

COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes of October 9, 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. Johnston. 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, Mr. Stewart, and Ms. Weitzel. (*Absent: Mr. Hays, Mrs. Stacy*) Also present were Manager Callen and Solicitor Daley.

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Johnston/O'Connell*), to approve the October 9, 2012 List of Bills.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*O'Connell/Phillips*), to approve the September 25, 2012 Meeting Minutes.

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

CITIZENS PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Regis Bonner, 67 Oregon – Mr. Bonner questioned revisions to the proposed ordinance as it relates to Oregon Avenue. Mr. Johnston explained that section, as well as the overall revisions.

Father Walt, W. Crafton Avenue - Father Walt expressed concerns over possible changes and elimination of parking on W. Crafton Avenue (Church Hill/Cemetery Hill). He explained the necessity for the parking (preschool drop-off, funerals, weddings, Sunday masses, etc.); noting that it is designated a school zone with 15mph at all times which should allow for the drop-off of students.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Daley noted that they were working the legal work/court orders for the demolition of three hazardous/abandoned properties in the Borough. Have the Court Order for 1656 Crafton Blvd., going to court on Oct. 10th to obtain the order for 227 W. Steuben, and working with the heir/attorney for the third property.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Callen referred Council to written report items (copy attached).

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Weitzel reported that she, Ms. O'Connell and Mr. Johnston attended the LGA course – Right Sizing Government – Under the Municipal Reapportionment Act, Council should consider the borough's population/recent census data and determine if there is a need to reduce or increase the number of wards, etc. This is on the agenda for further discussion. She reported, also, that she and Manager Callen meet with Building Inspection Underwriters – Company that does the permitting and fees for the borough for building of various structures. They had discussed the planned renovations of Crafton Elementary School, and most cost effectively, for this multi-million dollar renovation project; working with the Contractor for the most competitive fees.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Administration** - Ms. O'Connell reported that interviews were conducted for the Director of Borough Services, and would like to continue on the process; inquired if an Executive Session of Council was needed to review this matter or an advertised meeting. She noted that the next Administrative Committee Meeting is scheduled for Oct. 23rd and plan to discuss the needs and plans, and structure of the administrative office considering the recent retirements. She reported on the recent Park Study Open House attendance and review of the concepts; noting that a draft plan should be available for the Park Study Committee in about a week/week and a half for approval and review. It was also noted that a tree planting is planned for October 24th in Crafton Park, a part of the Tree Vitalize grant, and the Shade Tree Commission is looking for volunteers. Also, the Arbor Day Celebration is planned for that day; at 12 noon in Crafton Park, with refreshments.
- **Finance/Grants** – Mr. Stewart inquired if anyone was planning to attend the grant workshop; no interest at this time.
- **Public Safety** – **W. Crafton Avenue Parking:** Mr. Phillips reported that Public Works did place some rebar in the sewer opening at Noble and Bradford, which does seem adequate in closing that big opening and making it safer. He inquired on the status of the fire truck sale; Manager noted that bids were being received until 10/15, and would have something for the next meeting. Mr. Phillips re-iterated his safety concerns regarding West Crafton Avenue parking. He stated that it is not being used as a drop-off, that vehicles are being parked. Ms. O'Connell believes the centerline possibly is not where it used to be and was painted more toward the center of the road, which is giving the impression that there is no longer enough room in the driving lane nearest the parked vehicles. She asked if some other parking alternatives could be looked into and considered. Mr. Stewart asked if the centerline could be moved to allow more room on the parking side. Mr. O'Brien and Mr. Phillips noted that it was probably built and lined to updated standards; per engineer and/or PennDot specs. Manager Callen was asked to investigate it further with Gateway Engineers/PennDot regarding the width of the road and requirements for driving and parking lanes. Father Walt offered additional comments at this time. Mr. Johnston asked about utilizing the level part of W. Crafton, near the play court yard, during certain hours for drop-off.
- **Ordinance/Planning** – Mr. Johnston reported that changes have been made to the proposed ordinance, taking into consideration the comments made by the residents directly affected by the ordinance; being more user friendly (period: Nov. 1-Mar. 31, 4" of snowfall rather than 2", and 24 hrs. rather than 48 hrs.) He also noted that a link to the National Weather Alert has been put on the Borough Website. He also reported that the next Ordinance Committee meeting has been cancelled.
- **Parks/Recreation** – Mrs. Post reported that the Parks/Rec Committee will be meeting and they plan to review the draft plans for the pool. She thanked the Study Committee for all of their work on this project.
- **Public Works** – Mr. Johnston reported that he had visited the site of the storm sewer at Duncan and Steuben during the last big rain even, and stated that there is a problem with directing rain water runoff. The flow has been disturbed by the paving of Steuben Street and it appears that the sewer openings are undersized. The road is paved too high and the water is running over the catch basins rather than into them. Need Gateway to look at the catch basins and make recommendations; possibly have the sewer grates/openings in the road.

Ms. Weitzel inquired on the status of the sewer problem on McMunn – Manager Callen noted that he was still waiting for a report on it, as well as the one on Dinsmore; should have something in the next few days.

BUSINESS AGENDA

ORDINANCE

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*O'Connell/Stewart*) to appoint the Administrative Committee and the Ordinance Committee of Council to prepare an Ordinance in accordance with the Municipal Reapportionment Act relating to the number and size of Wards and to further pursue actions necessary to reduce the number of members of Council elected in the borough to seven in accordance with the provisions of the Borough Code. **COMMENTS:** Solicitor commented that Council has the power, by Ordinance, to decrease, increase, consolidate or abolish the number of wards. Committee needs to sit down and review this for its options so that Council can make an informed decision; would need to act on this before the December 31st deadline.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Johnston/Phillips*) to adopt Ordinance No. 1610 establishing Parking Regulations on certain streets at all times and adding regulations for parking during Severe Winter Weather Periods.

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

PUBLIC WORKS

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*O'Connell/Phillips*) to exercise Option Year 2013 of Waste Management of PA, Inc. Agreement for Residential Solid Waste & Recyclables Hauling.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*O'Connell/Johnston*) to authorize Gateway Engineers to assist the Borough toward the Specification, Bidding, Contracting and Preparation of a newly-constructed Salt Shed at a cost to not exceed \$2,500.

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

COMMENTS: President Weitzel announced that Council would be convening to an Executive Session following the Council meeting to discuss the interviews for the Director of Borough Services. Mr. Johnston thanked the residents for coming to the Council meeting and Committee meeting to offer their comments and input for the parking ordinance.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary