

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION MEETING
Minutes of Monday, April 10, 2017**

CALL TO ORDER

President Amendola called the Discussion/Agenda Meeting of Crafton Borough Council to order, in Council Chambers of the Community Center. Flag Salute led by Mr. Amendola. ROLL CALL, by Manager Scott, recorded Six (6) Members of Council present as follows: Mr. Amendola, Ms. Damits, Ms. Perry, Mr. O'Brien, and Ms. Amendola. Ms. Glaser was skyping into the meeting. Those not in attendance; Mr. Levasseur. Also present Mayor Bloom, and Solicitor Gladys.

Ms. Amendola noted a meeting was held with Utility Service Partners to discuss the NLC Service Line Warranty Program offered to residents of Crafton. Council took the opportunity to discuss the next mailing (scheduled for April/May) with representatives from the NLC. Ms. Amendola noted a revision to the Current Zoning

BILL LIST APPROVAL

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/F. Amendola*) to approve the payment of bills on the Bill List dated April 10, 2017.

MOTION #1- carried by a Unanimous Voice Vote (6-0)

ACCEPTANCE/APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*O'Brien/Damits*) to accept the Meeting Minutes dated March 27, 2017 as presented.

MOTION #2 - carried by a Unanimous Voice Vote (6-0).

CITIZEN'S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL/Agenda Items only

Kathleen Watson, 74 Fountain Avenue, noted for the record that the homeowner of 78 Fountain cut the grass today on the property.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

The Solicitor noted that his office sent out a Letter of Default to the property owner at 78 Fountain, regular and certified mail. As of this date, no word from the owner. In review of the court order, the structure can be taken down on or after June 1, 2017 with no further action from the Court. He noted Council may wish to discuss how they wish to proceed with the demolition of the structure, competitive bid or if Public Works Department completing the project. Ms. Scott noted that demolition of the structure would be completed through the competitive bid process. She suggested that this item could be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting, to authorize the engineer to begin preparing plans and specifications for the project, after June 1, 2017.

The solicitor noted that the State Ethics Financial Disclosure form is due April 15, 2017, for 2016 (prior year). Any questions, please feel free to contact him.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Bloom noted Click It or Ticket It begins May 14 through June 4, 2017. He noted the Borough received grant funding for the program, extra officers will be on patrol and reminded everyone to buckle up.

The Commonwealth completed their annual audit of the CLEAN (Commonwealth Law Enforcement Assistance Network) System, this is the system every department utilizes to obtain information from the State. The audit is completed and no discrepancies.

BUSINESS AGENDA

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Ms. Amendola noted, there is Notice of a Special Meeting schedule for Wednesday, April 19, 2017 at 7:00 pm to review and discuss the Early Intervention Program prepared through funding through the PA DCED (Department of Community and Economic Development). Immediately following this meeting, a joint meeting with Ingram Council will be held to discuss joint/shared services.

Mr. O'Brien noted at the Planning Commission meeting, they requested that the Plan reflect a working group be maintained by each Community. Ms. Scott noted Mr. Pashek will include in the Plan future consideration for a Joint Planning Commission Meeting.

Ms. Amendola noted a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, April 24, 2017 at 7:00 pm regarding the Comprehensive Plan. Afterwards Council will consider adopting the proposed joint plan, as recommended by the Planning Commission.

PERSONNEL

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*F. Amendola/O'Brien*) to approve the Summer Employment List, dated April 10, 2017, as presented.

Ms. Damits inquired if the Public Work Applicants are all over 18 years of age. Ms. Scott noted a meeting has been scheduled for May 9 to meet with the each of applicants, and to verify application information, ages and responsibilities.

Ms. Damits inquired if the Borough was planning on participating in the Department of Labor and Industry Project that provides summer school age workers to local Municipalities. Ms. Scott noted that we are planning on placing the person at the pool, and she noted the Borough participated in 2016.

Ms. Damits inquired as to the number of applicants that live outside the Borough. Ms. Scott noted there were a few from Ingram and a couple from Carnegie.

MOTION #3 - carried by a Unanimous Voice Vote (6-0).

PUBLIC WORKS

Ms. Amendola noted that 2017 Road Program Bids are due April 12, 2017 to the Borough Offices.

Ms. Scott noted the Borough received monies through ALCOSAN for the construction of the Rain Garden Project in Crafton Park. She met with the Penn State Center, who will work with Gateway on the Design of the rain garden, at no fee. Gateway will prepare the storm sewer portion, parking lot and catch basins and prepare the plans and specifications. Ms. Scott noted that this will reduce engineering fees for the project.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/F. Amendola*) to authorize Penn State Center and Gateway Engineers to begin design of the Crafton Park Rain Garden Project.

MOTION #4 - carried by a Unanimous Voice Vote (6-0).

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*F. Amendola/Glaser*) to award the bid for O&M Point Repair – Year 6, to Niando Construction in the amount of \$150,043, which is included in 2017 Sewer budget and recommended by the Engineer.

MOTION #5 - carried by a Unanimous Voice Vote (6-0).

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Damits*) to award the bid for Spot Lining – Year 11, to State Pipe Services in the amount of \$26,980, which is included in 2017 Sewer budget and recommended by the Engineer.

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

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*O'Brien/Perry*) to award the bid for Manhole to Manhole Lining – Year 11, to Jet Jack in the amount of \$112,835, which is included in 2017 Sewer budget and recommended by the Engineer.

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

Ms. Scott noted that the Borough applied for a Small Water and Sewer Grant through the Commonwealth Financing Authority for the project on Johnston Street, however, the project was not awarded funding.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Ms. Scott noted that PA State Association of Boroughs (PSAB) sent an email to all of the Managers requesting they provide their Councils information on two (2) Draft Resolutions and consider adoption; 1. Allowing Police Departments to Utilize Municipal Radar and other forms of speed tracking equipment; and 2. Small Games of Chance by local charitable service clubs.

Ms. Scott prepared each of the Resolutions in draft format for discussion.

Council may wish to consider adopting one or both of these resolutions. PSAB will take the resolutions adopted to the State Legislators as a show of support and request their consideration in revising the laws.

Ms. Perry inquired that radar is not allowed to be utilized by local departments only. Ms. Scott noting that was correct and across the Country local departments all utilize radar for speed tracking. Pennsylvania is the only State that does not allow.

The Mayor noted, this has been a political football for many years. The matter comes before the legislation every few years, and is never approved. He explained when a local police department writes someone a ticket for speeding, the total fine is approximately about \$125. The local portion of that fine is about \$12.50; If the person pleads not guilty and asked for hearing and found guilty, the Borough receives that same \$12.50, plus paid two hours of overtime for the police officer. The Mayor requested Council's consideration and support of this Resolution.

Ms. Amendola asked if there are any reasons not to support this proposed Resolution and local police departments utilizing radar. Mayor Bloom noted there aren't any reasons not to provide support except perhaps, the initial cost to purchase the equipment, should it be approved.

Mr. O'Brien inquired if the Borough could lower the speed limit on a roadway to 25 mph or below. The Mayor noted, Route 60 is a State Highway and PENNDOT maintains the speed limit. He noted PENNDOT reduced the speed limit a few years ago from 35 to 30 mph.

Mr. O'Brien stated coming from the West End into Crafton on the Boulevard, the speed limit is 30 mph (where Clearview Ext comes in) and there is a dangerous curve. The Mayor noted PENNDOT actually reduced the area from 35 to 30 mph years ago as well. Mr. O'Brien noted, one of the concepts in the Comprehensive Plan is how we can make Crafton more of a "Walkable" Community, reducing the speed to 25 mph in that area, would assist in attaining that goal. The Mayor noted the Borough would need to contact PENNDOT and request the reduced speed perhaps a traffic study would need completed. Mr. O'Brien stated when the Comprehensive Plan is adopted, this may carry a little more weight with PENNDOT.

The next Resolution to be considered is in reference to small games of chance by local charitable service clubs. The Resolution currently puts a limit on the amount of monies that can be raised by a charitable club to \$25,000 - \$35,000 per week. The proposed resolution has no ceiling on the amount that can be raised.

Ms. Perry inquired who is requesting the Borough to consider this Resolution. Ms. Scott explained the President of the Borough Association sent an email to all Managers, the Community he represents prepared the Resolutions and is requesting support from across the State.

Ms. Amendola reminded Council, this is not something the Borough of Crafton is obligated to consider.

After discussion, Council agreed to support and consider a Resolution allowing Police Departments to Utilize Municipal Radar and other forms of speed tracking equipment and submit to PSAB. Ms. Scott will prepare the resolution for the next meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Amendola made the following announcements;

- SHRED EVENT – Saturday, April 22, 2017, 10 am to 1 pm – Crafton Park
Representative Dan Deasy, Senator Wayne Fontana, Boroughs of Crafton & Ingram - Hosting the Event!!

AUDIENCE AGENDA

No one from the audience signed up to speak before Council.

Ms. Damits noted that at the Conference at Seven Springs, one of the topics discussed was Blight. She and Councilman Levasseur spoke with representatives from local Communities, and seems to be shared interest in getting a joint Blight Committee together.

Ms. Perry noted that once the Comprehensive Plan is adopted, there is a section of the Plan that discusses and is dedicated to Blight.

The Solicitor noted Act 90 provides the Borough with the tools necessary to effectively eliminate or remove Blight. Enforcement of the Codes are critical. Once things get to the judgement level more tools become available. Including placing a lien on the actual property owner's property outside of the Community where the owner may live.

Ms. Damits noted she had a listing of contacts interested in a joint Blight Committee, she will share after the Plan has been adopted.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Damits*) to adjourn the meeting at 8:05pm.

MOTION #8 - carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (6-0).

Respectfully submitted,
Ann C. Scott, Borough Manager