

**COUNCIL MEETING  
Minutes of March 9, 2015**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Hayes called to order the Agenda Meeting of Crafton Borough Council, in Council Chambers of the Community Center. Flag Salute led by Ms. Weitzel. ROLL CALL, by Mrs. Tremblay, recorded Seven (7) members of Council present as follows: Mr. Amendola, Ms. Amendola (*via telephone*), Mr. Crown, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Phillips, Ms. Weitzel and Mr. Hayes. Also present were Solicitor Ayoob and Director Kaczorowski. (*Absent: Mayor Bloom, Manager Trant*)

**BILL LIST APPROVAL**

**MOTION:** It was regularly moved and seconded (*Crown/F.Amendola*) to approve the Bill List dated March 9, 2015.

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

February 23, 2015 – Not Available

**CITIZEN'S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL/Agenda Items only**

Coletta Perry, 10 Baldwick Road – Questions concerning the status of the EMS; inquired of the RFP process, Council's action not to renew the contract with REMS, and various concerns if the Crafton Volunteer Fire Dept. would be contracted to provide/oversee EMS. Also, inquired on information regarding a unified plan and consolidation efforts.

Charlene Krenke, 800 Clearview Ave. – Inquired on committee meetings being held regarding the EMS, or others matters, and not open to the public. Mr. Amendola, Public Safety Chair, stated they were not Committee meetings, although they are being referred to as such; noting that he has met with President Hayes and the Fire Chief.

Susan O'Connell, 22 Creighton Avenue – She too inquired about the Public Safety Committee Meetings being held, as stated and referenced to at the last meeting by Manager Trant. She saw no notice or advertisement for any committee meetings, and from the reaction of two members of Council at the last meeting, they didn't seemed to be informed on the EMS matter. She recalls some issues in 2008 between the Fire Department and EMS, and wondered if this is a reoccurrence. She also noted that she was pleased to see discussion on the Agenda regarding the EMS and no action.

Mike Nemeec, REMS Chief – Expressed concerns that Council may consider subcontracting with the Fire Department to manage the EMS service; they are an excellent fire company but their specialty is fire-fighting and not EMS. He doesn't feel they know the rules and regulations, as they were running a QRS service that wasn't inspected or licensed by the State, which was a huge liability to the Borough.

**DISCUSSION AND BUSINESS AGENDA**

**1. ADMINISTRATION**

a. Director of Public Works

- i. **MOTION:** Motion was regularly made and seconded (*Phillips/Amendola*) to hire Robert Kaczorowski as Director of Public Works, a full-time position, at an annual salary of \$55,000., effective March 16, 2015. **COMMENTS:** Ms. Weitzel asked if this position was advertised; Mr. Hayes noted that it was not advertised.

MOTION carried by a Six Yes, One No (*Weitzel*) Roll Call Vote (6-1).

**b. Council Meeting Schedule – Consider schedule change**

- i. MOTION:** Motion was regularly moved and seconded (*Crown/F.Amendola*) to change the 2015 Council meeting schedule to the first and third Monday of each month, with Holiday adjustments as necessary. **COMMENTS:** Due to prior commitments, the Interim Manager would not be able to attend meetings on the third Monday of the month, and this motion is offered if Council would desire to change the meeting dates. After hearing various comments, the Council consensus was to not change the meeting schedule, knowing that Manager Trant will not be attending those meetings and that Ms. Grass will attend in his absence.

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

**2. PUBLIC SAFETY**

- a. Discussion:** Emergency Medical Services – President Hayes noted that all professional services are being reviewed and considered. The emergency medical services provided by contract with REMS was going to automatically renew on April 4, 2015, unless terminated. This was the opportunity to not allow it to automatically renew; to look at the service and consider change, if desired. There has been no oversight of the current service, and an agreement to involve the CVFD has been drafted for consideration for them to provided management and oversight of the ems service. This could also be a first step toward future consolidation with Carnegie and Ingram. President Hayes asked who could provide oversight of this service, if not the CVFD? Police could not, as it would be a work detail not provided for in the collective bargaining agreement. Would it be the Borough Manager; the Public Safety Chairman? Mayor Bloom and Mr. Amendola stated that Crafton is not receiving the 24/7, 365 days service by REMS; noting some ALS/BLS scheduling problems, and many poor response times; and is unacceptable. Solicitor Ayoob had questions, but would review the proposed agreement and amend it as necessary for Council’s review and consideration. Additional comments and questions were heard. Ms. Weitzel expressed concern that with this last minute introduction of a proposed agreement and not putting this out for an RFP, will Crafton have ems service after April 4<sup>th</sup>? President Hayes asked Mr. Nemeck to ask the REMS Board if they would consider an extension of the existing contract.

**3. PUBLIC WORKS**

- a. SHACOG - Bid Concurrence**
  - i. MOTION:** Motion was regularly moved and seconded (*Crown/Phillips*) to concur with the bid award to Roto Rooter Services Company, for the Joint Municipal SHACOG O&M CCTV Inspections & Cleaning Project – Year 5, for Crafton’s proportionate share of the contract, per the recommendation of Gateway Engineers.

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

**ADDITIONAL CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

Charlene Krenke – Ms. Krenke was upset that there was no performance criteria in the REMS contract, and asked that the next contract have something. Solicitor Ayoob said it is not really

necessary, nor preferred – that a contract should be terminated with a clause stating with a certain number of days notice. Mayor Bloom noted that with that kind of language, political games are

played; as what happened previously. Solicitor Ayoob reiterated that future Council's cannot be bound by prior Council contracts.

Mike Nemeec, REMS – Noted that what is reported to Crafton comes directly from Allegheny County 911. He contradicted those statements, and also noted that REMS reports calls from the time they are dispatched; others may calculate starting with their “enroute” time. Also noting that there are no national standards for reporting. Mr. Crown and Mr. Nemeec commented on the certification of the QRS unit, with conflicting information.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Mr. Amendola reminded everyone of the upcoming Senior Citizen dinner on March 14, 2015.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary