENDA

FINANCE

Ms. Amendola announced, the proposed 2018 Budget for the General Fund, Sewer and Road Fund is on display for public inspection through Monday, December 11, 2017 and is available on the Borough website at www.crafton.org.

Ms. Amendola announced Council will consider at the Meeting of December 11, 2017, adopting the 2018 Budget, Adopting the 2018 Tax Rate (7.59 Mills – No Increase) and the 2018 Fee Schedule.

Ms. Scott announced, ALCOSAN at their Board Meeting, authorized a four year sewer rate increase; 2018 – 7.5%; 2019 – 7%; 2020 – 7% and 2021 – 7%. A news release from ALCOSAN is on the back table for review.

ADMINISTRATION

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*F. Amendola/Perry*) to adopt Resolution No. 2017-16, Allegheny County Side Yard Program, Property Block & Lot 68-F-255 (Woodlawn Avenue) in accordance with the Comprehensive Plan.

MOTION #5 was moved and seconded by Unanimous Vote (6-0).

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*F. Amendola/Perry*) to adopt Resolution No. 2017-17, Allegheny County Side Yard Program, Property Block & Lot 69-F-223 (W. Steuben Street) in accordance with the Comprehensive Plan.

MOTION #6 was moved and seconded by Unanimous Vote (5-1).

Mr. Levasseur inquired the property on N. Emily, Council approved their side yard application, any information on the status, when they are going to complete the demolition of the structure. Ms. Scott stated the closing and finalizing the purchase is all completed through Allegheny County. She noted the program is great, just is slow.

Mr. Levasseur inquired if the property next door is going to be demolished. Ms. Scott stated on the application submitted to the Borough, it was the intention to remove the structure.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

The Manager spoke with the President of Council in Ingram regarding the Blight Committee. He suggested the Committee could begin meeting in January or February next year. He also asked if Local Government Center had any materials or guidelines that could be utilized by the Committee, define their duties and responsibilities, educational materials. Ms. Scott contacted Local Government Center, she is waiting to see if they have any type of publication they could share with Crafton and Ingram.

The next item discussed was the zero water consumption report received by Jordan Tax Service. Ms. Scott noted, at the request of Council, the information had been plotted on a GIS map.

Mr. Levasseur inquired if the Borough could look at the property on Rodgers that had been a problem in the past. Ms. Scott stated, 58 Rodgers had been boarded up a few months ago by the Code Enforcement Officer. Mr. Kaczorowski stated he will go tomorrow and make sure the home is still boarded up and secured.

Mr. Levasseur inquired as to the property on Barr Avenue, if the Borough or the homeowner took down the dilapidated porch. Mr. Kaczorowski noted he and the Building Inspector met with the property owner a week ago (1528 Barr), they provided him with a current listing of

violations. He stated at that meeting, he plans to bring the home up to code. He also stated he plans on removing the tree that is a nuisance as well.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Amendola made the following announcements;

- *Thursday, November 30, 2017* - TOYS FOR TOTS – Crafton Police are collecting unwrapped toys, Drop Box located in the atrium during regular business hours. Also a drop box at the Library.
- *Saturday, December 2, 2017* – HOLIDAY CELEBRATION
 - a. 10 am to Noon – *Gingerbread House Making* – Community Room Must pre-register by December 1 - \$5 per child
 - b. 4 pm to 8 pm – *Mini Golf with Santa at the North Pole*
Kids 12 & under \$2 (Santa will be there!!!)
 - c. DUSK – *Light Up Night* – Nina Amendola will throw the switch and light up the Borough. Enjoy hot dogs, hot chocolate, toasted marshmallows and candy canes!!!
- *Saturday, December 9, 2017* – LIBRARY AFTER DARK
7 pm to 10 pm, Tickets on sale at Crafton Library, \$30 per person
- *Sunday, December 10, 2017* – CHRISTMAS IN CRAFTON
House Tour – 1 pm to 6 pm – Advanced Tickets Price - \$15.00
Tickets available at Borough Office and Library

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Kathleen Watson, 74 Fountain Street, wanted to be sure the engineer was aware the contractor has not put down top soil and grass seed at 78 Fountain.

Pam Palchowski, Celebrates Committee, expressed her deepest gratitude to Council for their assistance with the cost of the Fireworks. It is a big expense, \$8,000 and it takes a lot to raise those type of funds. Celebrates will be five days, as in the past, the parade will take place on Saturday, 2:00 pm on June 30. Celebrates appreciates this assistance.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Levasseur/Damits*) to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 pm.

MOTION #7 was carried by a Unanimous Voice Vote (6-0).

Respectfully submitted,
Ann C. Scott, Borough Manager